



# Boat Sitting Policy

## Aim

The aim of this policy is to communicate the requirements for boat sitting on an AUSC boat activity.

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## 1 Revision

This policy is to be maintained and reviewed by the AUSC Committee.

## 2 Application

This policy applies to all boat sitters who attend boat dive events.

## 3 Background

The club's boat operators are required to be proficient in all aspects of boat-handling, have the appropriate license and have completed mandatory training and assessment. However, the club recognises the benefits (principally that of saving time) of having a non-diving member on a dive activity who is prepared to remain top-side while others dive. The club calls such a non-diving member a 'boatsitter'. A boatsitter must have sufficient knowledge and skills to safely operate the club boat in limited circumstances such as picking up a diver in distress some distance from the mooring position. In recognition of the time-saving benefit and the service provided by boatsitters, the club offers inducements.

## 4 Boat sitter requirements

Boat sitters need not meet the full requirements of a boat handler, however there are still minimum requirements should they need to operate the boat in an emergency. Consequently, boat sitters must:

- Be prepared to operate the boat if the designated boat operator is not available.
- Be prepared to demonstrate an ability to safely operate the club boat during a dive activity.
- Pro-actively seek advice on essential boat operating matters if any such matters are unclear.
- Be familiar with the club boat(s). This includes awareness of engine ignition, basic manoeuvring, safety, and consoles and gauges.
- Have been on the club boats for a minimum of five previous dive events to ensure there is some familiarity with the boat(s).

## 5 Boating credit

If a member did not plan on diving during a boat trip, meets the boat sitter requirements and is volunteering their time, then he or she is entitled to a credit against the cost of a future boat dive.

A member who boat-sits for the entirety of a single dive trip is entitled to a credit for the value of a single metropolitan (i.e. not an 'away') dive and a member who boat-sits for the entirety of a double dive trip is entitled to a credit for the value of a double metropolitan dive.

A member will not earn a boat sitting credit by:

- Doing only a single dive on a double dive activity.
- Intending to dive (evidenced by loading their dive gear onto a boat or posting on Facebook that they intend to dive) and then deciding not to dive.

Partial credits may not be carried forward. For example, a double boat dive credit may be used against a single dive but the difference in value of single and double boat dives is lost.

Unused boat sitting credits expire twelve months after they are earned.

## 6 Register

The club's Air Table register is to include a register of all boat sitting credits earned, used and carried forward.

It is the boatsitter's responsibility to remind the Activity Leader to update the register to reflect boat sitting credit changes occurring as a result of the activity. A boatsitter who uses a boatsitting credit during a dive activity is to advise the Activity Leader so that the appropriate Air Table amendment can be made.

If the Activity Leader does not have access to the register, then the changes are to be emailed to [treasurer@adelaidescuba.com](mailto:treasurer@adelaidescuba.com) and the club treasurer will update the register.

## 7 Document control

Revision (Date)	Person	Comments
0 (13/10/2015)	<b>Author:</b> David Warren <b>Reviewed:</b> Committee (via Meeting 13/10/2015) <b>Approved:</b> David Warren	Document released to club membership.
1 24/09/2021	<b>Author:</b> Tim Brown <b>Reviewed:</b> Committee (via emails 05 & 09 Sept 2021) <b>Approved:</b> Committee (via Meeting 13/10/2021)	Para 4. Clarify entitlement. Para 5. Mandate update of a register of boat sitting credits, noting that the register is not yet in place.
2 19/08/2022	<b>Author:</b> Tim Brown <b>Reviewed:</b> Committee (via email [date]) <b>Approved:</b> Committee (via Meeting [date])	3. Boat sitter to be prepared to operate the boat if the designated boat operator is not available and seek advice on this if necessary.
3 25 May 2023	<b>Author:</b> Tim Brown <b>Reviewed:</b> Committee (via Meeting [date]) <b>Approved:</b> Committee (via Meeting [date])	3. Background. Reason for boatsitting. 4. Add detail to boat sitter requirements regarding demonstration of skills and to pro-actively seek advice on boat operation. Clarify boat credit is for value of a metro dive. Air Table is credit register and responsibilities for maintenance. Amend letterhead to AU Sport & Fitness