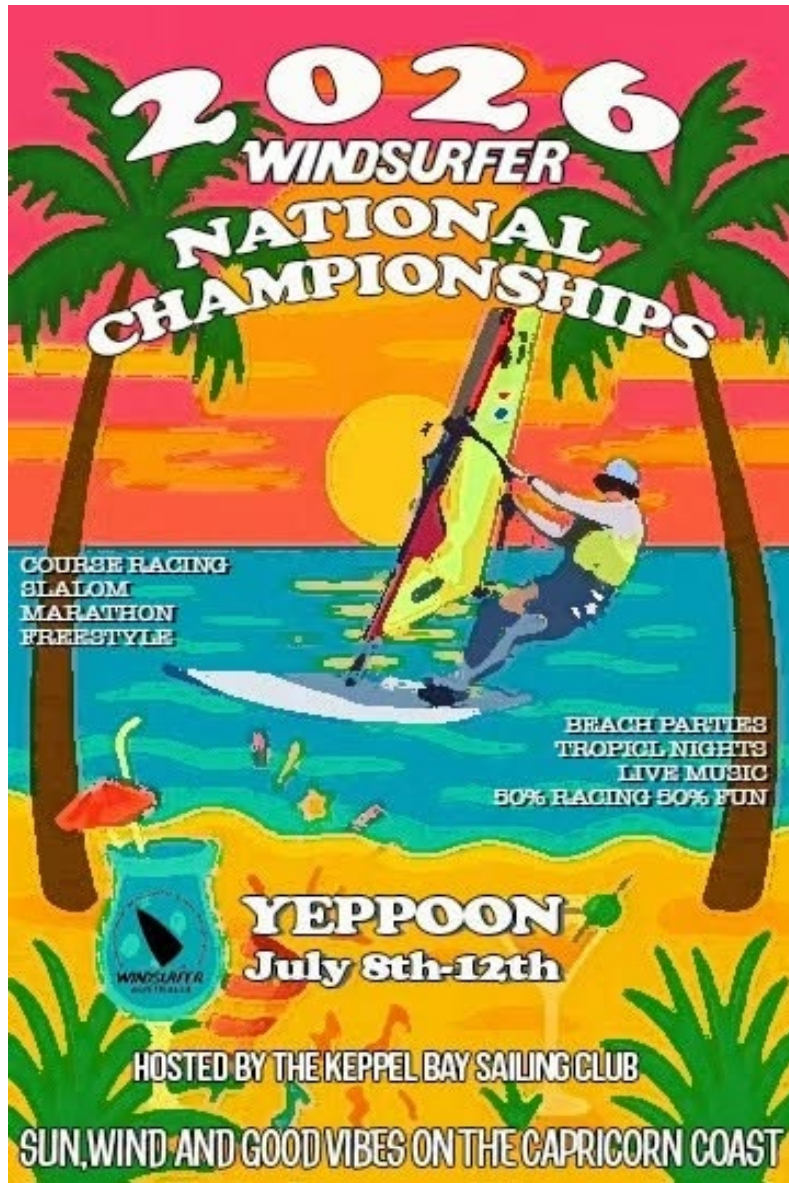




2026 Windsurfer Class Australian Championships

Post-Event Competitor Survey
including Economic Impact Summary

Keppel Bay Sailing Club, Yeppoon QLD

July 2026

Preamble

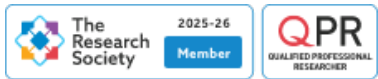
This research project was completed by Mobium Group (Mobium) on behalf of the Windsurfer Class Association of Australia (WCAA).

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Mobium is a member of The Research Society (TRS), Australia's peak body for professional market and social research, and all methodologies, data collection, analysis and reporting outlined in this report were conducted in accordance with the TRS Code of Conduct.

Note: Rounding of data has been undertaken. This may result in a variance of +/- 1%.

Version: Final



Mr. Nicholas Bez – Research Director

B.Sc (Marketing, Hons), MBA (Melbourne)
Fellow / CPM – Australian Marketing Institute

nbez@mobium.com.au
0418 365 879

*“No better way to
try and feel 25
again.”*

Competitor feedback, 2026 Windsurfer Nationals





2026 WINDSURFER CLASS AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS: AT A GLANCE

Keppel Bay Sailing Club, Yeppoon QLD



120

Registered competitors
across 8 states/countries



8.52 / 9

Overall event rating
(87% rated 8 or 9)



100%

Race management &
'on call' scheduling rated appropriate

WHAT SAILORS LOVED

- Racing & the new slalom/green fleet formats
- Yeppoon/KBSC venue and location
- Social atmosphere and class community

WHERE TO FOCUS NEXT

- Award structure / Presentation format and prize spread
- Minor race management improvements
- Social and vibe tweaks



\$215K

Estimated direct visitor
spend into Yeppoon



792

Total visitor-nights
generated



77%

Rate return to Parkdale 2027
as likely or certain



STATE of PLAY

What to build on, and what needs attention, before Parkdale 2027

✓ MORE OF THE SAME

87%

rated the event 8 or 9 out of 9, with 0 responses below "Good". Incredible effort behind the scenes reflected in a sensational event

77%

rate their return to Parkdale 2027 as likely or certain, before any anniversary programming is even announced.

90%

combined interest in the 50th Anniversary merch range, the clearest single milestone opportunity.

\$215K

estimated direct visitor spend into Yeppoon, a genuine economic case for continued council/sponsor support.

#1

cited highlight in open feedback: the social/community atmosphere. Protect it as the Class's point of difference.

! ISSUES TO CONSIDER

67%

Agreement on-water slalom judging is needed: genuinely split, not a consensus complaint.

80%

on both the presentation format and prize spread - timing and weight-division prizes.

Start at Green and build upwards.

Awards

belief that overall should cover all 3 disciplines per weight division (course, marathon, slalom combined).

Delay in overall scoring release.

Minor

Refinements, not fixes: Green Fleet briefing times/coaching, and broader photo/video coverage of mid-fleet and junior sailors.

Format

Debate on women's division start/weight categories is genuine and two-sided.

What's in this Report

1. Event Overview & Methodology
2. Summary Findings
3. Pre-Regatta Planning & Communication
4. Event Management & Registration
5. Racing & On-Water
6. Presentation & Social
7. Overall Event Experience
8. Best Aspects
9. Improvement Ideas
10. Final Comments & Ideas
11. 50th Anniversary Initiatives
12. Future Event Planning: Parkdale 2027
13. Estimated Economic Impact

Event Overview & Methodology

The 2026 Windsurfer Class Australian Championship was hosted by Keppel Bay Sailing Club (KBSC) in Yeppoon, Queensland, with 120 competitors registered.

This report summarises the post-event competitor survey, fielded 14-20 July 2026.

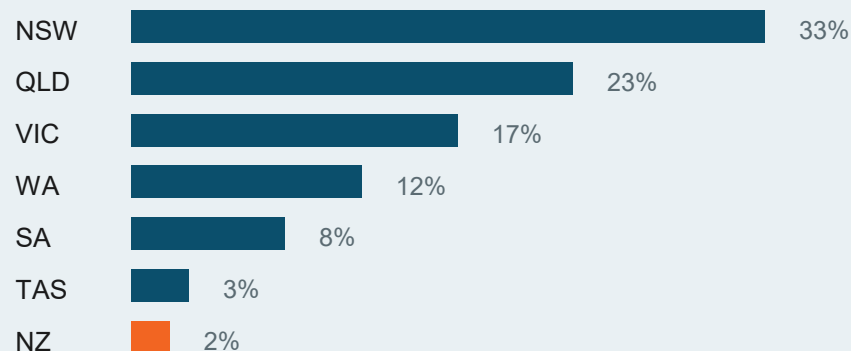
120

Total registrations

60

Survey respondents
(50% response rate)

Registrations by state/country (n=120)



Methodology

The survey was completed anonymously online, distributed to all competitors following the event.

Ratings use a 5-point agreement scale
(Strongly Agree → Strongly Disagree, plus Don't Know)

The Overall Experience question uses a 9-point scale from Very Disappointing to Excellent.

All open-ended responses have been retained and grouped thematically.

Summary Findings

Overall, feedback from competitors about the 2026 Nationals was overwhelmingly positive.

The event scored 8.52 out of 9 on the overall experience question (87% rating it 8 or 9), and every element of the event rating exceptionally well.

What worked

- Pre-regatta communication landed well, with 96–98% agreement across NOR timing, entry system and Notices to Competitors.
- Event Management scored the strongest section overall, with two measures (positive feeling, socials included in rego fee) at 100% agreement.
- Race management and the 'on call' scheduling model were unanimously well received (100% agreement).
- The new slalom format exceeded 90% acceptance
- Venue and location (Yeppoon/KBSC) and the social/community atmosphere were the two most-cited highlights in open feedback.

Where to focus next

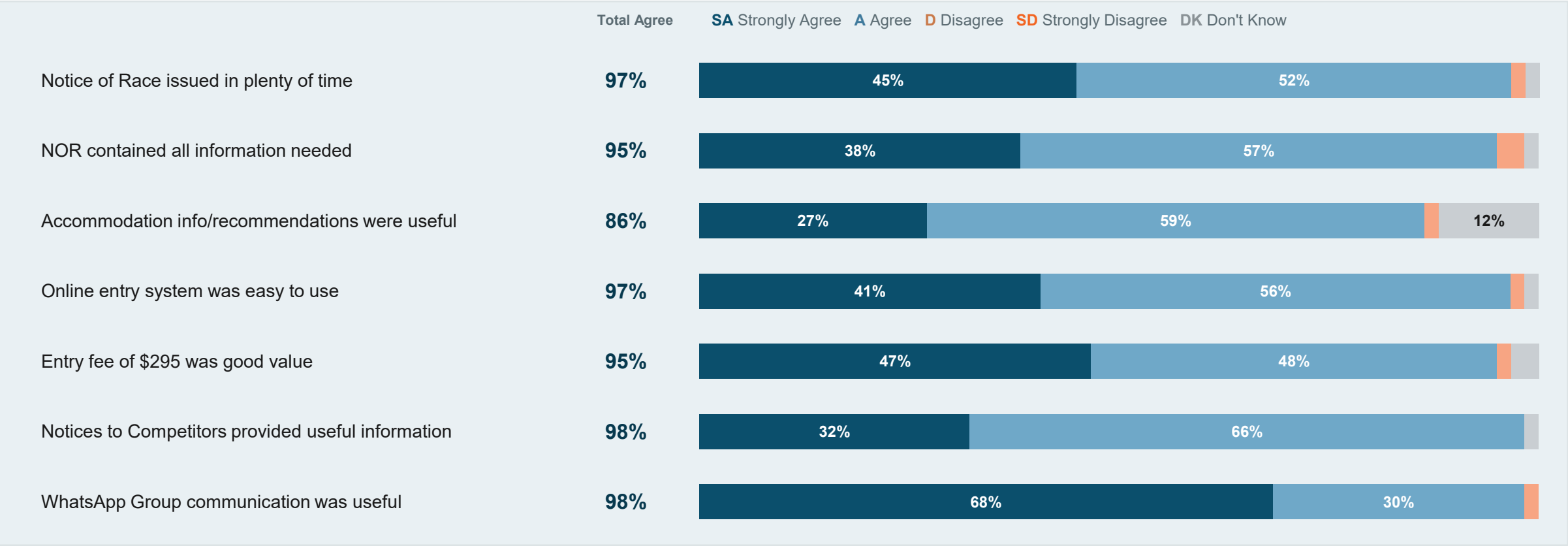
- On-water judging for slalom infringements is the one genuinely split measure in the dataset: 67% agreement. Review.
- Award structure is the clearest presentation ask: some want weight-division results and think should span all 3 disciplines combined, Several sailors unsure of their final placing.
- Presentation event and prize spread both sit at 80% with recurring feedback on format, timing and prize structure.
- Women's division start/weight-category format is a genuine, two-sided debate, worth a considered class-level conversation rather than an event-day fix.
- Minor, ongoing refinement rather than a fix: Green Fleet briefing times and coaching structure, and broader photo/video coverage of mid-fleet and junior sailors.

▶ SECTION 3

Pre-Regatta Planning & Communication



Pre-Regatta Planning & Communication



Given the pivot from South Australia to Yepoon the overall event pre-planning could have been excused if not perfect but the efforts of many drove an outstanding outcome.

Overall information and communication was seen to be excellent.

Pre-Regatta: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- Pretty smooth. In a perfect world I would have had my act better sorted with training instructors.
- I was a late entry and the link button had date timed out, but not obvious what was going wrong. Needed an email to get it activated, which was quickly sorted, so all good. I understand that a close off date may be required, but it should be a bit more obvious what this is and if there is any work around to still enter.
- The event needed an Official Notice board that only admin could post on. Official notices got lost in all the general competitor chat
- Very well organised both by the association and the club
- Thank you it was an awesome regatta
- It would have been good to get the sailing instructions earlier.
- I booked into Salt early on but I'm guessing there were other accommodation options that could have been promoted a bit more.
- Great job Pete and Johnsie. Certainly will only get better with you guys running these regattas.
- Didn't realise there was WhatsApp for actual regatta
- Updated regular information via email would have been helpful. I don't recall receiving much information prior to attending
- The family entry fee is a great option to have
- I wrongly thought the National Title was decided for each weight division, by an accumulation of scores for each of the 3 disciplines (course, marathon and slalom) events. I guess that could be made clearer in the SI and NOR.
- The family entry fee was good value. We probably wouldn't of entered my son in the regatta, but since he was covered in the family fee (essentially free) he had a go and enjoyed himself and will have a go at PYC too
- The SI's could have come out earlier.

Pre-Regatta: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- The WhatsApp group is great but sometimes it got overrun with side chatter. Probably we just need to keep a little tighter control on this by the odd reminder but you don't want to kill the fun spirit.
- Check the SIs before posting 😊
- Well done all who helped. Heres an idea that I know others helping the greenies thought was a good idea as well. Can the greenies have their own colour vest? As their helper it would've assisted me for sure. PS idea if there's a whole series of new coloured vest could they have green? It would make sense ongoing. I should've been a rocket scientist. 😊
- - More mirrors in the men's change room - over 90's age division for Jörn - approach Specsaver as a sponsor
- Less swell for fat people to manage

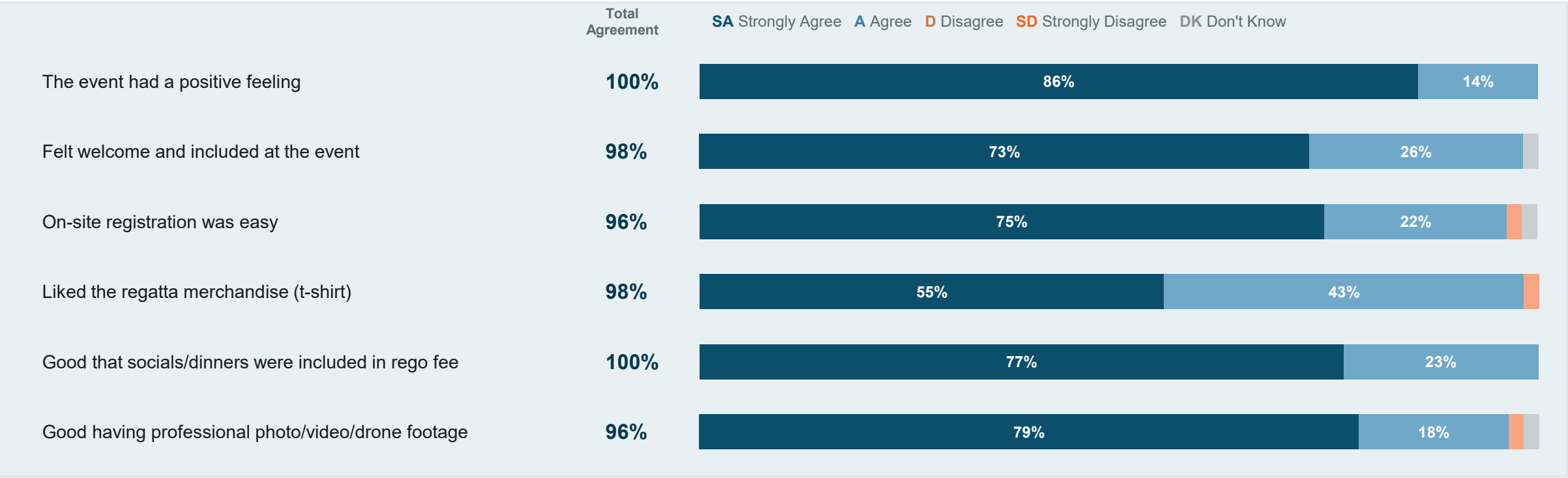


▶ SECTION 4

Event Management & Registration



Event Management & Registration



All aspects of the event were strongly rated with high levels of satisfaction on the ‘good vibes’ and inclusion during the event. Rego was seen to be well managed, and the merch program was strong. Socials remain a welcome inclusion to entry fees. Down Under Sail contribution with photos, drone and social media was rated strongly.

Event Management: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- The social/fun side could have had more time allocated to it. This is partly a function of having enough/the right volunteers to drive it. In a perfect world we'd probably have had Jim, Peter and Greg all running the show. I didn't make it to Toronto, but I think Jim did very good job putting a spotlight on the 'fun' dimension of the event. Having said that the catering was fantastic as were the photos - really well done. The tshirt was good - I might have chosen a slightly brighter colour but that is a minor quibble. Last, this might be an odd one, but it would be good for the class to have a blister-prevention session/materials available at the start of the regatta!
- The only registration problem was that another competitor's name was identical, bar one letter. This resulted in confusion, with it being assumed by KBSC that it was a duplicate with a spelling mistake and so no temporary club membership card was available and I was told the other guys was mine with a typo. It got sorted, but we both ended up with cards in my name (... which didnt cause any problems...) and I registered first and saw his card in his name, so it must have been destroyed ??
- Event management was good.
- Would have been good to have more photos of women and kids to help promote to that group
- Was very grateful for green fleet for the kids but it did feel a bit last minute. We didn't really feel like they got what we originally signed up for, and it didn't feel like the beginner course we believed it was. Maybe if there was more, structured coaching that would be more beneficial
- I have some good photos but I know that there were quite a few sailors that didn't get on the water photos. I know it's hard to get everyone but I think events like these everyone needs to be seen.
- Presentations at the conclusion of the event - juniors and green fleet should have been presented prior to any other awards being presented
- Women's tshirt with low neck would allow women to wear tshirts and promote other women to windsurf .I never wear high neck tshirts as they dont suit me or look flattering.
- Maybe limit rego to just the one afternoon so we can get sailing the next day
- Excellent

Event Management: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- The event photos were outstanding.
- Free WiFi would have made it easier for those from outside Australia
- Footage of the racing at social events would be good. Can bar after sailing was needed.
- Not enough footage/photos of the "back markers" and mid fleet sailors. An event sticker would also be cool at a regatta.
- Not a lot of photos of women sailing
- Great event
- Missed the microphone commentary for slalom and Freestyle...also in the past we had a DJ providing music





► SECTION 5
Racing & On Water

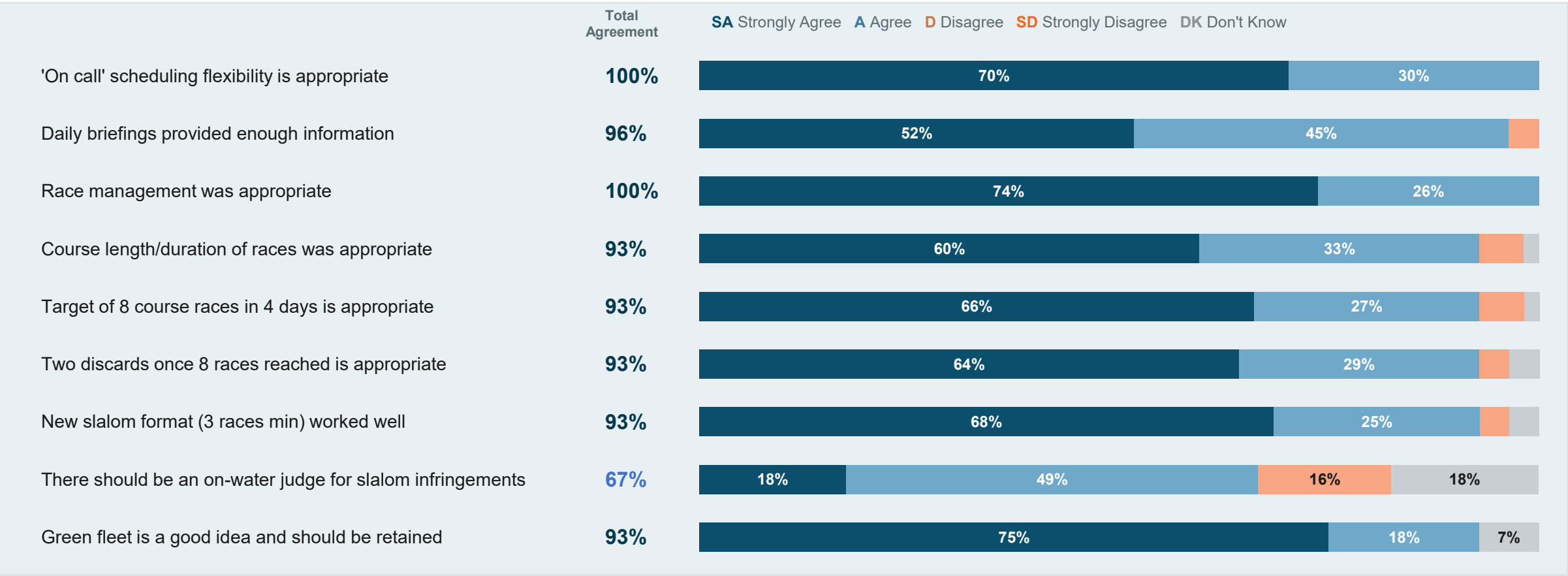
Vaikobi


WINDSURFER
AUSTRALIA


Keppel Bay
Sailing Club

**DOWN
UNDER
SAIL**

Racing & On Water



The general sentiment about the race management was highly positive. Trapezoid course format was well accepted.

The revised slalom format was strongly endorsed but judges on course is polarising.

The introduction of green fleet was seen a big positive.

Racing & On-Water: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- + The class needs to give KBSC a big pat on the back for race management but also point out the surprising inadequacy of the change facilities. + Overall a lay day or half layday would be great - would help with enjoying the local area as part of a holiday. If there had been a little more downtime I would have encouraged my wife to come. This could have included a boat trip somewhere (eg Keppel Island). I feel like I never really explored the area.
+ Day 1 would have been better run as 3 races back to back rather than 2+1. Everyone got pretty cold on shore in between and probably would have preferred to get the races out of the way and have mid-afternoon off.
+ Green fleet and cruiser divisions are really important. We're about to try some things at McCrae YC. Depending on how they go I may have some useful suggestions for developing this further. Potentially some more exploratory/adventure sailing could be good (depending on the venue).
- 7 races in 2 days was a bit of a push. Suggest stretch 8 races over 3 days in dispersed with other events.
- Green fleet was a great idea. However, it needed a bit more structure with a set meeting time and place and clear instructions for what was happening each day.
- Seeding in the men's slalom was good. I believe it resulted in the best sailors getting into the finals
- Need to encourage more young folks out there Otherwise numbers will be down in the future
- For questions 2 and 4 I disagree simply because briefings did not give enough info to green fleet and they required a shorter course- great to see this happened later. Green fleet is an awesome idea that I'd love to see continued to be improved
- Just a thought for KBSC next time. Holding the event during the weeks when high tide is in the middle of the day will bring the action much closer
- Great start lines
- Excellent

Racing & On-Water: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- I would like to see the women competing in open weight categories to guarantee we have larger fleets to sail in. In this event it felt like the women's division was dumbed down with the inclusion of green fleet and cruisers on the start line. However with the same number of the same women competing each year I think it was appropriate of the race committee to put us together and I acknowledge it is good for the other fleets to learn. In saying that it is also an Australian championship and there are women sailing who are more than capable of taking out the open weight division and under the current format we don't have equal opportunity. There could still be women's division pulled from overall results in the open weight divisions. I spoke to all the girls all but one were keen only one person was weight conscious. Once weighed put in weight categories it could be optional as to whether weight is advertised
- Perhaps a non pumping division- maybe with cruisers!
- It would have been good to schedule in one day with just the one afternoon session rather than 2 sessions every day to allow some recovery time.
- Maybe only need Slalom judges for finals. Probably best to keep the on water incidents up to the competitors to work out rather than defer to judges. It would make sailors behave like adults instead of needing parents to intervene. Most of the time we seem to work it out on the water which is how it should be.
- Not a big deal - one or two races seems longer than target - liked the fact that there was a plan for next day regarding program so we knew what the plan was night before
- Some Sailors confuse top mark making complains
- Prefer 10 Course Race target, and 2nd drop with 10th race. Would rather have SUP races (2 buoys x 2 laps) than Slalom when breeze is less than 5kts.
- Would be great if they had a green colour vest or at minimum a different colour, thanks

Racing & On-Water: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- Green fleet was a fantastic initiative, however there should be a more structured format with daily briefings for the greenies. It was almost like they were an afterthought sometimes. I strongly believe they and the cruisers should have a separate start to the women too. Essentially you have novice cruisers trying to learn how to race fighting for a spot on the start line with very competitive sailors
- Very well done. First 2 windy days i felt course races were a touch short. The one MW slalom in zero wind was harsh, but understand that it really needed to be completed.
- The rule allowing 30 seconds of pumping after the start is a real turn off for me as I am not a regular at course racing and it means that I have no chance of competing at the starts.

It is essentially legalised cheating and I don't understand why windsurfing allows it as it gives the top sailors a massive advantage ... you might as well let all the top sailors start a minute ahead if everyone else, at least the rest of us would get some clean air.

- Certificates of completion could be handed out to all Green Fleet sailors at presentation (how the Optis do it) Green Fleet, Juniors and Youth should be first at presentation as they are the future. They stuffed it up at the nationals! Should there be prizes or perpetual trophies?
- The first course races were a bit too short. The race committee started a race when mark # 2 was not properly set and when it dragged they did not have a system for a replacement mark and they had no race abandonment flags.

The next race we were not able to see the marks because they were very far away for the size of the buoys and there were no regatta boats near the marks. This meant sailors sailed the wrong course. This was also very dangerous, because if there was a medical issue, the boats would not have been able to see there was an issue.

Also the rescue boats were not properly trained to rescue windsurfers and the equipment. They only had experience with yachts. The verbal briefings in the morning were ok, but not always clear, especially for the course diagrams and starting order. The drawings on the white board were not clear for the finish - which was evident at the finish as many of the sailors were confused.

► SECTION 5

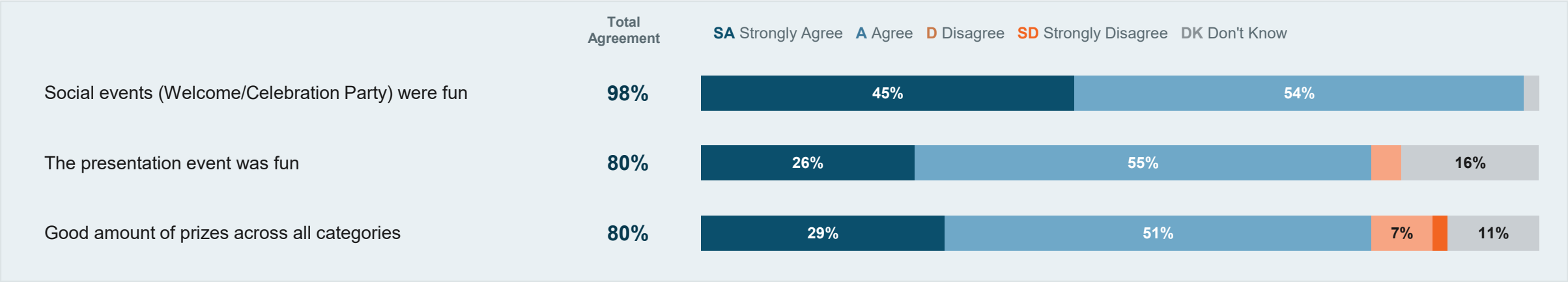
Racing & On-Water: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- Scoring system when some Cruisers didn't do slalom...put others behind in points. Phoebe won racing and marathon and sailed slalom but was beaten by someone who didn't compete in slalom because there were only 3 competitors in the other group.
- The 3 race format for the slalom was really enjoyable, however, felt the groups weren't even (heavy weights) heats 1 and 3 had 5 sailors and heat 2 had 7. Might be worth while excluding those who aren't racing or have retired from the regatta.
- Nothing to add
- There should always be a rescue boat at the leeward marks to catch anyone in trouble before they disappear into the sun... particularly if they can't get the sail out of the water to become visible
- Would 2 heats suffice for slalom...as SH only had 2 and it seemed to work...3 is maybe not needed as 2 gives you the same number as in old format of double elimination



Presentation & Social



The 50% Fun component of the Class philosophy was well delivered at Yepoon with the socials rating incredibly highly. Presentation and prize giving was also rated strongly but the open comments show some requests for sequencing changes and review of the prize pool.

Presentation & Social: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- I think age categories should be reduced to Juniors (<18), open and Legends (>60). The 40 and 50 age groups don't mean much as they represent the bulk of the fleet.
- + Prizes - I think it's good. although I'm conscious that the overall winner for each weight division feels like an omission. + Celebration Party - the 80's bombora footage was fantastic, it was great to have more than enough food (though it wasn't clear from the program that food would be provided and my housemates ate beforehand - recommend making that very clear in future).
- Teak boomers (1970's) should be given something!
- Only disagree to the presentations because I think it could have been made more of an event!! But still awesome
- Perhaps some activity to help people meet others they don't yet know/ break up established groups
- For an event that was put together so quickly it was awesome. Music on our social night is better and encourages more social interaction
- I brought my wife for the first time and missed some of the opening and all of the closing presentation. I know there was a Wags group chat but we weren't part of it. Could there be a separate social WhatsApp group chat for wives, family and friends of sailors?
- Hard to organise but we seems to spend a lot of time at club for social - would be good to go to other venues as well - but understand the logistics are challenging
- 50% racing 50% Fun still works
- An event with music and dancing / themed is always fun esp sat night when racing is generally complete eg toronto/ parkdale Celebration after presentation is always good - people are relaxed and want to celebrate . Maybe in the club would have been good / drinks etc for people to hang around.
- Presentation with the BBQ and the pizzas created a good vibe. I think the way the presentation was done was a little hard to follow, I believe the greenies and the cruisers should of been presented first, then working the way up through the fleets to the overall champions

Presentation & Social: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- I still don't know my final placing within my weight division or overall, in all 3 disciplines, as these results are still not published. It makes it difficult to tell people how you went or to get a sense of achievement or set goals for next year. Also, going into the regatta I didn't realise weight division individual results don't take in all 3 disciplines, that only course racing and slalom receive awards. Overall, I felt that there are probably too many awards handed out and it got confusing what awards were being handed out for. I believe the major focus should be on Juniors, Overall weight divisions and only the 2 oldest age group divisions.
- Sorry, I didn't attend.
- I would have preferred an indoor prize giving to be away from the elements and allow people to hear, sit and see more easily. If it had been windy and cold, it would not have been ideal.
- It would be good to formulate prizes so that they are distributed to more people.
- Can bar was needed for after racing/presentation. Footage of racing/slalom each day would be good.
- I believe there should be weight division prizes for marathon as generally the lighter category dominates
- Didn't attend the presentation. Visited GKI instead.
- There should be awards 1,2,3 for the overall results in each weight division for Course racing, marathon and slalom combined. Only course racing champion is recognised. However we are competing in 3 disciplines that count towards your overall position and this should be recognised for each weight division, not just your overall position out of 120 competitors. Course racing 50% marathon 25% slalom 25%. Only the course racing champion is recognised with the perpetual trophy. However we are competing in 3 disciplines that count towards our overall result in our weight division and this should be recognised with a medal for first, second and third. I was personally disappointed as I won the medium weights overall, however there was no award recognition for this. I strongly believe this needs to change for the 2027 nationals.
- I still would like to see a DJ and everyone letting their hair down... what's left of it anyway

Presentation & Social: Competitor Feedback

Open Feedback

- Not sure whether we rewarded top 3 overall in each weight class before but feel that could have been included.
Also we should announce at one time first, second and third for each category to reduce time and get one photo for the three
- Less prizes



Presentation & Social: The Vibe Sailors Want

Scattered across open feedback, best aspects and improvement ideas, the same handful of social asks come up again and again. Counted together, this is one of the clearest, most repeated requests in the whole survey.



DJ & LIVE COMMENTARY

The single most repeated ask. Bring back a DJ for social nights, and live microphone commentary on racing, especially slalom and freestyle finals.

"I still would like to see a DJ and everyone letting their hair down."



HAPPY HOUR & EASY DRINKS

Simple, low-effort access to drinks and food between and after racing, not a full catered event every time.

"Cheaper drinks happy hour after sailing for socialising."



THEMED PARTY NIGHTS

Music and dancing on the big social night, once racing wraps up. Toronto and Parkdale are cited as the benchmark to repeat.

"An event with music and dancing, themed, is always fun."



MIX UP THE GROUPS

A light-touch activity or icebreaker to help newer sailors and partners meet people outside their existing friend circle.

"Some activity to help people meet others they don't yet know."

THE ASK: Up the ambience, music and commentary.

Overall Event Experience



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DOWN
UNDER
SAIL

Overall Event Experience

8.52 / 9

Weighted average score

95 out of 100

87%

Rated 8 or 9 out of 9 (Top-2-Box)

0

Respondents rated the event below “Good”

Considering all aspects of their experience, including racing, social and beyond, competitors rated the 2026 Nationals on a 9-point scale from Very Disappointing to Excellent.

Where every rating landed

Excellent (9): 65%

(8): 22%

Good (7): 13%

Every sailor who answered rated the event “Good” or better, and nearly two-thirds called it “Excellent” outright.

There is no bottom half of this distribution: no Average, Poor or Very Disappointing ratings at all.

For an event this size that is an incredible result and a credit the WCAA committee, along with the KBSC and all the volunteers.

▶ SECTION 8

Best Aspects



Best Aspects

Racing & Race Format

- Race format, schedule and management
- It was fantastic to have a northern Nationals run in winter, making the most of the warmth! Exotic for those from Melbourne. Be good to do the next QLD nationals in winter - maybe the Whitsundays and maybe tie in with Airlie or Hamilton Race Week.?
- Quality of the race management
- Racing
- Good racing
- The quality of the start lines
- Course racing
- Close racing.
- Race management/course laying was spot on
- The marathon was good fun.
- Marathon
- Racing
- Green fleet participation
- Racing
- Racing
- The race management team at KBSC are outstanding. The start lines were mostly flawless.
- Standard of racing
- The new slalom format
- Slalom
- good courses, slalom heats quick turnover
- Good wind and courses
- Racing at a high level
- Racing
- Racing Organisation
- Racing in weight divisions seems better than racing in age divisions.
- Coarse racing
- Freestyle

Best Aspects

Racing & Race Format

- Excellent race committee
- Separate courses and starts
- Good promotion of younger entrants thru green fleet etc
- Sailing all together in the marathon
- Top level racing in a positive friendly environment
- Racing
- Event allowed for spectators with many race close to shore line
- Friendly competitive racing
- Course racing was good although the conditions on the first day were too much for me.



Best Aspects

Venue, Location & Facilities

- The venue was world class
- Great club and beach good club facilities for board storage
- Location
- Windy location, open water.
- Yacht club was a great facility
- Location
- Location
- Venue
- Perfect venue for a large regatta
- Location
- New location
- High Quality venue for food and socials
- Great Facilities
- Location
- Facilities
- Clubhouse
- Gear storage was excellent
- Club facilities including, rigging space, storage, bathrooms, car parking, food and beverage, beach access.....
- Sailing club facilities / club discount card was a hit
- Venue was fantastic
- Location was beautiful
- Organisation & Yeppoon it self
- The venue
- Venue
- Facilities
- Location
- Warmer days later in the week - went to Great Keppel.
- Staying close to yacht club
- The equipment storage and hot showers
- Travelling to a great venue

Best Aspects

Social, Vibe & Community

- The social aspect (the vibes)
- Meeting/ getting to know other sailors and partners
- Friendly vibe
- Camaraderie
- Catching up with people
- Seeing old friends
- Meeting new people
- Welcome dinner
- Social catch ups.
- Seeing friends old and new and catching up
- The company
- Catching up with friends
- People
- Being with my mates
- Social events
- Location
- Socials
- The friendly spirit, with the right level of competitiveness.
- The not overly competitive atmosphere
- Catching up with friends
- Fun social events.
- Friendliness of all competitors
- Great socials
- Social
- The inclusion of partners in the social events.
- The friendly vibe of the club/members
- Social
- The friendly LT environment improved spectator appeal
- Meeting new people
- Social events
- Sportsmanship
- The vibe
- Fantastic Facilities
- The great vibe

Best Aspects

General Feedback

- Being encouraged by other sailors
- Upstairs at the club - beers and food
- Good accommodation close to the event.
- Nice balance between chilled off water but serious on water.
- Good food served on last night
- The cafes, bar and restaurant available so close
- Fun
- The attitude of the sailors
- Competition
- Fun
- The club
- Sailing
- Variety of events
- Learning
- Start Boat time management

- All on water activities/easy lease of boards
- Salem comp
- Great food
- Sailing
- Seeing the kids sailing

Event Management & Organisation

- Organised
- Extremely well run Event
- Organised
- I'm very grateful for all the effort put in by the organisers - that was huge and very well done. I hope you are enjoying a great sense of achievement because you deserve to!
- Organisation and vibe of the event was brilliant
- Well managed event
- Organisation



► SECTION 8

Best Aspects

Weather & Conditions

- A variety of conditions- including waves and strong wind.
- The windsurfing
- Lots of windsurfing
- Weather
- Weather
- Good wind.
- Sunshine in winter
- Good wind

Media, Photos & Commentary

- The professional photos
- Event photos



▶ SECTION 9

Improvement Ideas

Improvement Ideas

General Feedback

- Sign-on Sign off procedure - go electronic
- SIs out earlier and correct
- Avoid school holidays
- Better entertainment
- Schedule in more rest time.
- Could be warmer!
- Improved/ updated spectator information
- Concern re sharks drum lines near start line (not very reassuring !) and crocs ! Safety
- Lay day mid regatta
- I'm going home to learn how to pump better.
- Add interactive event mixing best/worsted to promote knowledge transfer
- More kids but this year was a great increase
- My technique
- There should be a lay day
- Clearer communication at briefings (mic and pa)
- Presentation (Junior and Youth)
- Overall results...?
- Ideally we want to drive more participation from 13-35 year olds.
- There were very limited showers but they were good
- Camping option at the club
- Free afternoon or morning
- Knowing my overall result
- Results (still waiting final results to be posted)
- Cost of extra meal tickets were high
- Wet bar after sailing
- Buddy system
- Safety check e.g pfd's
- My results
- Dancing
- Provide a 7 day schedule (not 5 day) to allow to have lay days and/or accommodate weather for best sailing
- Rig storage in tents on the grass would have worked better
- Food logistics

Improvement Ideas

Racing & Race Format

- With such a large fleet it's a shame there were only 9 females
- The general structure and planning into green fleet
- Spread out course racing
- 3 races back to back and done requires less energy than 2 - come ashore and 1 or 2 more.
- Handing out water between races has been good in the past.
- Slalom not delayed for windless days...it needs wind to be fun
- The first day could have been 3 to 4 back to back races rather than 2 sessions of 2 races.
- Green fleet structure
- Make sure the race committee are well prepared before the first day of racing.
- Have the last day as the final course racing day to keep all competitors there for the presentation

Presentation, Prizes & Awards

- Less prizes
- Presentation order

- A 3 minute sequence would be better as would help with multiple starts
- Easier access to drinks and food as soon as possible between and after racing. Such as hot chips and beer.
- As mentioned weight groups prizes for marathon
- Sessions with only 1 course race

Weight Divisions

- Knowing my final result in weight division
- Award overall placings in each weight division
- Include overall winners by weight division.

Green Fleet & Cruiser

- Some of the conditions were very challenging for cruisers
- Green fleet and cruisers division should have their own start.
- More inclusion for beginners
- More in depth briefing for those with less sailing experience (newer greenies)

Improvement Ideas

Social, Vibe & Community

- Photography of sailors a bit deeper on the results list
- Half a day (afternoon) off to explore the local area. For Parkdale that might be go to the Aust Open, a gallery, for a bike ride or just relax with a book and a beer on the deck. Some further brainstorming on the social side of the event.
- Someone like Nick Bez on mic calling slalom/freestyle
- Maybe a social event away from club notwithstanding a great faculty
- A bit more of a social vibe around the club at the end of each days racing. Maybe be a bbq.
- Social drinks/simple food...after sailing
- Music on loud speaker for freestyle
- Social night with Dj or band

Merch

- Maybe something different than t shirt - hat, bag or pants ?
- Maybe some different merch beside shirt - hats or polo shirt or pants or gear bag/rucksack
- A bit of windsurfer merch for sale at the event would be good

- Someone on microphone talking about the event
- DJ and a dancefloor
- Videos/music Peter Jones DJ
- Music
- Commentary for finals close to shore if possible
- Social events should include 1 party
- A DJ to give the vibe
- Some atmosphere at club - some tunes, a coffee van?, colour and entertainment maybe.
- Bring on the commentary for Slalom like Bez at 23 Worlds

Presentation, Prizes & Awards

- Less prizes
- Presentation order

Final Comments & Ideas

Any other ideas, suggestions or feedback

- Just another round of applause.
- The race committee should be commended for the way the event was moved from SA to Qld. I cant think of anything obvious to improve, other than my personal level of fitness!
- No
- No this event was awesome and I'm looking forward to Parkdale
- Need to make Windsurfing popular again, Maybe get some influencers out on the LT
- Thanks for the efforts!!
- To many races on row in One day Specially in the conditions with strong Wind and swell
- Thanks to all of the organisers of such a wonderful event.
- I liked the format for the marathon , small lap / big lap

Women

- I think ladies / cruisers / greenfleet worked (could see which women were ahead of you and no interference at all on start line) although some women fed back re wanting racing in weight divisions as range 50-90 kg .makes it tricky racing when a women is 10-20 kg lighter (yes need to lose weight !) I think 3 slalom instead of 5 would probably have given the same result in women ? Would be interesting to check.Would have been good to have cruisers / green fleet in between women for a rest esp with 5 races. I think for Sarah it would have been more challenging racing with men . Im actually uncertain going forward what is best. Some women dont like being weighed in or weight published .
- Open weight divisions to include women
- Think about giving the women their own start or start with Heavy weights. Not far that they should start with beginners. Also not fair on beginners/cruisers because they feel like they must hang back so that the girls have their own start. Consider not having gender groups. Weight does matter...that is why you have men in weight divisions. OR allow individual women the choice. Thank you for all of your hard work. See you in Yeppoon

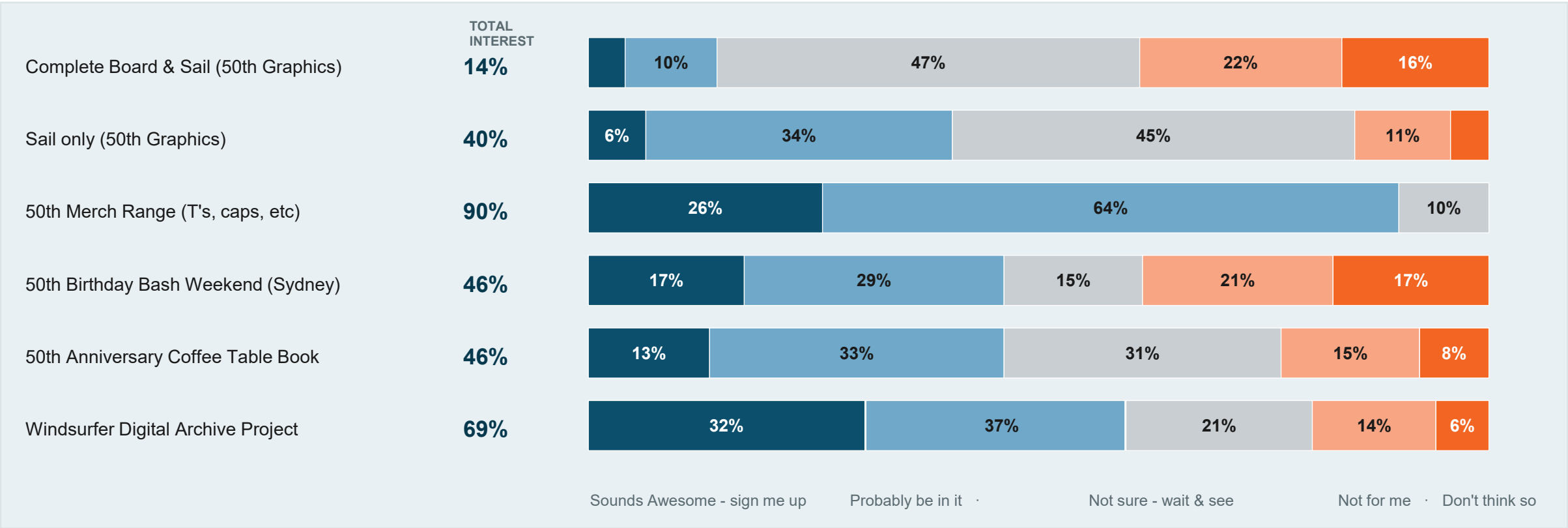
Final Comments & Ideas

Any other ideas, suggestions or feedback

- Excellent regatta, race management was very efficient. Thank you.
- Charter gear was great! Good service Need more prizes other than medals! Focus more on the youth divisions so it's not a place for retired sailors in the future.
- Having charter boards available opens the event up to more people. It is very convenient if you are flying interstate and you know you are getting brand new equipment.
- Consider only allowing pumping for 15 seconds after a start. Consider the first pumping infringement is one 360. The second 2 360, the third 3 x 360 etc. Improve the tracking system to enable sailors to activate an emergency signal. Improve the on shore engagement with spectators so they can watch the tracks on a screen or their ph, so they can understand what is happening. Consider more long distance rates, with courses to take advantage of local features and gaining the public and local media interest. Signage in the area prior to and during the event to promote the event - the sport and include dates, times and disciplines.
- Keep up the great work and thankyou to all the committee members for all you have done We have an amazing class and community let's keep it rolling
- No I had a great time!
- Adding a lay day in the middle of the regatta allows competitors to rest up and also look around the local area
- Great job
- A band on social nights might be good....cheaper drinks happy hour after sailing for socialising

50th Anniversary Initiatives: Interest Levels

Ahead of the Class's 50th anniversary in 2027, competitors were asked how likely they'd be to get involved in a range of possible initiatives.



Merchandise-led ideas draw the strongest combined interest: the 50th Merch Range leads at 90%, well ahead of Sail-only Graphics (40%) and the Complete Board & Sail option (14%, likely reflecting cost rather than lack of appeal).
The Sydney Birthday Bash weekend is the most polarising standalone event, with real enthusiasm alongside a distance/travel-driven “not for me.”

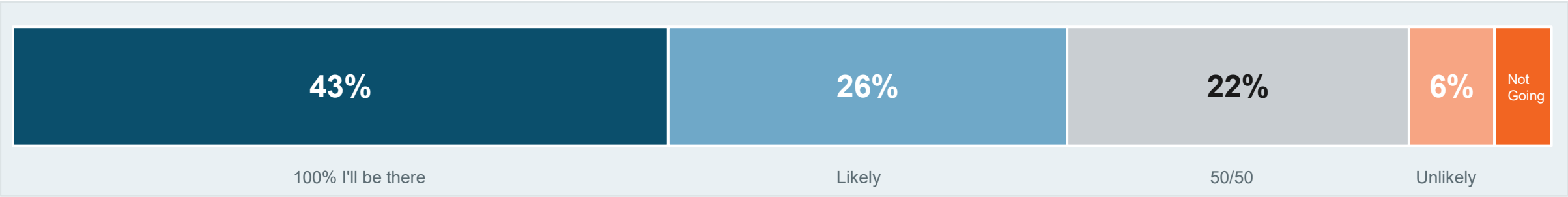
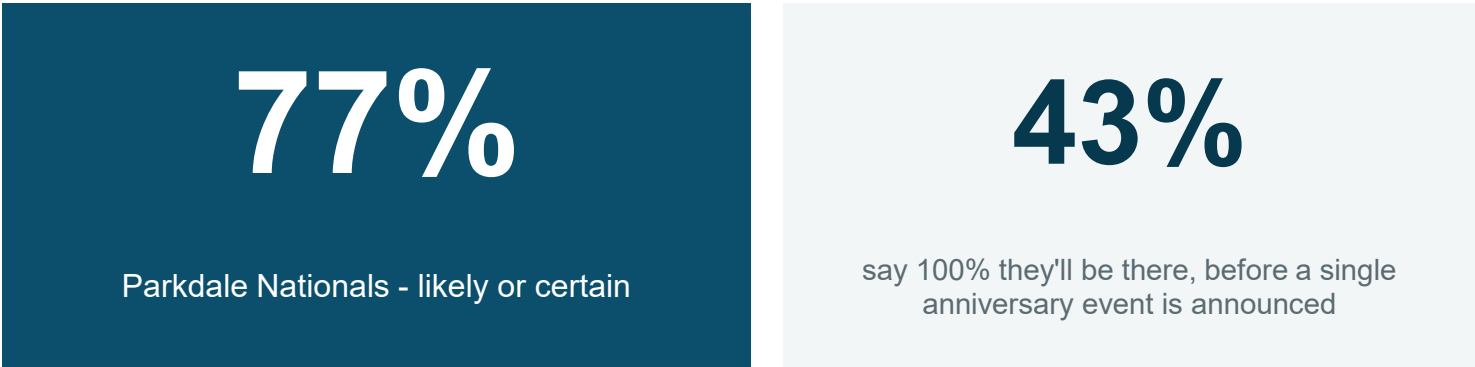
50th Anniversary: Competitor Ideas

What other ideas do you have to celebrate the WCAA 50th anniversary?

- + Would love to see more Bombora windsurf LT gear. More fluoro/80's colours. Definitely need more stickers and key rings for youth - they lap it up. + Windsurfer mug (tea/coffee) or cup + Windsurfer class boardshorts. If done well could be good. A collab with Okanui who are nearing their 50th anniversary? + A 50th anniversary fin - cast in a different colour. + The launch of a lightweight rig (inc boom and mast) for beginners/women/youth would be massively helpful for schools/teachers. + Sharing a windsurfer gym/exercise/stretch routine (this is potentially free/easy). + Windsurfer Speed challenge - in the lead up sailors track top speeds anywhere in Australia. Award given at Nationals. + Get a sponsor for the class that turns into a sticker on the sail and money for the class. + Windsurfer Gig. There must be enough musicians in the class. + Windsurf nature cruise somewhere far north with charter boards and support boat for spouses. Maybe run it over and over to make worthwhile. + Definitely should think about an article in windsurf magazine (<https://windsurfer.co/>) + Bring back the surf discipline (once-off) as a nationals one-day event (post ceremony). Run it at Pt Leo, Flinders or Gunnamatta (approx a 1.25 hour drive from Parkdale). If insurance is an issue, call it an unsanctioned free-sail activity and let a sailor to mention it in the nationals chat.
- Car bumper (or board) sticker
- Film night with past glories and heroes and personal adventures
- More Green activity
- Invite Paul Van Bellen to create a video of the event- and perhaps compete.
- Would definitely be there however will be OS
- Party on 3 nights. Different type of dance music each of the 3 nights. Video night. Old and new. Information night on the class - National and international and feed back and working parties engaged to explore and execute ideas.
- Stickers at past events have been personal favourites
- A digital honour board of the history of winners in each weight group that is accessible and even physical to display

Future Event Planning: 2027 Attendance Intent

At this stage, how likely are competitors to attend the 2027 50th Anniversary National Championships in Parkdale (21–25 January)?



The Parkdale 50th is shaping up to be a big one! Two hundred is the aspirational target.



“Thanks so much for the organisers, RO, volunteers and clubbies.

I still enjoy sailing LTs and want to see it build and strengthen.

*Great affordable class for a range of levels.
I love to see the recognition of the roots of Windsurfing within the way we operate.*

Love the competition but we can't take ourselves too seriously.”



▶ SECTION 13
Estimated
Economic
Impact

Estimated Economic Impact: Who Travelled to Yeppoon

120

Total registered competitors

77%

From interstate or overseas (92 of 120), unambiguously new spend into the region

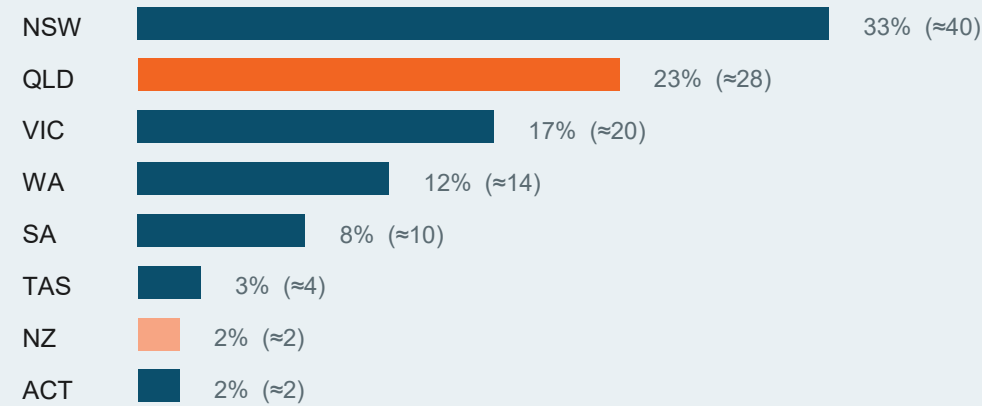
100%

Confirmed the Nationals was their reason for visiting Yeppoon (53 of 53 who answered; 0 said otherwise)

6.6

Average nights stayed away from home

Registrations by state/country, applied to the full field of 120



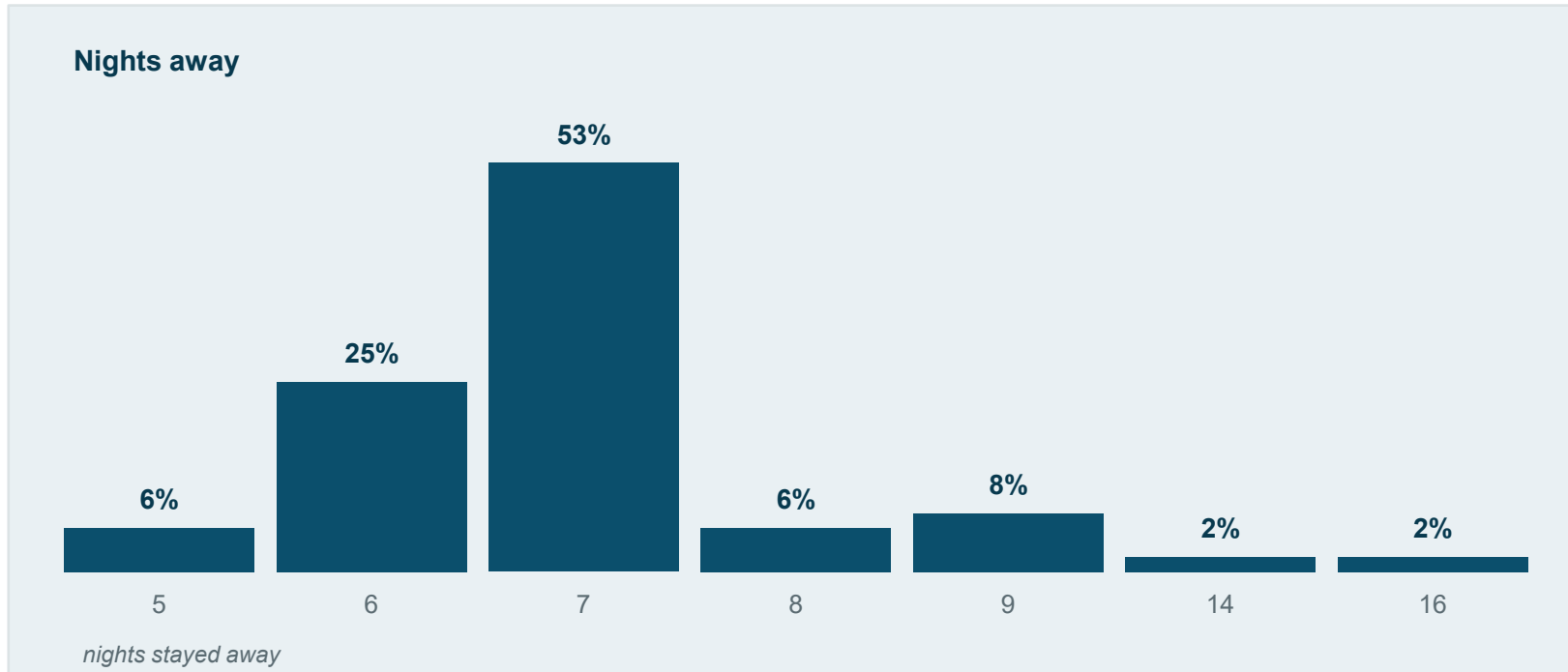
92 registrants (navy bars) travelled from outside Queensland, including a 2% New Zealand contingent: unambiguously new visitor spend for the Capricorn Coast region.

The remaining 28 (23%, orange) are Queensland-based. Every respondent who answered confirmed they travelled specifically for the Nationals, none said otherwise, and the Class has no existing local footprint in Yeppoon. This report treats all 120 registrants as genuine event-driven visitor spend.

The build-up on the next slide totals \$215,405 across all 120; the interstate/international 92 alone already account for \$165,144 of that.

Estimated Economic Impact: Nights Stayed Away

How many nights competitors stayed away from home for the Nationals, the key multiplier behind every dollar figure on the next slide.



7.15

average nights stayed away

5-16

nights, full range across all respondents

Most competitors stayed 6–7 nights, but a extends out to 16 nights (competitors combining the Nationals with a wider Queensland trip).

Estimated Economic Impact: Category Build-Up

Each category: % of respondents who spent anything in it (base: those who answered that question) × their average daily spend × average nights stayed (7.15) × headcount.
Totalled across all 120 registrants, with the split of interstate/international share shown alongside.

Category	% who spent	Avg/day	Range	Interstate/intl (×92)	Total (×120)
Accommodation	100.0%	\$154.70	\$20-29 to \$200-250	\$101,763	\$132,735
Food/drink at KBSC	96.2%	\$47.37	\$0 to \$100-149	\$31,159	\$40,642
Eating out locally	100.0%	\$70.36	\$1-9 to \$100-149	\$46,282	\$60,368
Local shopping	94.1%	\$52.08	\$0 to \$100-149	\$34,257	\$44,683
Local attractions/tourism	39.5%	\$21.58	\$0 to \$100-149	\$14,196	\$18,517
Total direct visitor spend				\$227,657	\$296,945

\$296,945

total estimated direct visitor spend (all 120 registrants)

\$2,475

average spend per entrant

858

total visitor-nights generated

This covers direct competitor/visitor spend only.
It does not include event-side local expenditure (entry fees retained by KBSC, merchandise print costs, catering for the socials), which the 2022 report captured as a separate line;
Those figures would need to come from the event budget.

Estimated Economic Impact: Spend by Category

The full spread of responses to each spend question, exactly as asked.
 Percentages are of respondents who answered that specific question; this is the underlying data the category build-up on the previous slide is calculated from.

Spend band	Accom.	Food @ KBSC	Eating out	Shopping	Attractions
\$0	-	4%	-	6%	60%
\$1-9	-	4%	2%	-	7%
\$10-19	-	11%	13%	24%	7%
\$20-29	2%	26%	9%	20%	5%
\$30-39	2%	11%	11%	6%	2%
\$40-49	-	9%	6%	12%	5%
\$50-99	21%	23%	26%	10%	2%
\$100-149	24%	11%	32%	24%	12%
\$150-199	10%	-	-	-	-
\$200-250	40%	-	-	-	-
Average daily spend	\$154.70	\$47.37	\$70.36	\$52.08	\$21.58

Percentages are of respondents who answered each question, not of the full survey sample of 60; response rates varied by category.
 Dollar bands are as presented in the survey instrument; midpoints were used to derive average daily spend (e.g. "\$50-99" → \$74.50).



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