



## Message from SA Sailing President - Peter Hall



I am sure you share our frustration at not being able to get out on the water enjoying our sport, however I am sure that you agree that a far more important focus for us all is to ensure that we take all of South Africa forward into the post-COVID-19 era.

This means thinking about the bigger picture that includes minimising the economic effects that this is having on all South Africans and ensuring that we all work together to flatten the curve, reduce deaths, and restart the economy, for all South Africans as soon as possible. The short-term frustration of not being able to sail will be more than repaid when we get out of this situation.

The SA Sailing team has been closely following the changes with regards to the South African lockdown situation. This includes monitoring feedback from the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, SASCO, SAMSA and working with regional bodies in this area.

Although we do understand that many of us would have liked to see a situation where we can sail our boats and participate in our sport, we currently do not anticipate this occurring in the near future. This is very clearly communicated under levels 3, 4 and 5 which require us to stay at home, other than essential travel for work and to purchase essential goods with no recreational travel.

As mentioned SA Sailing is communicating with SAMSA on these matters as the use of our waterways for recreational boating is mandated by SAMSA, who on 25 March prohibited all small vessel water based boating activities and restricted vessels to remain ashore. This has not changed to date. Although we are engaging with SAMSA on this, they do not anticipate a change in this area shortly. We are also working with SAMSA to publish a notice allowing keelboat owners to check boats on moorings before winter storms.

We look forward to being able to announce an easing of these restrictions as soon as they become available to us. We thank you for continuing to support this lockdown as the soonest that we can put this behind us, the sooner we can enjoy our sport on the water again.

Peter Hall  
SA Sailing President