

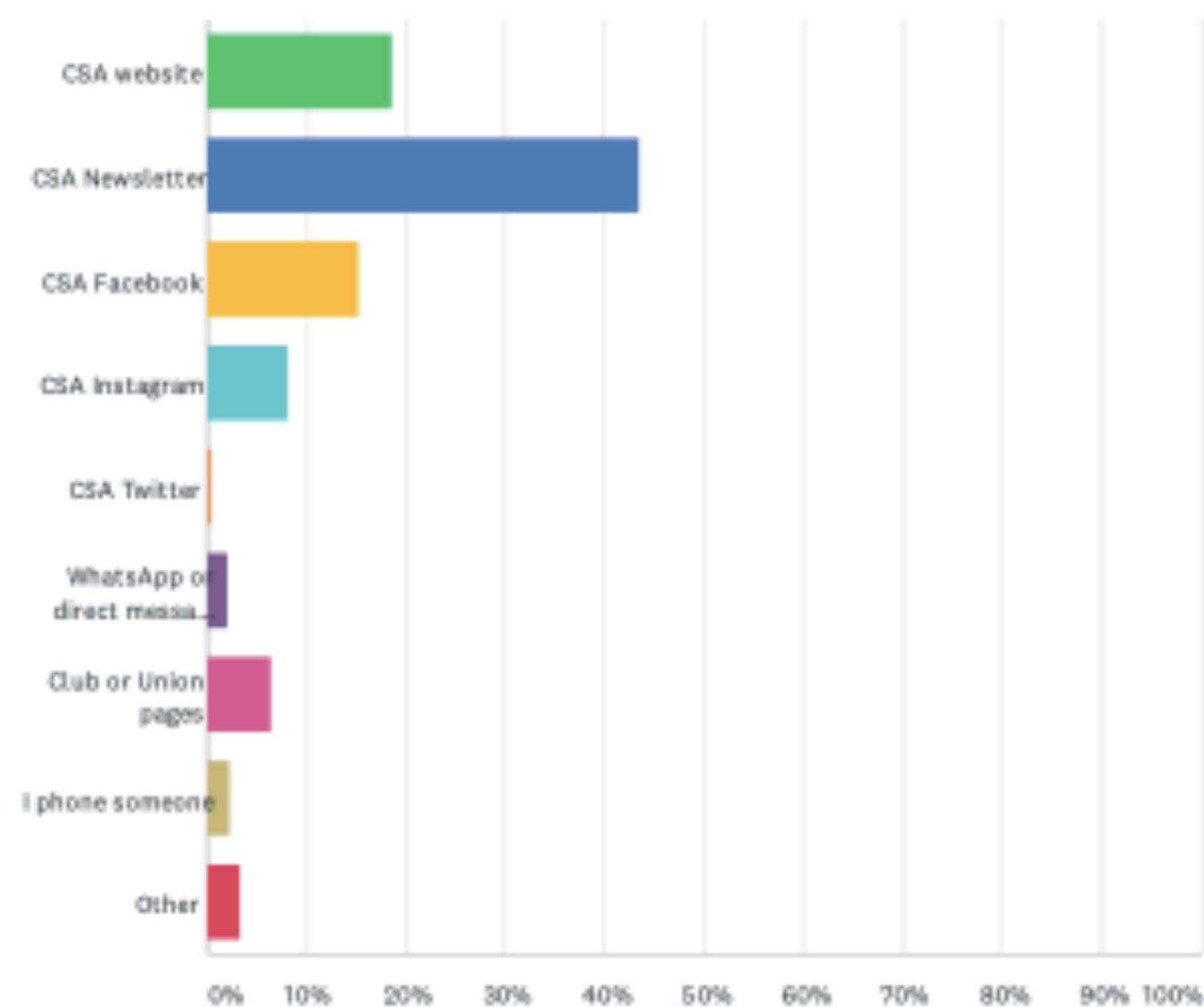
# CSA Survey Results



March 2021

### Q1 How do you access information on Canoeing?

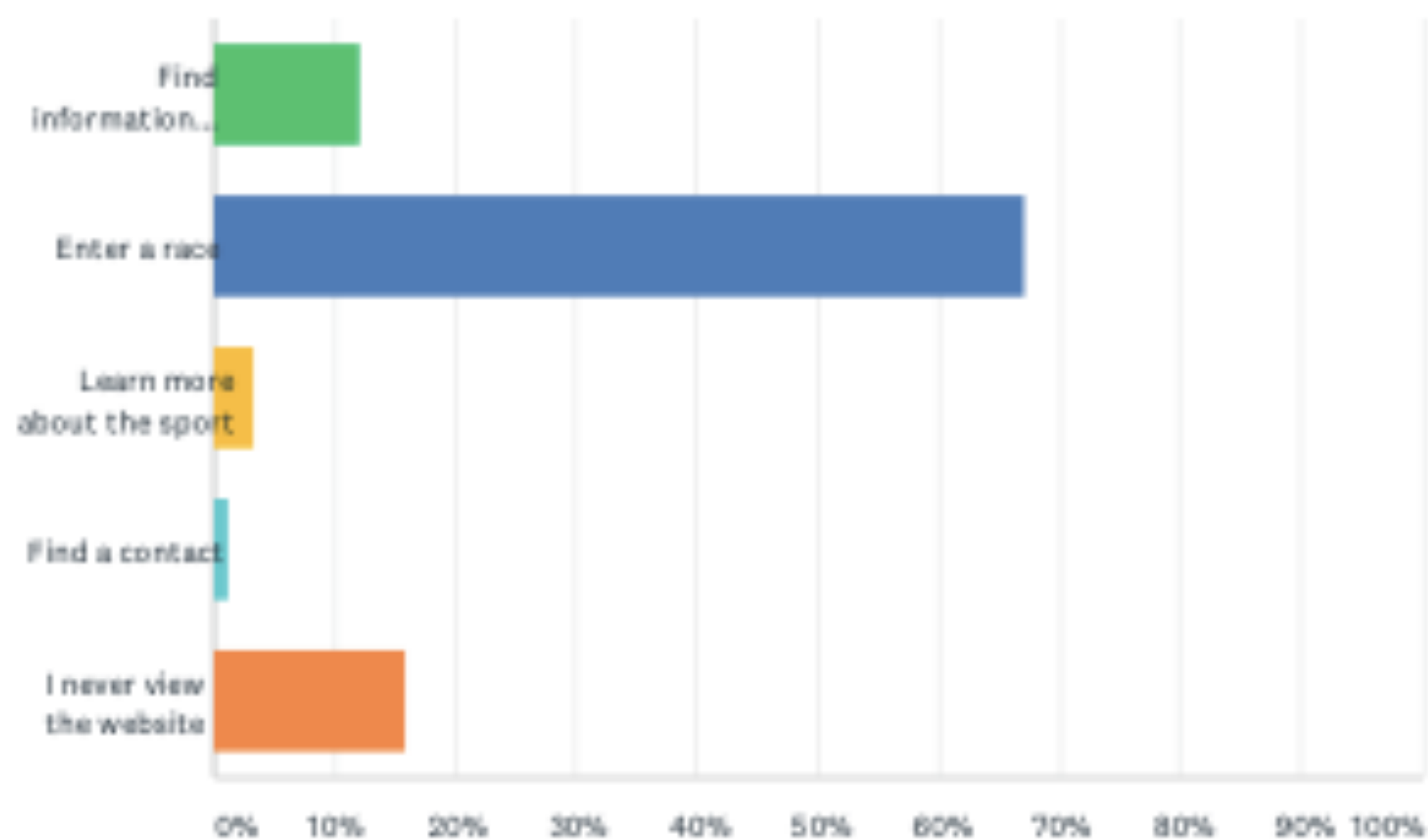
Answered: 296 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
CSA website	18.58%	55
CSA Newsletter	43.58%	129
CSA Facebook	15.20%	45
CSA Instagram	8.11%	24
CSA Twitter	0.34%	1
WhatsApp or direct message to CSA	2.03%	6
Club or Union pages	6.42%	19
I phone someone	2.36%	7
Other	3.38%	10
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>296</b>

## Q2 I use the website to

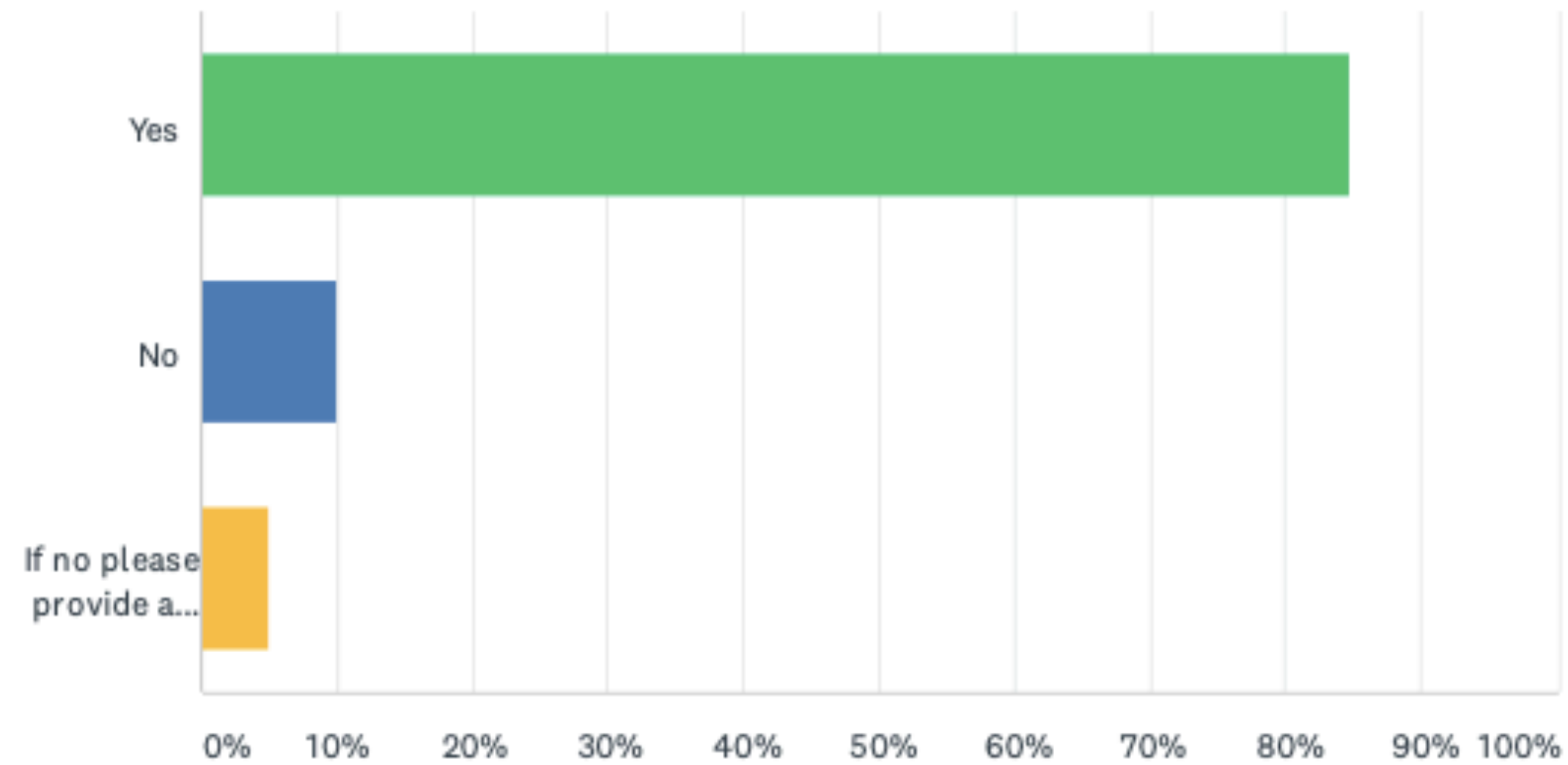
Answered: 296 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Find information (view FAQ's)	12.16%	36
Enter a race	67.23%	199
Learn more about the sport	3.38%	10
Find a contact	1.35%	4
I never view the website	15.88%	47
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>296</b>

### Q3 Do you think the CSA portion of the annual fee (SNR/JNR amounts) is value for money?

Answered: 296 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	84.80%	251
No	10.14%	30
If no please provide a comment	5.07%	15
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>296</b>

Not even really sure what we really get for it other than paying salaries.

I want the union to help do things like the labour unions, like more access to more water and rights to use the water and the water to be safe and well kept

CSA need to assist more in marketing of the races as its the only channel for a race info to reach all the paddlers

I have very little understanding on what the money is spent on. I have the impression it is mainly used for officials to have trips abroad.

Long story and I know you've done the 'temporary licence' but these don't make a lot of sense. OK, let's just say that if you regularly do events, then yes, the annual fee is worth it. If you only want to do one or two a year, then it is not. Of course, there is more that CSA does behind the scenes other than events, so I'm not discounting this, but I'm not going to pay >R700 for a licence to do one event nor the fandangled 'day licence' to do one event a year either.

a different and cheaper category for surfski (regional only) as many of us do not do river races etc

this year post covid...fees should be carefully considered especially for those muppets [me included] who paid full fees....in time.

What about pensioners

WC pay much higher fees than other provinces ? If not correct then no problem

How much is it

neither here nor there on it

I don't see what the paddler gets out of this fee

How much is it

What do we get for our fee's?

Some old moan - I think canoeists get more bang for their buck from CSA than surfski paddlers... But I know this is a tricky one.

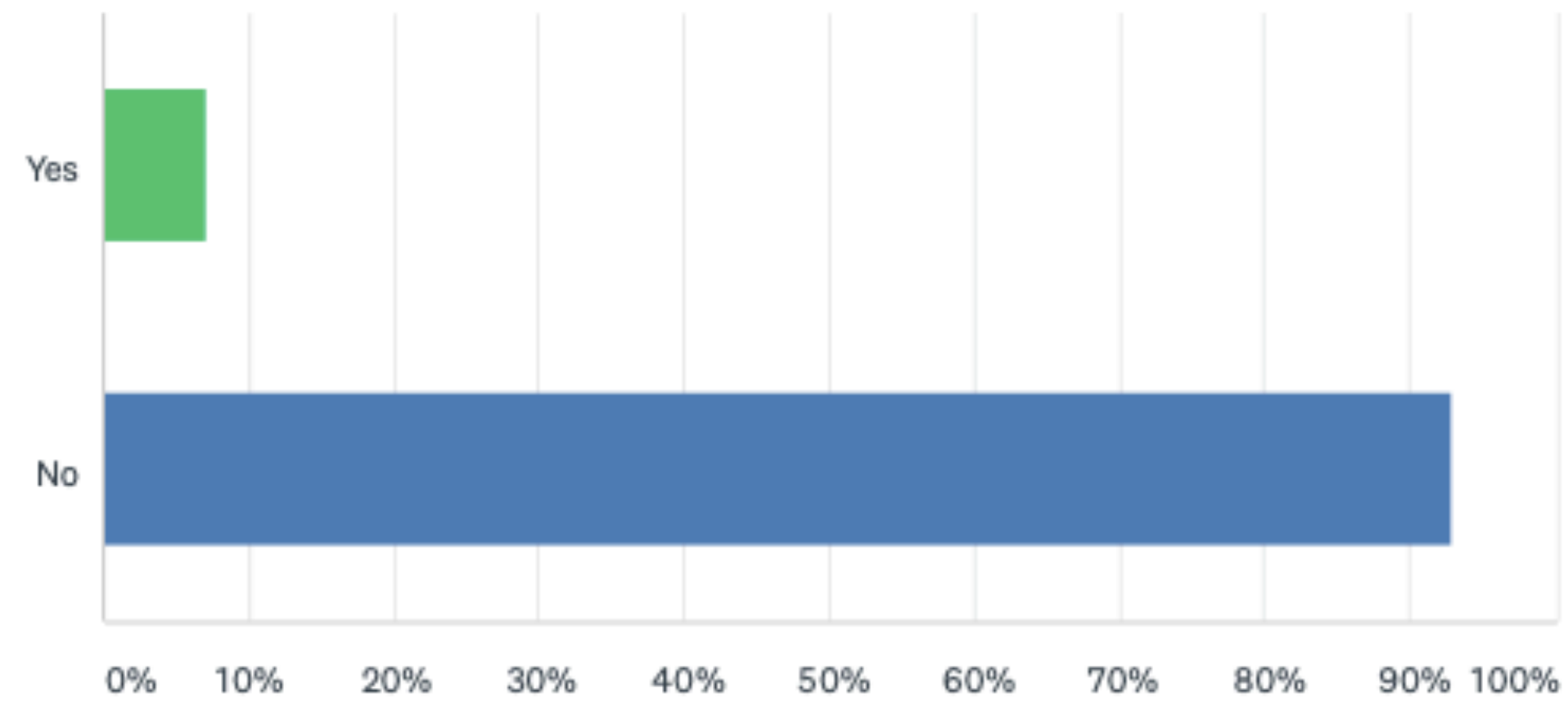
I don't exactly know towards what my fees are going to

CSA Senior Fee:

CSA Junior Fee

### Q4 Have you ever accessed the CSA website to peruse the Annual Financial Statements to ascertain where your annual fee goes to?

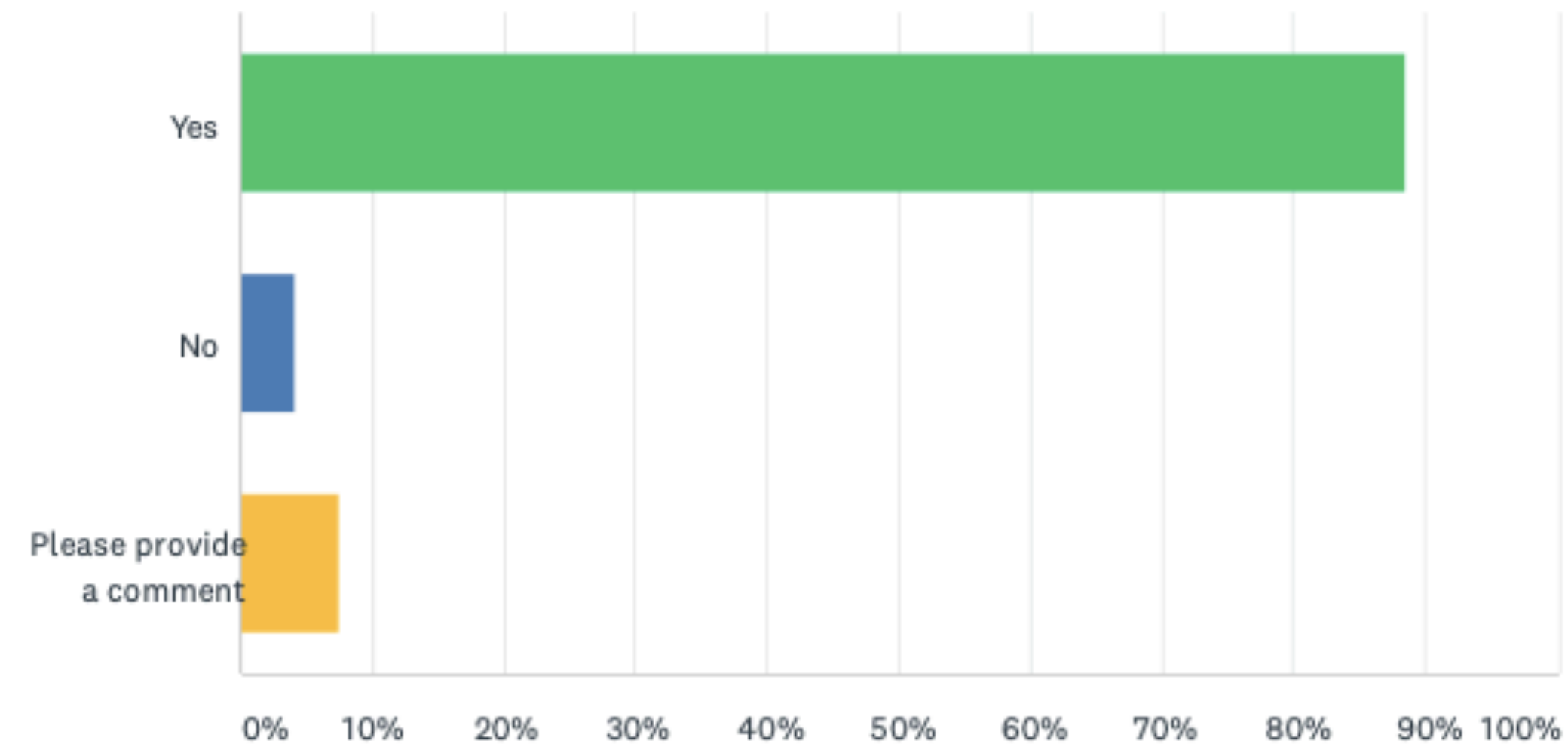
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	7.09%	21
No	92.91%	275
TOTAL		296

## Q5 In your opinion is CSA doing a good job?

Answered: 294 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	88.44%	260
No	4.08%	12
Please provide a comment	7.48%	22
TOTAL		294



csa did a good job getting permission for paddlers to be allowed to train and race while other sports were locked down

Don't really know either way. Not even sure what we would measure their performance against.

I was impressed that CSA managed to get us back on the water through lockdown

dont really follow what they do. i read copper corner.

I'm not 100% sure because I haven't checked the financial statements but my impression is that a lot of changes have been made just in the last two years which are definitely for the better for paddlers, clubs and administrators. I still feel that CSA (and clubs) has little feel for the recreational market and providing something for them and seeing them as a base from which to feed the higher layers of the pyramid... I think the effort that CSA has put in with covid and lockdown and water access has been above and beyond - thank you.

It is OK but in comparison to other sports the CSA seems to be only in the interest of elite racing as opposed to general canoeing for the public.

average

As SUP now falls under CSA I feel a lot more could be done to promote the sport and organise events, as well as making canoeing / surfski events more inclusive to SUP

You have done amazing work to keep us on the water as much as possible and get races going

No idea. New member

I would say that they mostly do a great job. My only grip is changing of event dates is not relayed to all provinces to get their feedback as to whether it will affect that provinces participation in the event to be changed!

I believe that National Tour athletes are supported entirely CSA will be behind the curve. The general manager position was created to resolve this glaring problem. Since then not one GM has lived up to the original mandate.

Could do more to support new entrants into sport. It is not easy to start like running and cycling.

Title has its ups and downs, sometimes batches don't get sent the evening before so we don't know what batches we are in

Not enough for beginners and development. We feel the focus is mainly to advanced paddlers.

Securing surfski paddling during lockdown is the first time I have thought so

Yes and No. Although they are doing a good job on the typical stuff. They are now over reaching re dot cloud, all races through them, its kzn way (aka csa) or the highway

As a non canoe paddler we are being forced to abide by Canoe Unions legislation. Some paddling disciplines are already part of another union, does not make sense to belong to 2 unions/ federations

increasing the red tape for sure

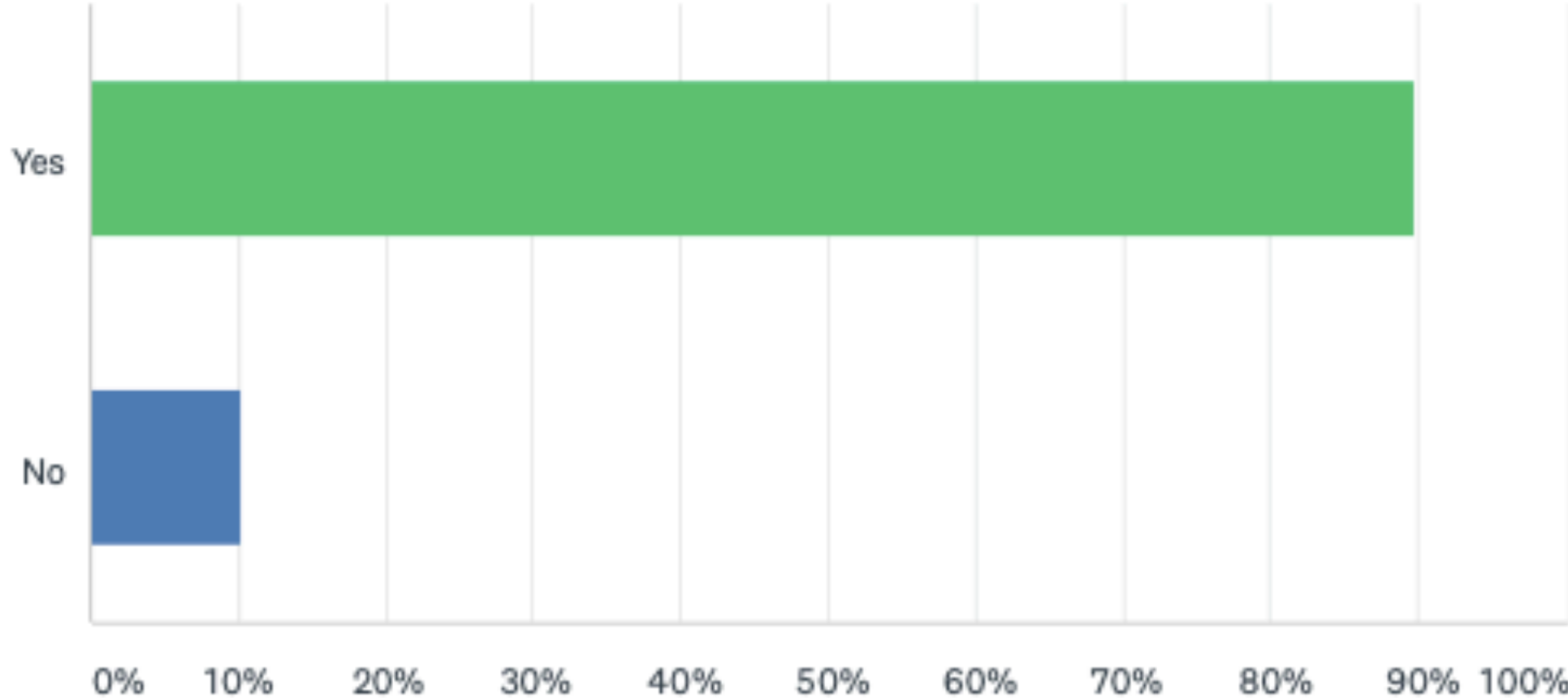
No, while intentions and goals appear to be good, how these are achieved and executed are out of touch with current times and trends. CSA has done an amazing job in getting us paddling during this pandemic.

I can compliment you on the handling of the Covid19 epidemic

Cannot comment new member

# Q6 Do you like the online registration system?

Answered: 290 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	89.66%	260
No	10.34%	30
TOTAL		290

Easy to use and puts the onus onto the individual

it works for me.

I don't even know what this is

still new for me

No fuss when navigating

Efficient and easy

efficient

Easy access and able to enter last minute on a Sat afternoon!

This question is not clear. Do you mean process to enter events? Or do you mean the process to join CSA? I assume for both as they are essentially the same thing. Yes, I like it and it is pretty intuitive however it is very rigid in terms of flexibility eg. from a payments point of view.

have a problem during load shedding then dont bother to do the race because i am not prepared to pay a late entry fee

It is so much more efficient than going through the union

it levels the playing field so that independents cannot ride on the back of CSA for free and use the federation when it suits.

It is easy and convenient

Great work, please keep going

No very limiting features and still seems to have basic bugs

Quick once know how

It is effective in entering for races and has all your information on hand.

Quick and easy. Maybe add a zipper scan option for payment.

Still preferred 1 registration at club level, it was just easier even if not online.

works fine

East to use with limited admin involved.

Haven't used it yet

As long as there no hassles when registering

Online is the way to go

its easy

Big improvement over the old system

Don't always have access

In line with technology

I haven't used it personally but the more that can be done by participants - them taking responsibility and more off the hands of club admins - the better.

It is improving, still a bit clumsy

It's simple and easy to use/access.

Should be able to use names and numbers to search though

I haven't accessed, but fellow paddlers say it is easy to use.

Online simplify things and really is a great way for time keepers to catch those that haven't entered . Example Clyde barendse (not sure on spelling ) enter ski races on the night even though it was said no late entries this shouldn't be allowed

It seems to have lost all our race history pre 2020

Registered a couple of years ago and it was easy peasy

CSA deserves an accolade for keeping us in the water during lockdown. your inclusion of Prone is much appreciated. thank you for your amazing support

Much easier than B4

it is conenient once you mastered it

Easy to use

As long as the web site is working

Haven't used much

If one suddenly has to cancell it's a problem

sill needs human club approval Took forever

Great work, thank you CSA

No idea. New member

Easier for planning purposes

Not initially but would like to have the Clubs on it but at the moment it it is too rigid and can't handle the Clubs diverse needs. This needs to be rectified

Works very well. You save a lot of effort and admin by not channeling it through the clubs and provinces. Way to go!

Too inflexible requiring multiple logons for multiple transactions that could be handled as one. I suspect the site managers claim a fee per transaction

Run around when trying to enter surfski races, really preferred the old system but this does work...

Doing a good job in the interest of the paddlers and the sport.

Works wellwhenitworks

EASY

Would love for it to be possible to enter multiple people at once for a race

ALL GOOD.

happy

Thanks to CSA team for their hard work

Think that we have to get used to it and simplify over time.

Haven't registered last few years

Once you know how it works its not a bad system

Works efficiently

It's OK. Maybe a bit bland, but it works.

Not very user friendly -- difficult to navigate

Haven't used it. Can't comment

There are far better and more user friendly platforms that exist. CSA did not need to incur a R700k + expense to develop this system.

It a bit complicated if you don't have access to internet

Have not used it yet

Indifferent on this one

Not very modern UI.

It is stifling the growth of the sport. It takes a regulations first approach and places significantly hurdles for new paddlers to cross. Rather we should be encouraging new paddlers to participate in our sport and slowly walk them thru all the hurdles. We are competing with many demands on a persons time and losing the battle, as can be seen by our stagnant numbers and aging demographic.

I just don't enjoy it.

Easy to do

Easy peasy

I find it painful having to do a friend request to enter doubles

Much simpler and quicker

Simple to use but the club change is very complicated to explain to new users

Much easier than paper based

Annual yes, no for races

Doesnt allow staggered payment option for expensive entries.

Payment isn't easy as page doesn't always load

Still having to wait for a club to tick you in can take a week.

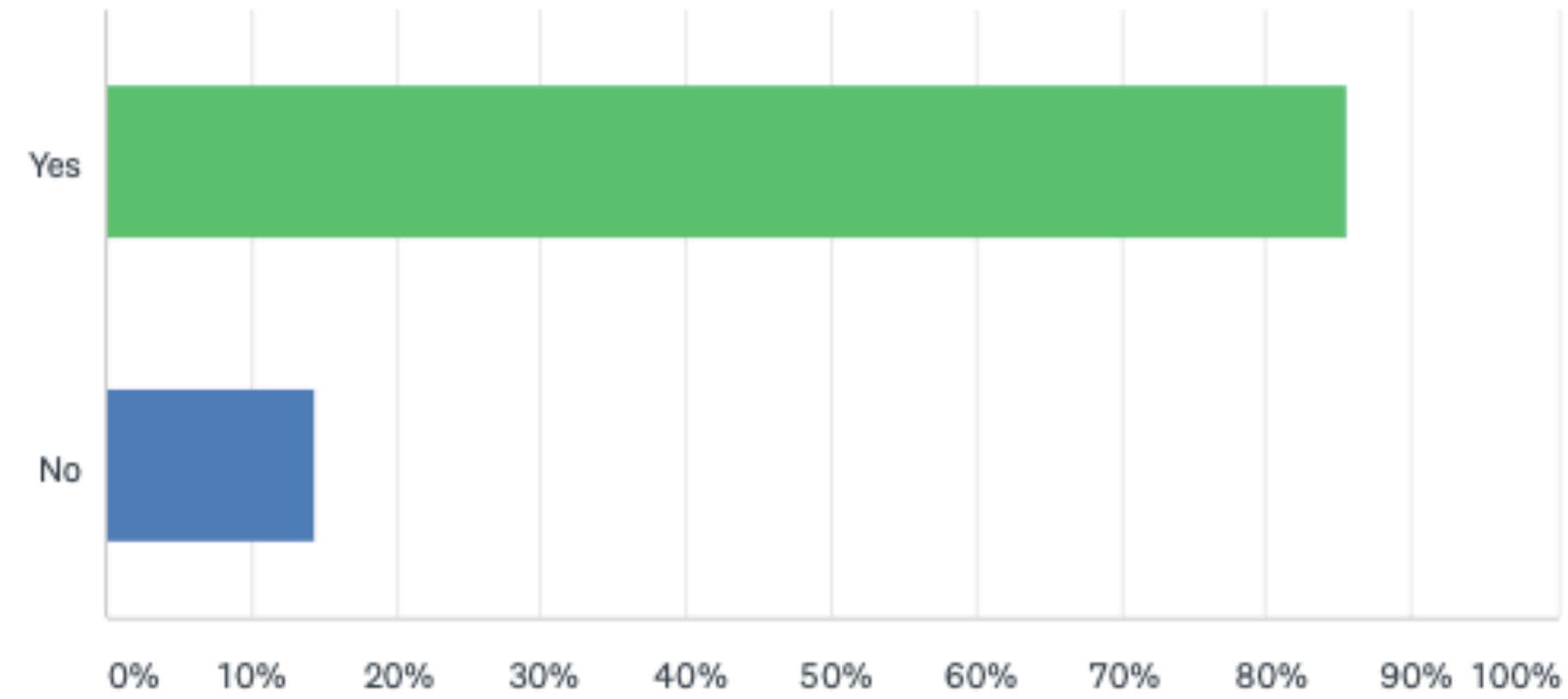
As a club administrator, the new system is significantly better than the old form system.

Pretty average



### Q7 Is the online race entry system user friendly?

Answered: 277 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	85.56%	237
No	14.44%	40
TOTAL		277

There needs to be multiple options for payment. If there was a "pay on the day " option it would allow for registration of time trials and small club events. Also could provide greater flexibility to enter on behalf of others perhaps?

Thank you for all your hard work

early days

follow the steps not difficult once started

to a point.

It is ok

It only allows for credit card payment and not all paddlers have a card that can be used on the system, please provide more payment options like eft etc.

Step by step

It could be make to look more attractive but it is simple and effective.

Should be place for late entries (at extra cost)

when it works

Haven't used it yet

I have not used thi sfeature yet; get online direct from an event e.g. Freedom Challenge

Haven't tried it. New paddler

For me yes

Haven't tried it.

Quick and easy

Once you familiar it is easy

I've heard it is

N/A BUT NORMALLY I DO ONLINE

Quick and efficient

Have not entered a race yet

adds to cost though

Easy peasy

Haven't used much

I like it

Compare it to ROAG, Entry Ninja or any of the existing entry and event admin management systems out there.

Would prefer to make payment for a selection of entries (even for different paddlers) in one amount and not per paddler per race

got a bit confused with the entering system flow to enter paddlers names. eventually got it right but isnt the most intuitive. (happy to elaborate more if need be kade.burnett@derivco.co.za)

happy Easy Have not use it yet Haven't used it. Can't comment

once you are registered but it could be better Indifferent on this one

Will find out next season when I start races again More error handling or faq can be shown for when payments don't work

does not take Capitec very basic

One has to remember a password, and one is unable to enter if someone else has not done their admin duties and marked the paddler as eligible to enter a race.

If you entering 1 race as a single,ok. If more than 1 race as a parent with spouse and dependents it is a nightmare

The system should be upgraded to allow multiple entrys/entrants under 1 transaction

Not mobile phone friendly

Can't add multiple paddlers and pay once at the end. Paying after every paddler is a mission Pretty average

It really is not a straight yes or no answer. Some entries online are easier to navigate than others I have not used it, so I cannot say.

Can be a little trick to navigate when using a smartphone as one is not always near a computer

Too many steps and confusing workflow. Paddlers are always querying on WhatsApp groups on how to enter.

The individual race info could've more clear. Along with details of when entries will open etc. instead of the generic 1999 date.

Sometime really battle and have to battle to get manual assistance. I am very unimpressed with Dotcloud because it seems to exclude the clubs. Did someone get a backhand

I haven't used it so I don't have an opinion here.

even me can understand it

never had a problem

Recently needed to show we ( in Langebaan ) are part of a CSA training squad and we received excellent service from your admin section

UI and UX could be better

Not a competing paddler

It does not work on Google Chrome

simple to use

The online entry system is great, user friendly and efficient.

It has improved, but compared to running the entry is so involved that I find it unpleasant to enter any races.

Improvement is needed

Dont use it - Member of CSA purely for Canoe Polo

Only thing is that only one paddler can pay per entry k2

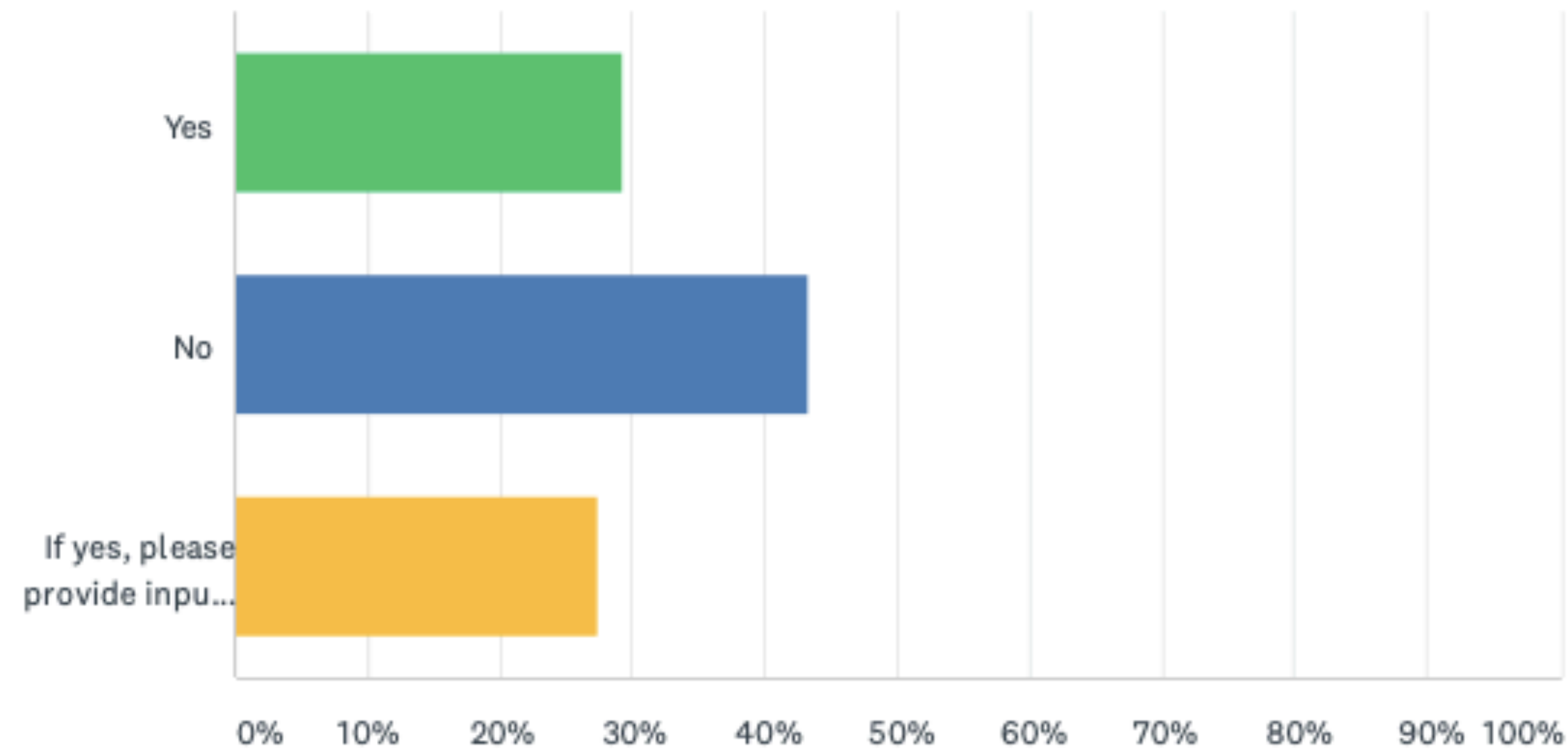
No fuss when navigating

It works fine for positive workflows but cant handle any deviation. eg no Credit card, multiple entries, etc.

But races are too expensive

## Q8 Do you think that there are significant barriers to entry to our sport?

Answered: 296 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	29.39% 87
No	43.24% 128
If yes, please provide input in how we could practically change	27.36% 81
TOTAL	296

Allow Pay as you Go membership. This comprises a once off (annually) direct CSA affiliation, along with a Pay per Event affiliation fee that goes to the Union hosting an event if you are on this plan..

Flat water is no more dangerous than open water swimming, but canoeing in comparison is just not easy for anyone to do, canoeing needs to look how open water swimming works. But in a "nutshell" I feel that there have been too many changes that don't benefit canoeing, in 1995 it was much easier for me to do Dusi than now, just paying to do the race and get everything in line is such a problem.

All the safety stuff and the races required to get to Fish / Dusi / etc. (Not sure there's an easy solution, though)

like i said before everything is so very expensive every step of the way

Accessibility, enough experienced paddlers offering their expertise

not easy, sport that takes time and money is a problem for young people, clean water is also becoming scarce.

very difficult question because CSA is regulated and it is easier to just go and paddle Red tape is always going to be a problem go and paddle

The fact that there is no temp licence for people that want to only do one race a year (ie Fish, Cape Point, etc...)

The cost of annual fees and race entry for development paddlers may add up to create a barrier, the possibility of sponsoring / subsidising a number of younger / development paddlers should be looked into.

In terms of having young paddlers race, the cost of entry is high with a club membership, then the CSA membership, PFD's etc. The safety has to be in place. Can you have a CSA membership without a club membership?

Cost. Clubs try and provide more startup canoes. Proficiency. If you can swim you can race. Part of the fun is learning not to fall in the river.

For youngsters whose parents / guardians don't paddle. May more school based drives. Pmb very good. More needed in Durban.

Arrangements for seconding on river races

Clear guidelines to how to gain all required proficiencies should be more prominently displayed so newcomers can know exactly how to proceed in getting into the sport

Clubs need to offer 1 month free boat rentals to newbies + skills training

Unfortunately I think there always will be things like access to recreational water, the need for water proficiencies etc. that will be inhibitors which require a concerted effort to navigate around. The real challenge is, without club champions who are prepared to put in the effort how do you introduce newbies to our sport. The demand is there. Greater club and union collaboration?? Not sure what the answer is.

I think some races could be easier to enter, for example Marine Series 4km races should be for everyone, not just CSA members. Sort of like ParkRun is for everyone, but road running races 21k and up require club and ASA membership. Lifesaving people such as Nipper parents and Juniors for example could paddle with a friend who is an experienced paddler, kids could more easily paddle with parents etc. Only qualification is that they have to wear a life jacket.

I think there is not enough advertisement for the sport in South Africa. As paddling/canoeing isn't really the traditional sport in South Africa (like rugby), a lot of people do not even know there are opportunities available for this.

WCCU could start by looking at their fees i.t.o value for surfski paddlers etc..!

Access to good clean water and equipment is expensive and potentially short lived if used on a river

the qualification criteria.

People don't realise how unstable the boats are, give up easily



OMG - don't get me started! 1. Beginners should not be thrown into a K1. Clubs and the sport lose hundreds of people who are keen to paddle each year because of this. Sink or swim is not a way to treat beginners. And there is nothing for beginners either. Paddling needs its own 'parkrun' or 5km fun run version that is open to 'Anything that floats'. We tried this in Parys with great success (with the people who attended). Our location was against us. We'll try something like this in the George area next summer once we are settled here. Paddling is up against competition from trail running and mountain biking. Paddling needs to do a lot differently to catch the attention of all those people out there who would love it. Practically, of course, people need to have kayaks, paddles, PFDs and roof racks. Big layout... But not really more than an expensive bicycle!

Cost of equipment and travel to practice and race. Extend the development programs if possible.

Cost.

A dedicated Pro/am series might be a good platform to guide new people though the proficiency journey might help

Local club has no energy / commitment in maintaining newcomers to the sport - they can work it out for themselves mentality is no helpful

not really possible for you to change - dirty water

Affordability of all the kit required. it is what it is

Just like other non main stream sports it's an expensive sport to get into, that isn't necessary the barrier to entry, but what is is an individual doesn't have a one stop shop to get going they need to: 1. Register with CSA, 2. Register with a club 3. Source a boat 4. Source a paddle 5. Source accessories. Often each one of these steps is independent. Therefore the admin to get into the sport is a great barrier to entry ... especially when a lot of the service providers are not known to a new paddler

We need more media marketing to assist in having free open social days to encourage non paddlers to come have a try at paddling and also more social events like the MacGregor series

Costly in terms of equipment, difficult in terms of seconding logistics, and many people are put off by water quality issues (specifically in KZN). No easy fix, but these are some comments that I regularly hear.

We need to make it more fun for kids. Lower entry fees and shorter fun races

Treat everyone fairly not on who you train with or who you know. A lot of hidden talent. Every article year in and year out are of the same people. Your communication company has their favorites and will stick to it

I think cost can be a factor

it costs quite a lot to own a boat etc. Assist with equipment for beginners. Also I think we should encourage Women's canoeing. EG approach girl schools like they have done with Epworth.

expense of boards and equipment

Costs, support, clean water

1) Cost of equipment for a novice. 2) High learning curve especially for river paddling, more coaching for novices could be helpful.

Want to do a couple races at most and have to pay a ridiculous annual fee

Cost. Club system needs to be active in recruitment

The sport has become quite expensive. It is a little out of reach for many i.t.o. the cost of a canoe and the associated equipment.

Samsa making it more and more unpleasant. WestCoast not only cancelled due to covid but too strict rules for novices or once off paddlers to enter. Clubs also not arranging enough fun events for non club CSA members to have a fun day trying out the sport.

Paddlers are insular. Clubs need to be supported more enabling more funding so coaching could be used to encourage beginners. Clubs of fewer than 10 members should be rolled into larger units.

a lot of focus is on development of previously disadvantaged athletes and it should be expanded to develop the sport as a whole.

Cost of equipment

Easier qualification to become river proficient. Clubs to organize transport to races (for a fee).

Boats and transport are expensive. CSA can't change that.

I think it is a very difficult sport to get started in as it takes a lot of effort to learn to stay in a boat and then enjoy it

Finance and opportunity (Exposure)

assist clubs with low cost dev programs

they are inherent to the sport, access to water, transport, distances to rivers. nothing CSA can do about these logistics and geographic realities

People simply don't have the tenacity to overcome those first few weeks of instability and swimming. They just give up.

You can't. Canoeing is just a high admin sport, with a steep learning curve. Not much can be done with other options like MTB, trail running around which are more accessible

I think the barriers are more around the steep learning curve and skills required of the sport itself (paddling is hard, and takes a lot of commitment to falling out before you can really enjoy it).

It is too expensive for people with lower income. CSA fees plus club fees already amount to over R1000. Then we also need to pay more fees for races, equipment, etc.

One sometime has to belong to a variety of clubs just to be able to compete. AS A surf ski paddler & life saver I need to join another club, a Canoe Club & another Union. Additional Club & Capitation fees start adding up then paddling in events becomes to costly.

Non-members having to join a club and CSA when wanting to do one race; temporary licenses should allowed if a member has proven competent through qualifying races

High national and provincial admin fee's, river proficiency requirements.

Not sure what the answers is, but why no youngest entering the sport. How do we get more younger paddlers evolved in the sport. If we don't the sport will be dead in a few years time. Also how do we get more women into the sport

Expensive to get going. Do schools still have development boats and kit for kids to try out? I heard of a well known school where a friend's daughter wanted to try it but was told to buy this and that.. so she went to play tennis instead.

No affordable professional coaching for Juniors

cost of the sport, subscription, entry and travel related costs. especially if only interested in 1/2 races very prohibitive. means lots of paddlers don't bother as a result. as to 1 /2 races membership/club/province/national ten add race entry is crazy

Big gap between u18 and u23 - lots of potential lost here. Maybe promoting u21 or competition category fir this group to keep them in the sport.

Encourage more events for new paddlers. Have a system that helps them get compliant with the laws of the country require. Right now we seem to be adopting an attitude of fit in and comply or move along. There must be a nurture process to bring people thru. That applies to skills, confidence and the red tape.

Expense, Travel, facilities, School and kid programs required

It is becoming to beauracritic. Although bureaucracy can be a good thing, too much and it becones expensive and top heavy

Having to pay club/union/csa fees before even behind able to enter a race is a big issue.

It is an expensive sport with purchasing the equipment. Also lack of seconds for races contributes to it being difficult

Lots of rules and regs and requirements

The real trick is sponsorship which is difficult. People cannot afford new boats and races always need drivers and seconds. Sponsorship of people getting into the sport is tricky as sponsors want to see value for their spend (ie produce a new super athlete). To be honest, the sport is only really available to the higher LSM categories due to cost and logistics. If that is accepted, then the major focus is to get more interest in the sport in general and the sport will become more representative as the LSM groups become more representative. Look at cycling, as it has become more popular, the participants have become more varied in terms of race, gender etc. It is still a sport that draws from higher LSM groups like paddling.

CSA numbers are only issued after basic proficiency test limits new paddlers to enter races or partake as double partner

There are not enough learn to canoe programs at the clubs

Harder than the alternatives ie trail and MTB. And, downside is not just a fall but a frightening swim. Wonder whether broadening the nature of craft and especially the material might help a bit. A plastic sitontop.

It might help to create more support for beginners with K2 partners, tripping and lessons. I have found having to learn myself with lots of hard learnings. Having the ability to get cars to finish of races helps alot and it would be nice to have more races with medals to recognise achievement and finishes.

Dirty water is a huge issue. The cost of damages and repairs in river racing if hard to keep up with for new entrants to the sport.

Beyond CSA control. Equipment cost, logistics

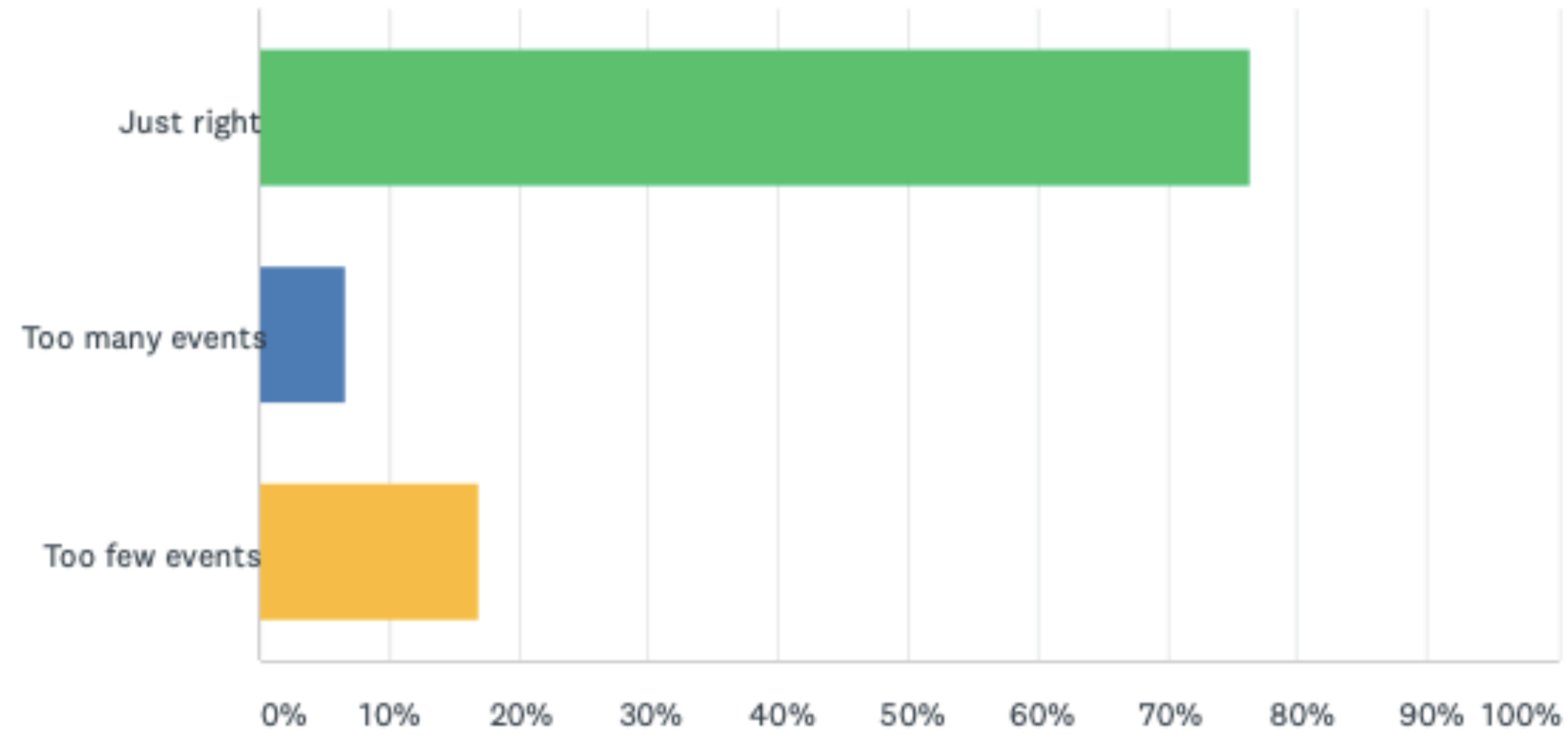
Make short Surfski races free of requirement for CSA registration.

More equipment hire options would be beneficial

its an expensive sport to get into, but there are alot of options for someone wanting to enter it. esp at club level.

## Q9 The CSA calendar is:

Answered: 270 Skipped: 26



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Just right	76.30% 206
Too many events	6.67% 18
Too few events	17.04% 46
TOTAL	270

I feel that CSA should place an extraordinary amount of focus, resources and support towards the Guppie sprint program. It will significantly boost the membership of all other disciplines literally within 3 to 4 years, with continued growth well into the future. It is also a very simple and controlled way to build a sustainable development program. It is a low hanging fruit and like rolling rocks downhill - with just a little more focus and emphasis on excellence it could literally transform the lives of hundreds of kids and build a fantastic future membership pipeline. Let the other events and disciplines sort themselves out - those events will happen anyway and the support required will be requested - you can be reactive there. As for the Guppy Sprint Program, there is a lot of potential there!

Although it seems smaller events in unions other than KNCU, WCCU, and GCU don't get the seeding/index which prevents the unions from expanding on races in their areas need to find a balance between Rivers, marathons and sprints.

Waters down the entry im a dusi paddler and having it in feb and march is too late in the year go back to jan

I can't complain, but in comparison to running and openwater swimming, canoeing has changed so many of the nice races onto the same piece of Klip river which is not ideal canoeing water. There are many beatifull exiting dam all over SA which we never get to use.

hard to accomodate all, i pick my events

Its not a good time to ask, too many on the fly changes resulting from COVID and poor planning. I don't think there too many event for a national calendar, I do think there is not enough consultation between Unions to ensure the top events in each union can get maximum support. eg. Umko displaces Orange Decent without discussion, both great events both looking for maximum support.

More downwind surfski events summer winter seasons In Eastern Cape, clubs should get race funding/organising assistance

Too many events in the early part of the year. some events can move later in the year(November)

Very hard job keeping everyone happy, Dusi should be at the very end of the river season To few events for new paddlers, recreation paddlers.

But I realise that organisers are volunteers.

provincial events to few Cost of equipment , and transport if you don't have any Too few events for SUP

If, as I do, have others sports which I do then it becomes difficult to attend some of the regional events in the union's area. If paddling was my main sport I might think differently. I do feel there is too much aimed at rivers. River events should( and I see them as premium events) be targets to aim at. More emphasis needs to be spent encouraging marathon events as this is what taught me how to paddle properly. In Gauteng water quality is becoming a greater concern and more now question it.

This refers to Q8 - there was no option to comment. The safety aspect in terms of qualification criteria.

Uncertain times now but there is something for everyone most weekends.

Too few events due to COVID, also major events (flat water/ sprint) are often held in difficult to reach destinations

Needs to have some variation from year to year. It's always the same

Can't comment due to Covid but race organisers are doing a great job

WC is boring but costly to travel elsewhere

not enough races as before

Usually it's just right but after the pandemic shutdown for most of last year, it's got too busy resulting in not being able to participate in all the races one would like.

It is what it is. Grateful for all those prepared to organise races

already fewer and shorter events, which is aligned to the economic reality the average paddler finds himself in

Was ok prior to lockdown

Gauteng needs more events

Too few in the area to help with learnings (Gauteng)

the sa school events are an issue as your under 18s struggle to pull the year off if not done at the start of the year

Virtually no events in PE

Hard for me to say. One needs to build up to the major events. Events need to be hosted by serious teams.

this is a specific comment for March 2021. I understand how we got there, but the reality is that you are simply splitting the available people between various races. Most will only do 2 or 3 in the period.

I don't do any events so I can't comment. If events have few participants, it could be because there are too many events or that event's location. I don't see paddling having a problem with too many participants (which in itself should be seen as a problem).



It satisfies my needs

Don't fix what is not broken please

I don't enter CSA events as we are living in Langebaan and concentrate on racing in the Lagoon or berg River with our own events

Not many flat water races. These are more accessible for beginners and often flatwater races are often closer, therefore that are less time consuming. This will attract people for the average weekend. Also easier on logistics . River calendar is too full.

I think the calendar is too congested at some times of the year, and not enough events at other times

Too few events for Juniors and not enough open days or introduction to new areas of the various sports. Workshops or day sessions in surfskiing or down river would be great for Juniors. Focus is mainly sprints for them.

Balanced between surfski and canoe.

the calendar does not matter. The paddlers will vote with their feet by selecting the best events.

We need to incentives paddlers to step up and create events. Right now it's a very scary, risky and intimidating role.

Pretty empty and has zero influence. Race events give all the info needed

More surfski Downwinds & new races on different sections of river. Same old same old.. No newness to create excitement

Non of the above, it needs to be secured for the year.

Too many small river events clog up the Callander for other diciplines

There are occasions when there are no races followed by 6 weekends in a row. It is not a bad thing to spread the races out because if someone misses a race it would mean maybe a month gap between events. This may encourage bigger a turnout at the race, for fear of having to wait too long for the next event



As unions in other provinces grow, so will races, kzn calendar is great

For now its right as long as novice paddlers have enough races to qualify for the bigger events.

No idea...has it been published for 2021?

You need to decide what you looking out of the sport then aim at those events

Not enough safety courses in river conditions ie in K1s

too few for surf ski events

Eastern Cape is lacking

It seems well constructed

## OTHER COMMENTS

Surfski needs some thought, we should have specific flat water and downwind provincial and national al champs , too many races which are meant to be open ocean races moved to estuaries and harbors , might as well use a canoe

There are occasions when there are no races followed by 6 weekends in a row. It is not a bad thing to spread the races out because if someone misses a race it would mean maybe a month gap between events. This may encourage bigger a turnout at the race, for fear of having to wait too long for the next event

More surfski Downwinds & new races on different sections of river. Same old same old.. No newness to create excitement

Take a bow CSA, you doing a fantastic job. Thank you

The sport is dying! Please don't watch it fade away. Make it easier for beginners to het racing, currently it takes too long.

Pretty empty and has zero influence. Race events give all the info needed

Too many small river events clog up the Callander for other diciplines

A few years back it seemd that the paddling arena was bottom up driven, csa was there to serve the unions and paddlers. Very quickly it has changed to a more dictatorial type of top down system. And very much a kzn way or the highway.

Csa folk are based in kzn so there is definitely cross over of csa staff in kzn structure. The rest of the unions just must follow with volunteers. My perspective.

More surfski downwind events

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The annual club and CSA membership for races are stopping the sport from pulling in more numbers. There are many social river and surfski paddlers that only want to take part in a few events each year. If they are proficient, let them pay a nominal temp fee like other sports and rather generate income through races instead of annual memberships. In the Western Cape, joining a club and WCCU will cost you almost R2000/year, so imagine you just want to do a handful of races, or maybe just one big one like Dusi, Fish or Berg, the cost is far too high. Keep in mind you have two types of paddlers, the serious paddlers racing very weekend and the social proficient ones that don't have time/finances to do all the races, but wants to do one or two each year.

Thankyou to the CSA for all their efforts in helping us get back on the water across the country. Thank you	
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Grateful that CSA had lobbied to government and enabled us to paddle during recent L3 lockdown of beaches etc.	
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Personally I believe our big events like Dusi/Fish/Umko should require annual qualification. This will boost local smaller events and ensure paddlers are river current. Ensures safety. No matter what you ran in comrades the year before, you need to qualify each year. Paddlers chase points and enter events the first year to get AR accredited, and then hold it for years while maybe never paddling. Dangerous and not in the greater interest of the sport.
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i believe somehow CSA should cater for those that only want to do one or two races in a year make it say a R200/250 temp licence per race as per running and Tri's if the individual does say x4 then he may as well join for the season but that would be up to the individual to decide
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Happy with service they give
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Race entries too expensive for what is provided. Secondly you think twice about doing all the races due to costs.
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Making people join csa to take part in events is an issue for some people.
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Maybe there could be more sprint events
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Allow Lifesaving CLUBS to be CSA registered

WCCU fees are extremely high compared to the other unions and failed to present financials at its last AGM which is shocking as well as questionable regarding where WCCU fees go towards.

Barriers to entry - by making registration so difficult and entering races bureaucratic you are not helping lower barriers. Also if you are not an "elite" paddler you are not catered for or made to feel welcome

Why can CSA not allow other Provincial Unions into the sport, like Life Saving ? CSA adds tremendous value but purely from a Canoeing perspective. All clubs must belong to a provincial Canoe Union. This I believe is rather short sighted as many Ocean paddlers have no intention of becoming a Canoe paddler, but yet to compete we need to be part of CSA and abide by Canoe Unions.

I am one who will contact people like Colin or Kim if I had anything significant to say

Thank you for all your efforts, contributions and sacrifices. I salute you and the sport cannot do what it does locally and globally and importantly make a contribution to all spheres of society whether you are well off financially or poor.

I think they are doing a great job

Highly appreciative of the proactive, inspiring and dedicated work that CSA did to get paddlers back on the water during lockdown. It made a significant difference to the well being of my family.

thank you for the good work. Canoeing is competing with numerous other sports. it is well run and organised

Challenging times and the ongoing competition for other sports eg MTB and trail running. Definitely scope for involving the big race organizers and looking to follow the catered / accommodated format a la Sani2C etc.

thank you the committee and Kim have done incredible work for us all and even found ways for us to paddle through lock down a very big thank you to you all

The big events get people in. Proximity to the sea and the dices get people in. MTB and trail are easier and professional organisers have proliferated. Thought that we should try to get professional organisers into the big events. The Vaal and Breede come to mind. Perhaps a series leading up to a big race. But at the moment the Clubs are organising local races. The sport is slowing. Perhaps some fresh eyes from professional event managers.

thanks for the efforts

You guys have done a super job through a difficulty year with ever changing rules and restrictions. thanks for all the effort.

Thank you for all that you do for canoeing in South Africa!

Very grateful for all the hard work that CSA does.

nope. csa should be commended for all the hard work this past season which allowed allow us back onto the water efficiently & the food drive for csa development. well done'.

We have an active group of paddlers on the Westcoast of SA, in Langebaan lagoon and Velddrif ( Berg River ) mainly. Maybe a CSA event in this neck of the woods would be a good idea ??

Thanks for all your hard work.

When can we expect a calender for 2021 ?

Thank you for serving on the governing committee of a small sport in South Africa. Its challenging and thankless. I appreciate your efforts and commitment. Werner Smit

Much gratitude for a job well done

No but just to say, thank you

All paddlers should be treated equally. Not the cool crowd and then the rest.  
More inclusion

MAYBE MORE COMPETITION FOR " SENIOR BEGINNERS"!!

Have no idea what CSA does yet. Will look for races and search for info regarding new and novice paddlers. Hope there are guidelines,tips and races for novices

Very impressed with what is being done for Development, the structure that is now in place must be good for the future

Happy with CSA in general, just disappointed by our local club setup and lack of river racing events in the EC

Am enjoying the new-found sport immensely.

No. CSA well run

If you make a rule stick to it . If some doesn't have the correct jacket or enters late and isn't allowed to follow the correct action and discipline accordingly

Thank you for all the effort that goes into keeping our sport alive

We need to encourage paddlers to possibly have once a month club dice night at different clubs. So for instance last Thursday of the month all or as many paddlers from all KZN clubs go to lets say Kingfisher and support there dice and there club.

All good thanks

You guys saved our sanity during lockdown, by enabling us to get on the water. Thank you!

Thank you for serving canoeing.

A day entry fee should be implemented for all races, as in cycling where you pay a license for the day and you are free to race. Having to join a club and be part of CSA just to do a few fun races with mates is a bit of a downer.

The annual fee is too much. No other sport has to pay this much

Thanks for all your hard work and for representing canoeing and SA Sport in general so well. Most other sports would kill to have such dedicated, honest, hard working individuals

Would be helpful if race start times were listed on the entry portal.

A good sporting federation with dynamic and enthusiastic leadership.

Canoeing needs more public exposure. Game plan Media is boring. Need exciting marketing of upcoming events in national media.

Keep up the good work, as a paddler I appreciate the amount of work that goes into running CSA

2021 calendar after Umko still s bit unclear. Yes Covid plays havoc.

local CSA events in PE to few

I thank the people in CSA for all their hard work. In everything we can improve. I think we should get back to encouraging competition between Clubs and Provinces. The Doccloud system does not do that. I think that should be looked at again. Personally if something is not working throw it out and start again rather than fudging it.

You guys are doing an incredible job - very grateful to everyone involved!

YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB. WISH WE WERE ALL AS DEDICATED



Good job CSA

Its always hard to please everyone, and most CSA do a great job. Communication is the biggest factor. Keep all provinces in the loop especially for changes of major events and the sport will run smoothly. Thanks and well done for all your hard work

CSA needs to look at races/ events that draw in the beginner paddler. To many races are for the top end paddler and there is very little for the kayaker / social paddlers.

MASSIVE NB: Western Cape Union needs to be looked at. The current AGM was held without financial statements yet they are the most expensive union by an absolutely huge mile. This needs to be looked at

the questions here can only be answered if one is up to date with all the politics and regulations associated with the sport. Most of us have not yet looked at the calendar We in the Cape do not have water.

Thanks for all the hard work that must have gone in behind the scenes to allow us back on the water now.

Appreciate the efforts to keep us afloat! ;-)

I do think Kim and her CSA stalwarts are doing a great job and punching above their weight for a small sport. At the same time I do think there are also some Union and Club representatives that are more interested in navel gazing rather than what's in the best interests for the broader community. (In particular when it comes to event planning). Finally whilst I really enjoy some of the obvious benefits DotClud have introduced it has at the same time introduced some real inhibitors for sections of our community, I hope these issues are being looked at and prioritised as enhancements and that this is not a one and done deployment?

Surfski in PE sucks, nothing formal organised, need help to get BWCC club organised, admin around event organisation scares inexperienced committee members away.

The race entry fee is extremely high especially during Covid. And we drop and go. For people who are struggling financially it's expensive. This weekend alone I spent 600 on petrol, 200 for a driver and then 400 for race entry. It's really costly. That's without race juice etc.

Structured PR assistance by means of templates. When an event organiser creates a new event on Dot.Cloud, build in a PR section that feeds back to the CSA PR department. This will be by means of a Q and A template as well as required materail required, that the CSA PR machine can then distribute via various media channels. We have many unique canoeing and kayaking events that deserve to be celebrated and if we give event organisers and easy to use tool that will distribute pre-race info and post race reports almost automatically, we will be able to grow the profile of the sport.

Canoeing events in SA could be a draw-card to tourists and the general public of SA. Canoeing is no as dangerous as statistics make it look. I would like to see canoeing held on all the water in SA and anyone be allowed to enter dependant on the said water and the rescue safety available. And on the day entry like running for smaller events.

should make it easier for people with experience to do the big races and to attract more people to the sport there needs to be less admin..thats why canoeing is dying	
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I am struggling as a novice paddler to get on the river and learn. There are not enough experienced paddlers willing to take novices on the river. Thus I am a novice after 2,5 yrs. of paddling. Not knowing much. And when I do get in a river I mess up.

there could be more info on training methods for the different disciplines online. there seems to be a big gap between clubs and resources
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Again maybe try and get unions like ECCU to get their races like Pre-Fish, Little Fish, Kowie, Brak to count towards general index/seeding for bigger races like in KNCU where all events count	
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There is always room for improvement, but I believe were are generally improving systems along the way
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Thanks for getting us on the water during lock down. Bring costs down	
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