



# Status revisions 2008

## Balancing the system

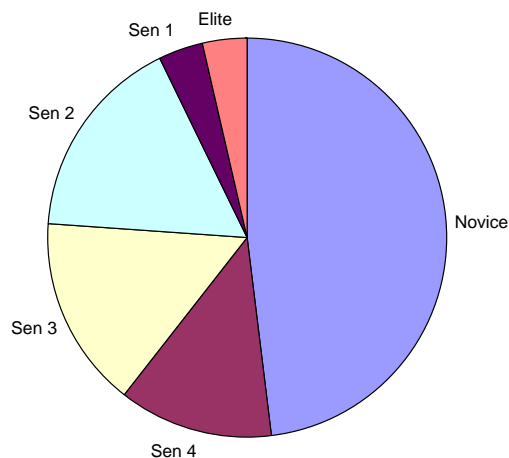
Of nearly **13,000** adult ARA rowing members\*

**50%** are Novices

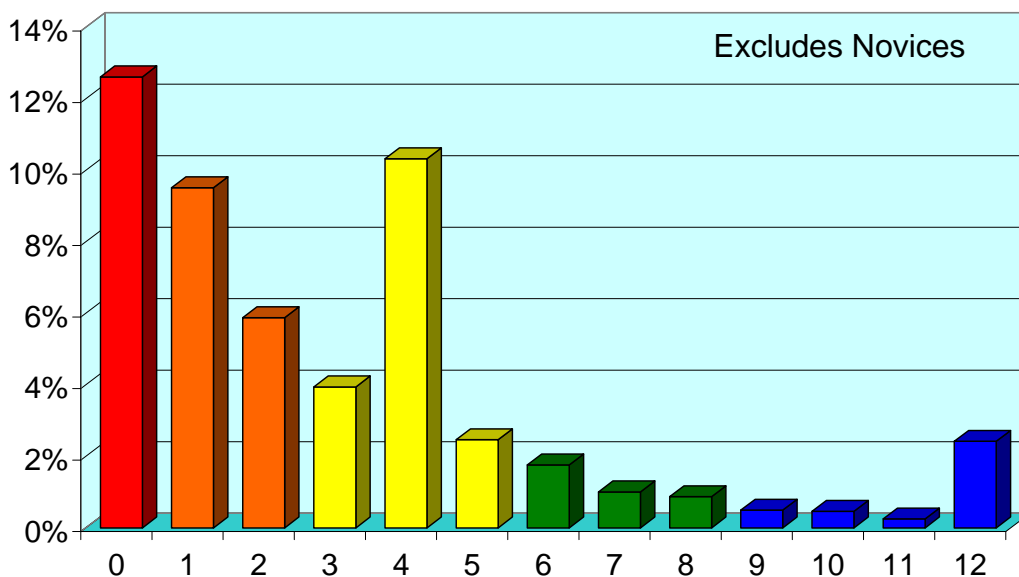
and **90%** have less than 5 points

The simple fact is we're not using the full range of our current points system:

Status distribution: 2007, sweep-oar only



Status Points Distribution: 2007, sweep-oar only



\*based on 12,740 registered members aged 18+ (including students) on OARA in September 2007; percentages based on sweep-oar data, although sculling points data are very similar

The proposed new scheme begins to remedy that imbalance with two simple steps:

## 1. Every win is a qualifying win

This measure alone will DOUBLE the number of points won at regattas in a season, and over time will even out the distribution of people across the points table. There will be some exceptions, but the principle is simple:

**win a pot, win a point**

This approach will be reinforced by topping up the points of winners in Henley events - both at the Royal Regatta and the Women's Regatta. This is in line with the existing practice of topping up international gold medallists, and recognises that a Henley medallist really ought to be racing at Senior or Elite level.

## 2. Simplify the status system

Create 4 distinct racing categories:

Elite  
Senior  
Intermediate (3 levels)  
Novice

This scheme still uses a 12-point scale, and there are still 6 racing categories. But they're simply spread out more evenly across the points range.

New Scheme	<b>NV</b>	<b>IM3</b>		<b>IM2</b>		<b>IM1</b>		<b>Senior</b>			<b>Elite</b>		
Points	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Old Scheme	NV	<b>S4</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>S2</b>			<b>S1</b>			<b>Elite</b>			

The new category names help to differentiate them from the existing scheme, but will also restore pride in moving up through the points table. We want competitors once again to

**be proud of your progression**

## What next?

This document sets out the basics of the proposed new scheme. Full details are available online from the ARA website or from your Divisional Representative, who will also welcome your comments or questions. You can also send comments by email (see below). Any comments should be communicated by the end of July 2008: if approved by ARA Council, these changes will be introduced in April 2009. But we shall continue to monitor the performance of the status system, and develop it with further changes once these first steps have settled in.