



# AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

AALS Web Site

[www.aals.asn.au](http://www.aals.asn.au)

Limited

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2009-2010.**

In my first year of the presidency I find that I have been able to operate on the basis of the good work done by my predecessors. With the exception of a couple of issues which are still current, nothing too dramatic has occurred! This must mean that all the clubs are getting on with their business and following the rules. The AALS does tend to have to fly into action when some problem occurs, which is usually related to the rules of operation!

As I stated in my letter published in the AME some issues ago, the AALS is an association of autonomous clubs. The AALS looks after strategic issues relating to the hobby as a whole and if invited, may assist with club matters. Well done to all club management teams as club-related dramas have been virtually zero.

There a couple of issues which will be resolved hopefully, by the time this report is published. The first relates to the proposed duplex stainless steel boiler code. There has been a lot of opinion flying about on this topic; some of it does not seem to be too well-informed. Opinion on the matters relating to a topic is fair enough. However, opinion about the motives of someone whose views are not the same as yours is unhelpful at best, damaging and insulting at worst. I ask everybody in our hobby to participate in steering policy direction, but comment should be related to facts and not gossip. The AALS will make a decision on the duplex stainless steel proposal based on expert advice, not on the amount of noise made by either group of proponents.

We have seen a need to restructure the convention format and hopefully we will have a proposal which will satisfy most convention goers.

Insurance matters this year have been pretty quiet and may they remain that way. The less we have to deal with insurance issues the cheaper it will be for all of us: Code of Practice, Code of Practice! All in all, I believe the Association is in good shape and this has been due to good work by all concerned.

Happy modelling!

Roger Kershaw (President AALS).