

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Financial & Governance

Q	What is an Annual Meeting?
A	An Annual Meeting is a meeting of the membership. It may include: electing a board of directors; making important decisions regarding the organization; and, informing the members of previous and future activities. Note, this was previously called the Annual General Meeting or AGM.
Q	Is AST now a charitable organization? Why did you change?
A	Yes, as of February 27, 2023, AST is a registered charity. Being a charity requires us to adhere to certain standards (especially financially) - which is good. We can now provide charitable tax receipts which encourages more individuals to donate. We also now have the ability to apply for foundational funding (i.e. family trusts).
Q	What is ONCA? Does it apply to AST?
A	ONCA provides Ontario not-for-profit provincial corporations, including charitable corporations with a modern legal framework (that is consistent for all not-for-profits) to meet the needs of today's not-for-profit sector. It does not apply to AST. AST is a <u>federal corporation</u> , and as such we such comply to CNCA (Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act). Both ONCA and CNCA have the same objectives of standardization.
Q	Who is Beckett Lowden Read LLP? How did AST find out about them?
A	They are the accounting firm that does the AST compilation engagement and a very well-known accounting firm in the sailing community/non-profit sector.
Q	How much does Beckett Lowden Read LLP, charge Able Sail Toronto?
A	They are supporting AST pro-bono.
Q	Under assets, what is "Cash"?
A	"Cash" in the bank, i.e. how much money is in the bank account.
Q	What bank does Able Sail Toronto use?
A	CIBC
Q	What is HST receivable?
A	Since AST has become a charity, we are now eligible to receive 69% of HST back
Q	What is the "Long Term Debt" of \$80,000?
A	Able Sail Toronto has an interest free loan with flexible schedule of payment, there were no payments required during the pandemic (2020 and 2021) the first \$10,000 payment was made in 2022. We intend to pay this down by another \$25,000 in 2024.
Q	What is the "Retained Earnings"?

A	<p>The retained earnings of a corporation is the accumulated net income of the corporation that is retained by the corporation at a particular point of time, such as at the end of the reporting period.</p> <p>It is the accumulated earnings from the first year of financials to the end of this reporting period.</p> <p>RE=RE0-NI-D</p> <p>RE = retained earnings</p> <p>RE0 = beginning retained earnings</p> <p>NI = net income profit or loss</p> <p>D = dividend</p>
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Q	What is a Capital Asset?
A	Capital Assets property owned to generate an income. This is primarily boats.

Q	What is the “Amortization”?
A	Equipment or Capital Assets is initially recorded at cost when purchased. Then amortization is calculated at 15% annually. The net (or adjusted) “book value” of the equipment decreases annually.

Q	What is the “Boat Accessories”?
A	This is everything that is on the docks, such as the davits, receptacles, transfer lifts.

Q	How do the proxy votes work during online meetings, what do I do?
A	If you cannot attend and want to give a proxy (your vote) to another member (to vote for you), please contact Eleanor (committee@ablesailtoronto.com) no later than 3 business prior to the Annual Meeting. If you hold a proxy for another member, we will explain how you vote during the online meeting. Each attending member can only hold ONE proxy.

Q	Where do I find the AST by-laws?
A	Log in to AST at the Members Page.

Q	Where can I find past Annual Meeting (AM) minutes and the AM materials?
A	Under the Members section after you login.

Q	What is the Board of Director’s responsibility?
A	The board performs the most essential duties of the organization they serve. Board directors work together to set policy and to direct management of the overall operation. Boards bear the responsibility for providing the essential oversight and strategic planning for organizations with the necessary due diligence.

Q	What is a Nominating Committee? What is its role?
A	The <u>primary duty</u> of the Nominating Committee is to seek out candidates to fill a its board of directors . The committee will review any candidates' qualifications and ensure they align with the requirements of the organization.