

What is AS Club?

Let **Austrosoft** join the Club!



Whether you are in charge of running a sports club or a membership organization of a rather different kind, be it of a social, cultural, ethnical, political or *secretive* nature, AS Club from Austrosoft is computer software you may want to give the benefit of the doubt.

AS Club development began in 2004 with input from a local yacht club which later became the first user of the software. Prime development goal was to automate the billing cycle that is typical of club accounting and at the same time reduce the chance of human error when it needs to be modified.

Secondly, the software aimed at making internet services easily accessible by fully integrating them. For instance, a monthly statement of account is automatically rendered to email format (HTML) and send out to member's email accounts; it can however also printed out on paper. Another example are online backups of the member database which occur in the background, at user-set intervals but without user intervention. Likewise, program updates are downloaded and integrated automatically. While you are using AS Club for your daily work its built-in web server can at the same time run the club's website - this has the added benefit of allowing members to make online account enquiries or send messages to the operator.

More recent versions of AS Club enable multiple users to share in the use of the application. Data is kept up to date by synchronizing local databases via the internet. Users can thus make account enquiries or update member accounts from any computer with an internet connection.

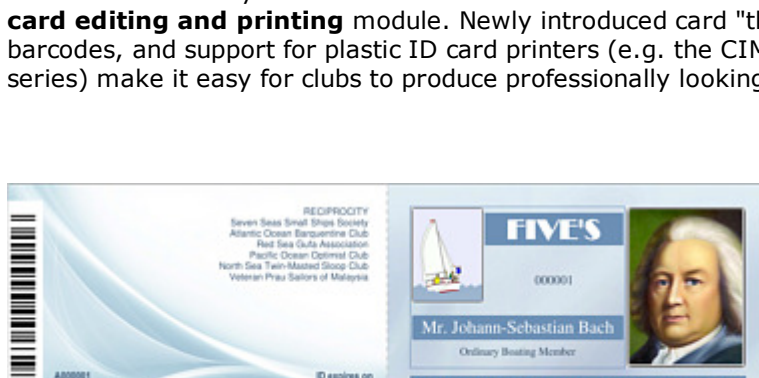
Accounting: Member accounts may be charged under program control at 1/3/6/12-months intervals according to an easily set up schedule. The processing of electronic bank statements substitutes for the manual capture of member payments; the job is completed in seconds and data capture errors are avoided. While processing the bank statement, AS Club breaks up lump sum payments and allocates them intelligently to club sub-accounts. This is referred to as *AutoAllocate*, which is also a useful feature when members settle their accounts only partly (in the picture below "Payment Received" indicates the paid amount, its AutoAllocated portions are displayed in grey colour):

Effective	Ref.	Code	Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
28-02-2013	xxxxxx	*C	Month End Balance			3041.00
23-03-2013	202009	*T	Payment Received		-141.00	
23-03-2013	202009	SM	Sailing Magazine		-20.00	
23-03-2013	202009	AA	Angling Affiliation		-121.00	
23-03-2013	202031	*T	Payment Received		-60.00	
23-03-2013	202031	DP	Dinghy Parking		-60.00	
31-03-2013	sy/M04	LB	Long Term Rental B	396.00		
31-03-2013	sy/M04	SM	Sailing Magazine	20.00		
31-03-2013	sy/A04	ID	ID Card Renewal	15.00		
31-03-2013	xxxxxx	*C	Month End Balance			3271.00
23-04-2013	202129	*T	Payment Received		-1271.00	
23-04-2013	202129	SM	Sailing Magazine		-20.00	
23-04-2013	202129	ID	ID Card Renewal		-15.00	
23-04-2013	202129	AA	Angling Affiliation		-542.00	
23-04-2013	202129	LB	Long Term Rental B		-396.00	
23-04-2013	202129	OBM	Ordinary Boating Member		-298.00	
30-04-2013	sy/M05	LB	Long Term Rental B	396.00		
30-04-2013	sy/M05	SM	Sailing Magazine	20.00		
30-04-2013	sy/Q05	CP	Car Parking	60.00		
30-04-2013	sy/Q05	NL	Newsletter	5.00		

Grey font: AutoAllocated sub-account settlements

Balance to-Date **R 8,329.75 D**

AS Club has recently become even more versatile thanks to an extended **ID card editing and printing** module. Newly introduced card "themes", optical barcodes, and support for plastic ID card printers (e.g. the CIM Sunlight Lux series) make it easy for clubs to produce professionally looking ID cards.



An integrated web camera connection lets you take photographs of members on-site; you can print their barcoded ID cards seconds later. Alternatively, images can be imported from flatbed scanners, the Windows clipboard, or from pre-existing image files.

The barcode is not merely decoration: AS Club scans it through a connected web camera and displays the linked member account in a fraction of a second.

If ID cards are set to expire, AS Club will re-issue new cards at any desired interval (e.g. every 18 months).

Another recent innovation is **multi-user support**. Additional AS Club users, such as the members of your committee, have full access to the club database which is kept up to date via the internet (the synchronization feature is free of charge for any number of additional users).

AS Club reports keep you aware of the financial situation at all times, reporting debits, credits, and adjustments at the level of club sub-accounts, one for each service the club is offering. And AS Club keeps your members informed as well. A database controlled email distribution system gets the latest account statement out to your members fast, at the push of a button. It is just as easy to send out your own messages, complete with attachments.

For members who prefer paper to computer screens, AS Club can also print statements, in A4 or A5 format, colour or black & white, and it will print envelopes in the most common sizes.

User input validation is strict to minimize the risk of incorrect data entering the system, the main threat to system integrity.

Posted	Effective	Credit	Reference	Code
28-06-2015	30-06-2015	8329.75	003914	*T

Self-correcting database initialization and integrated backup/ restore make the system dependable even under difficult circumstances, for instance when restarting the computer after an unforeseen shut-down, e.g. due to power failure.

The internet contributes greatly to data security: a password-protected, 'compressed' backup of the member database is daily uploaded to the Austrosoft web server, and additionally on demand. Seven generations of such backups are available in case of an emergency and can be retrieved with one mouse-click.

Another important web-related feature is AS Club's ability to remain up-to-date without user intervention: program updates are downloaded as they become available on the Austrosoft website and installed automatically.

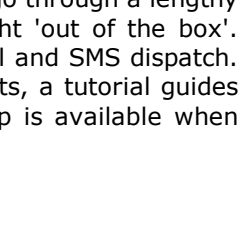
Basic AS Club skills are easy to pick up as you won't have to go through a lengthy setup and configuration procedure - the program works right 'out of the box'.

Provided you have an internet connection, this includes email and SMS dispatch. A 'Guided Tour' introduces you to the main operating concepts, a tutorial guides you along your first steps, and in-depth, contextualized help is available when needed, invoked by the F1 key.

* * * * *

Clubs charging membership and service fees will typically debit their member accounts at periodic intervals; as a consequence, account statements have to be sent out, account settlement is to be monitored continuously, interest on overdue accounts may have to be charged, non-paying and non-responding members need reminding, notified of consequences, and so forth.

What's more, the billing schedule is not static, changes may occur even frequently: they could be caused by adjustments to the club's fee structure, the status and personal details of members, the modalities and intervals of payment, a member's ad hoc participation in other club activities, the wish of the club to add new membership types or services or to cancel redundant ones, and any number of other reasons.



In addition, the spread of internet and cellular network services has made it essential for clubs to take advantage of the convenience and savings in time and money such technology brings about.

The computer can also assist with other less obvious, yet still time-consuming tasks. An example would be the issuing of ID cards to members, which may have to be repeated periodically as ID's expire.

AS Club supports these and many other tasks, it automates most and performs them reliably and in an intuitive way. While much of the operation of the system can be picked up browsing through the tutorial and proceeding on a 'trial and error' basis, a thorough, illustrated, context-sensitive help system is available throughout and can be invoked by pressing function key F1.

Setting up the system may either begin from scratch - i.e. with the user creating a database of member accounts, membership categories and austrosport club facilities - or with the conversion of an existing accounting system (Austrosoft can assist if you need help introducing AS Club).

AS Club allows services to be chargeable annually, biannually, quarterly or monthly - any number in any combination may be scheduled. Member accounts will be debited at the appropriate dates with the appropriate amounts; however, posting debits and credits manually overrides the schedule.

Charge	Select	Category	Billing Cycle (months)	Start Date
5.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter	One-off	01-Feb-2007
3420.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long Term Rental A	12 6 3 1	
396.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Long Term Rental B	12 6 3 1	01-Feb-2007
6000.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Long Term Rental C	12 6 3 1	
60.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Car Parking	12 6 3 1	01-Feb-2007
60.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dinghy Parking	12 6 3 1	01-Feb-2007
20.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sailing Magazine	12 6 3 1	01-Feb-2007
15.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ID Card Renewal	12 6 3 1	01-Apr-2006
300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diver Med. Exam	12 6 3 1	
300.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Live Aboard Fee	12 6 3 1	
150.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angling Affiliation	12 6 3 1	01-Feb-2007

Interest (calculated monthly to lessen the volatility of account balances) may optionally be levied on accounts in arrears; in addition, a user-selectable 'grace period' applies. Memberships, facilities and payment schemes can be added, edited or deleted with monthly effect; should the change of a service result in an overcharge, the correct adjustment will be posted automatically. Thorough plausibility checks on data entry and the monitoring of critical user actions assure the consistency of the database. Close to 400 detailed system messages keep the user informed of system actions and responses.

AS Club monitors member activity and timely payments; it re-categorizes non-paying members as "Defaulters" or "Inactive" after club-determined grace periods elapse. A complementary action reinstates members to their former membership categories automatically once payment has been made.

The system credits payments to sub-accounts, one each per club membership category or club facility. Lump sum payments are split and distributed automatically among those sub-accounts ("AutoAllocate"). Only full settlement of sub-accounts may be enforced should a service require this, with partial settlements permissible as default ("AutoSplit").


AS Club supports importing of EFT- payments from electronic bank statements - a feature of Austrosoft, available from all major banks.

A comprehensive set of internal reports keeps you informed of the system state; sensible filtering mechanisms enable you to extract the information of interest.

AS Club can produce account statements at any time and for any time period; they can be printed in A4 or A5 format (as pictured), in black & white or with a touch of colour:

P.O.Box 99 New Atlantis 10011 TEL: 012-345 8781		Seven Seas Small Ship Society CELL: 012-345 8782 FAX: 012-345 8783		FIVE'S WEB: http://www.austrosoft.co.za EMAIL: asclub@austrosoft.co.za		
Statement of Account				Date: 06-Nov-2016		
Page: 1						
Mr. Johann-Sebastian Bach 10 Brandenburg Platz Thüringen Eisenach 99032			Account Number: 000001 Preferred Delivery: by eMail Account Category: Regular Boating Member			
Details of Transaction	Credited	Eff. Date	Ref.	Debits	Credits	Balance
Month End Balance		31-Mar-2016	*****			20,454.14
Interest @ 1.00% p.m.		30-Apr-2016	sy/INT	204.54		
Long Term Rental B		30-Apr-2016	sy/M06	396.00		
Sailing Magazine		30-Apr-2016	sy/M06	20.00		
Car Parking		30-Apr-2016	sy/Q06	60.00		
Newsletter		30-Apr-2016	sy/Q06	5.00		
Month End Balance		30-Apr-2016	*****			21,139.68
Long Term Rental B		31-May-2016	sy/M06	396.00		
Sailing Magazine		31-May-2016	sy/M06	20.00		
Month End Balance		31-May-2016	*****			21,555.68
Payment Received		26-Jun-2016	183533		-1,000.00	
Sailing Magazine	-300.00					
ID Card Renewal	-15.00					
Long Term Rental B	-685.00					
EFT payments: to facilitate automated payment processing, kindly enter payment reference 000001 each				DEBIT CARRIED FORWARD		R 20,555.68
Debt Ageing as of 31-May-2016		Current	30 days	60 days	90 days	120+ days
		416.00	685.54	629.25	608.17	19216.72
Bank: 1234567890123		Dear Member, we have switched to a new computer system. Please contact us with any suggestions regarding contents or layout of this statement.				
Branch Code: 1900234						
Account: 174949499						
Account No.: 1260-234567						
software design www.austrosoft.co.za						

For speedy delivery statements are best sent out as email through the integral email dispatcher. They arrive in your member's email inbox in the following style:



Tel: 012 345 8781 | Call: 012 345 8782 | Fax: 012 345 8783

Web: www.austrosoft.co.za
 Email: asclub@austrosoft.co.za

Statement of Account

Mr. J.S. Bach
 10 Brandenburg Platz
 Eisenach
 99032

Account number	000001
Membership	Ordinary Boating Member

Details of Transaction	Credited	Date	Ref.	Debit	Credit	Balance
Month End Balance		30-Jun-2012	*****			36,847.12
Long Term Rental B		31-Jul-2012	sy/M08	396.00		
Angling Affiliation		31-Jul-2012	sy/B08	150.00		
Sailing Magazine		31-Jul-2012	sy/M08	20.00		
Dinghy Parking		31-Jul-2012	sy/B08	60.00		
Car Parking		31-Jul-2012	sy/Q08	60.00		
Newsletter		31-Jul-2012	sy/Q08	5.00		
Month End Balance		31-Jul-2012	*****			37,538.12
Long Term Rental B		31-Aug-2012	sy/M10	396.00		
Sailing Magazine		31-Aug-2012	sy/M10	20.00		
Month End Balance		31-Aug-2012	*****			37,954.12
Long Term Rental B		30-Sep-2012	sy/M10	396.00		
Sailing Magazine		30-Sep-2012	sy/M10	20.00		
Month End Balance		30-Sep-2012	*****			38,370.12
Carried Forward						R 38,370.12

Debt Ageing as of 30-Sep-2012	Current	30 days	60 days	90 days	120+ days
	416.00	416.00	691.00	597.25	38249.87

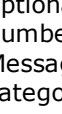
EFT Electronic Funds Transfer
 To facilitate automated payment processing, kindly enter 000001-Bach for payment reference

Five'S Banking Details

Bank	
Branch Code	
Account	
Account No.	
NAT Reg.	

Dear Member, we have switched to a new computer system. Please contact us with any suggestions regarding contents or layout of this statement.

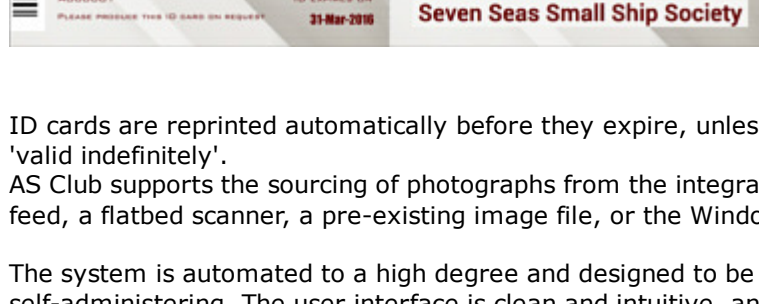
The same system can send out any other club document, with attachments if required: from a monthly newsletter to a daily weather report, or the results of last weekend's racing.



AS Club dispatches reminders and other messages as SMS-texts directly to member's cell phones. A simple integrated message editor helps to set up personalized messages with a few mouse-clicks. They are assembled before transmission from your text, optionally modified with recipient-specific database information such as account number, member name, account balance, etc.

Messages can be sent to all members, to some or all members of a membership category, or to individuals.

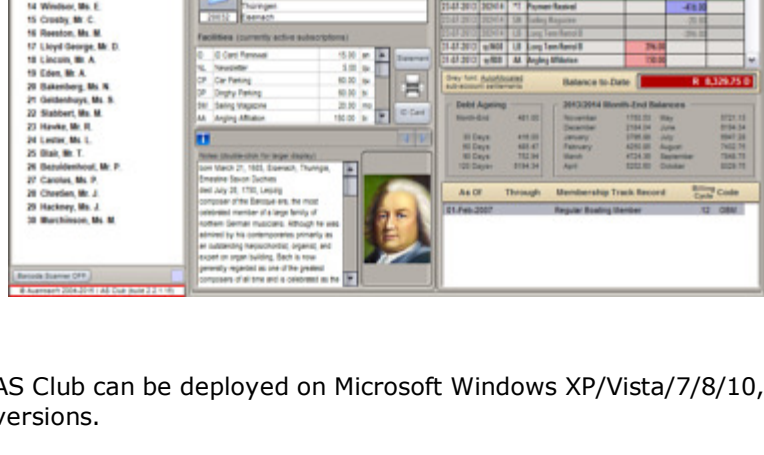
ID cards of your members are printed in high quality, complete with colour photograph and a barcode that encodes account holder and expiry date. The built-in barcode scanner software supports standard web cameras. Presenting a card to the camera prompts AS Club to call up the relevant account information on-screen.



ID cards are reprinted automatically before they expire, unless they are declared 'valid indefinitely'.

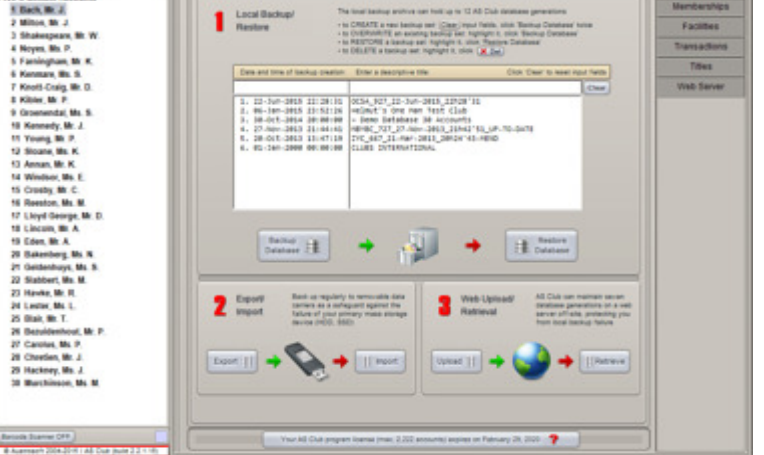
AS Club supports the sourcing of photographs from the integral live web cam feed, a flatbed scanner, a pre-existing image file, or the Windows clipboard.

The system is automated to a high degree and designed to be largely self-administering. The user interface is clean and intuitive, and most of it is self-explanatory. Three levels of help are however available: a 'Guided Tour', a 'Tutorial', and comprehensive, context-sensitive help bound to the F1-key.

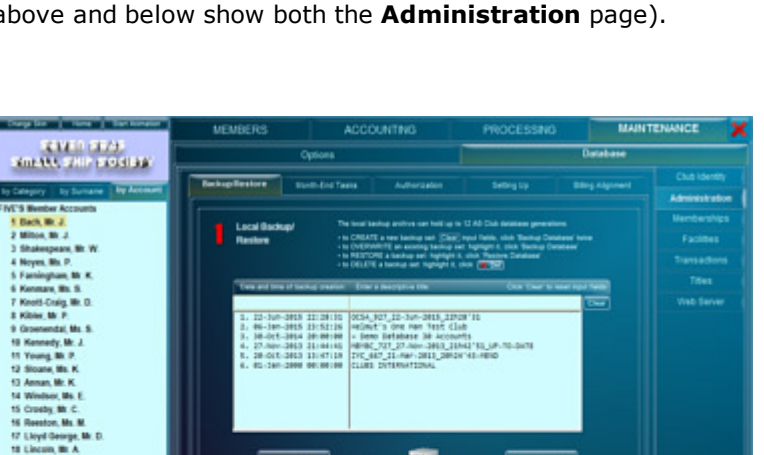


AS Club can be deployed on Microsoft Windows XP/Vista/7/8/10, 32/64 bit versions.

For the installation required are:
 - Windows administrator rights
 - a display with a minimal (and also optimal) vertical resolution of 768 pixels (the main AS Club window measures 1024x768p).



AS Club comes bundled with some 40 "skins", from simple light-gray to dark or dramatic styles, one for every day of the month and then some (the images above and below show both the **Administration** page).



AS Club builds on a widely used relational database system and the ubiquitous internet standards HTTP, SMTP, FTP, HTML to ensure its long-term viability.



Please visit Austrosoft for further information:

<http://www.austrosoft.co.za>

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