



2001 Nationals - Darwin - 16 & 17 May, 2001

Update Newsletter No. 3 – February 2001 by Will Deusien

The committee is currently in the process of organising the Northern Territory Dragon Boat Titles. This event is scheduled for the Saturday, 3 March 2001 and will serve as a lead up to the Nationals. Along with the NT Titles, DBNT will be staging the NT Corporate Challenge. With radio, newspaper and TV advertising, these events are expected to attract a good response. All Territory teams are training hard, and are looking forward to the opportunity to represent the territory.

Two more dragon boats have been built, bringing the total number of boats up to six with another two due to be finished in the next few weeks. As planned, eight boats will be ready to race in May

As most states and territories would not have staged their State Championships yet, it is understandable, that submission of entry forms for the World Qualifying Championship (WQC) and the Arafura Games events would be premature. But judging by the previous expressions of interests for the National Titles, I thought that I might have seen a few Entry Forms for this event by now. I am aware that quite a few teams have already booked their accommodation and airfares. So that DBNT can firm up on numbers for budgetary purposes, I would like those teams that are still intending to compete at the National Titles to reconfirm their interest and the likely number of team members attending

The T-shirt design for the National Championships has been agreed on and will be added to our website soon. DBNT will be offering a pre-order discount.

The farewell function for the National Championships has been decided and will be held at the Darwin Sailing Club, which will be on Thursday 17 May 01. (The same night as the Mindal Beach Markets)

The Sailing Club is right on the beach and at that time of the year the sunsets are spectacular and it is only a few minutes walk from the markets for those that may be interested.

The Dragon Boat farewell function for the Arafura Games has been booked at the Wharf Precinct for Monday 21 May 01. Booking and cost details for both functions will be forwarded soon.

Contact Dave Annesley (david.annesley@nt.gov.au) for further information.

Diary

1 April	Queens Wharf, Adelaide
29 April	West Lakes, Adelaide
16 & 17 May	Australian National Championships, Darwin
20 & 21 May	Arafura Games, Darwin
1-5 August	4 th IDBF World Championships, Philadelphia
5-14 Oct	2001 Australian Masters Games, Newcastle.

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IDBF World Championships Philadelphia - 1 to 5 August, 2001

4th I.D.B.F World Dragon Boat Racing Championships

The Organizing Committee of the 4th International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) World Dragon Boat Racing Championships, in Conjunction with the International Dragon Boat Federation and the United States Dragon Boat Federation is pleased to confirm that the 4th World Championships will take place on the Schuylkill River Regatta Course, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from the 1st to 5th of August 2001.

The following Competition Classes, for National Crews, will be contested provided sufficient entries are received from IDBF member Controlling Associations for each of the competition classes shown. (i.e. six or more countries are required per competition class for World Championship status, while a minimum of three countries per competition class qualifies for only IDBF Championship status.)

	Premier Racing Division	Senior* Racing Division <i>*over 40 as of 01/01/01</i>	Junior** Racing Division
Open	250m, 500m, 1000m	250m, 500m, 1000m	250m, 500m, 1000m
Mixed	250m, 500m	250m, 500m	250m, 500m
Women	250m, 500m, 1000m	250m, 500m	** under 18 & over 11 as of 01/01/01

The Championship will be conducted under IDBF Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing.

Contact your State Member (see contact list below) for further info.

8th Australian Masters Games

The 8th Australian Masters Games (AMG) will be held in Newcastle and the Hunter from the 5th to 14th October 2001. Newcastle is the first city in NSW to host the Games and it is the first time the Games will be held outside a capital city. The Games are about friendship, fraternity, competition, and predominantly participation. There will be a festival of competition, fun, and entertainment with a total of 62 sports, the largest number of sports to-date. No less than 90 venues will be used for the Games!. Entry is for 27+ competitors, in Mixed, Open and Womens categories. There will be a special category for 40+ teams. If Dragon Boat Clubs can only field around half a team, the Newcastle Club is happy to facilitate their amalgamation with others.

We expect this to be a great day, if you would like to be part of it, please contact Lynn Flanagan on 02 49637622, or at lynn.flanagan@hotmail.com. She will be happy to hear from you.

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MEMBER NEWS

South Australia

By Julie Clinch

The season so far sees the S.A. comp very tight indeed.

Subsonix lead the Open 20's class from Water Warriors and third is Power Blades.

In the Open 10's class, Power Blades lead from ADR then comes Subsonix.

Mixed 10's sees Water Warriors out front from Power Blades then ADR

In the mixed 20's Water Warriors lead from in equal second Power Blades and ADR.

In the Womens comp it is Water Warriors from Power Blades and then Sea Dragons.

The season was on hold this weekend for our annual 10's Torrens River Challenges, incorporated once again into the Chinese New Year celebrations in the centre of Adelaide.

An outstanding day of very close competitive racing with large crowds of spectators throughout the day. Four perpetual cups are on offer, and we saw these go to four different teams.

Power Blades Social Team won that category (social)

Water Warriors won the Womens category.

Power Blades were too good in the Mixed class.

In the Open, ADR were too strong for Power Blades.

Close racing, and the involvement of the Chinese Welfare Society of S.A. augers well for the future of our sport in this state.

Good Paddling !

ACT

The Canberra National Multicultural Festival Dragon Boat Regatta was the highlight of the ACT season. The event was held on Lake Burley Griffin on Sat 3 March 2001 and was well attended by local and Sydney crews.

Open

1. CYL (Mixed)
2. Griffins (Mixed)
3. CYL (Open)

Women

1. Griffins
2. CTL/Bristol

University

1. MSO
2. Canberra Grammar

Mixed A

1. CYL
2. Griffins
3. ACCA

Social A

1. ACCA
2. Bush Fire Brigade
3. AFP

Social Open

1. RAAF
2. Douglas Joinery

Mixed B

1. ACCA
2. Canberra Grammar
3. MSO

Social B

1. Dragon Slayers
2. SMS
3. Croc Attack

Tug-o-War

1. SMS
2. Dragon Slayers

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**NSW**

DBNSW has been busy over the last couple of months with their involvement in the Australia Chinese Dragon Boat Festival (part of the City of Sydney Chinese New Year Celebration) which attracted 65 crews and the Australian Corporate Games dragon boat event (72 crews) on 18 March 2001. Melanie Cantwell has been elected President to fill the vacancy following the recent resignation of Steve Davidson.

2001 NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS at SIRC on 26 March 2001

Pool Code	Team	Final Place	Final Times
Open	Pacific Dragons	1	02:04.53
Open	Sloths	2	02:07.48
Open	Canberra Grammar	3	02:16.98
Mixed A	Pacific Dragons (A)	1	02:07.34
Mixed A	Chinese Youth League	2	02:11.55
Mixed A	Dragon Sports Assoc	3	02:11.84
Mixed A	Pacific Dragons (B)	4	02:13.71
Mixed B	Griffins	1	02:12.22
Mixed B	Sydney Dragon Blades	2	02:12.78
Mixed B	Sydney Tsunami	3	02:14.46
Mixed B	BT Mavericks	4	02:19.56
Women	Pacific Dragons	1	02:20.59
Women	Sydney Dragon Blades	2	02:22.02
Women	Sloths	3	02:31.87
Women	Griffins	4	02:39.89
Uni	Canberra Grammar 1	1	02:15.30
Uni	Sydney Dragon Blades	2	02:15.41
Uni	CCA	3	02:18.66
Uni	Canberra Grammar 2	4	02:21.07
1000m	Pacific Dragons A	1	04:26.03
1000m	Sydney Dragon Blades	2	04:26.20
1000m	Pacific Dragons B	3	04:41.31
1000m	Sloths	4	04:42.30
1000m	Tsunami	5	04:45.31
1000m	CCA	6	04:57.13
1000m	Canberra Grammar	7	05:05.42

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Newcastle Region

Newcastle/Hunter's First Dragon Boat Regatta

N/HDBC, in conjunction with DBNSW and the Newcastle Maritime Festival organisers, staged their first regatta on January 20, 2001. They were very pleased with the venture. Twenty seven teams competed, with five from Sydney. The host club was very keen to have the latter groups, as they wanted the locals to see professionals at work!

It was a very happy day (with the occasional glitches) but the teams were generally very cooperative and everyone was very generous in their support of other teams' efforts, particularly that of the Dragons Abreast crew, who were the only womens crew in the event.

Very positive feedback has been received from the participants and we are expecting them all back next year.

This event is going to get bigger than Ben Hur! Put it in your diaries, and also the 8th Masters Games event on October 14, and we promise that Newcastle people will look after you well. More information can be gained by contacting Lynn Flanagan on lynn_flanagan@hotmail.com, or on 02 49637622.

Newcastle Maritime Festival Match Report

by Dave

The team had a slow start in heat 1 and we finished a creditable third. We put this down to a rush of blood at the sound of the starting hooter...timing and all the long and strenuous hours of training (two hours for some, one hour for others and no hours for Richard Brownette who said he didn't need any) went out the window as we each tried to paddle as fast as we could. Maybe it was the "Honey from the Herald" who put the boys off because of what she was wearing....or was not wearing....very hard to concentrate....yeah that was definitely the reason.

A team post mortem saw us rearrange the deck chairs or at least the crew positions for the second heat and the team was powering away in the lead mid way through the race. We were blitzing them when the RTA sweep lost control and hit us amidships. Boats and paddles clashed and appropriate comments like "Where the bloody hell did you buy your licence" were directed at the RTA crew as we pushed them off and got back on with the job. In spite of this incident we powered away and finished third not far behind second place...a top effort...we were pumped....WE WUZ ROBBED.....if the next heat had been straight away we would have been ready...bring on Darling Harbour.....we would have beaten the Chinese Youth team!!!

Geoff had it all on video and a protest was considered until we realised that it would be third against fourth...nothing to gain there and if anything was done it would mean a rerun.... a rerun....what were we thinking!!

The whole shootin match was moved up to the harbour foreshore for heat three and lunch but when we got there we were told to go back to Throsby Creek because the harbour was too rough..... back to Throsby Creek we went.

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Heat three was the Corporate Challenge which saw us racing Eraring and Energy Australia and those RTA mongrels. Our spies have suggested that the Energy Australia crew may have been different than those registered but we won't say anything about that....one of their employees said he did not even recognise any of them but we won't mention that either. We tried to get Eraring to turn their hats around before the start but they wouldn't be in it(They had Eraring Energy issue hats with neck sun flaps....we got sunburnt but they looked dork) . Anyway the Energy Australia ringins won with Eraring second and we came in a dragons nose coat of paint away third. We thrashed the mongrels from the RTA so were happy.

The three thirds gave us a medal shot in our division and we ended up coming in second in our final..... again it was close with Newcastle Permanent beating us home by another coat of dragon's nose paint... we've go to get a Jimmy Durante nose on our next dragon boat.

I would like to thank the OARSOME CREW for a great effort, Renee for suggesting the idea and for arranging the day, Tom for supplying the shirts and caps... we looked better that Eraring and everyone else for that matter (except for the Honey from the Herald)....and we came in under budget, Vicki for providing the shade, Ross Hamilton's girlfriend for filling in the final....Adam's mate....Geoff Walsh for the video we haven't seen yet....and those of you who came down to support us..... we all had a great day and having tasted our first competition we will be ready for them next year....Go PowerDragons.

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**If you want your story to appear in the next National Newsletter
e-mail the text to jon_taylor@optusnet.com.au.**

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