

Australian Dragon Boat Federation Inc

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

October, 2001



2002 Nationals – Gold Coast – 18 to 20 April, 2002

Proposed details of 2002 Australian National Championships

Dates - 18 - 20 April 2002

Venue - Gold Coast Regatta Centre, Hinze Dam, Gold Coast

Program of Events

Tuesday/Wednesday 16-17 April 2002 - Training at Hinze Dam

Thursday 18th April 2002 - 500m Australian National Championships (States)

Friday 19th April 2002 - 500m Australian National Championships (Club Crews)

Saturday 20th April 2002 - 250m Australian National Championships (Club Crews)
- 250m Corporate Regatta (including Dragons Abreast Challenge)

Contact Kylie Bade (QDBF) for further information.

Phone: (07) 5538.0117 Mobile: 0419.751938 e-mail: kyliebade@ozemail.com.au

AusDBF Council Meeting, 24 November 2001

The half yearly meeting of the AusDBF Council will be held on the Gold Coast on Sat 24 November at 10am (venue to be confirmed).

The draft agenda looks like:

1. Minutes of previous meeting
2. Brief Board Reports & Member News
3. New Members/Membership Issues
4. 4th World Champs Report & Issues
5. IDBF Membership Application & IDBF Congress Meeting Update
6. Selection Criteria - 2002 World Club Crew Championships (Rome) and Asian Dragon Boat Federation Championships (Japan)
7. 2002 Nationals (Gold Coast) update
8. 2003 Nationals (Adelaide) update
9. Bid Presentations from Members to host 2007 IDBF World Championships
10. Resolution to adopt 12:8 composition rule for Mixed Crews
11. National Guidelines - sweep accreditation, officials training, risk management.
12. General Business

Diary

18-20 April 2002	Australian National Championships, Hinze Dam, Gold Coast, Qld
May 2002	3 Gorges Yangtze River Race (IDBF Premier International Race)
25-28 July 2002	Asian Dragon Boat Federation Championships, Aioi City, Japan
6-8 Sept 2002	IDBF Club Crew Champs - Rome
April/May 2003	Australian National Championships, Adelaide, SA
Sept 2003	5 th IDBF World Championships, Shanghai
2004	IDBF Club Crew Champs – Wakayama City, Japan
2005	6 th IDBF World Championships, Berlin, Germany
2006	IDBF Club Crew Champs – China (Intended Bid)
2007	7 th IDBF World Championships, Australia (Intended Bid)

Postal Address

130 Cabarita Rd, Cabarita NSW 2137 Australia
Ph: (02) 9702.5541 Fax: (02) 9702.5543 Mob: 0419.017002 e-mail: jon_taylor@optusnet.com.au
Website: www.emucities.com.au/member/adbfd/index.htm



IDBF World Championships **Philadelphia - 1 to 5 August, 2001**

4th IDBF World Championships - Philadelphia, PA, USA

Held from 1st to 5th August 2001 at the Schuylkill River Race Course, in Fairmount Park in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Countries and Territories

Over 2000 athletes, representing 20 Federations from 5 continents, took part

- Australia
- Bangladesh (Did not attend)
- Canada
- China
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Ireland (Did not attend)
- Italy
- Japan
- Macau
- Netherlands
- Philippines
- Poland
- Russia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Taipei
- USA

The Australian Team

The Australian Team consisted of 84 athletes, team management and supporters. The crews came from several Aussie clubs:

- Open 250m, 500m (Pacific Dragons & Gold Coast)
- Women 250m, 500m (Pacific Dragons & Gold Coast)
- Mixed 250m (Gold Coast)
- Mixed 500m (Pacific Dragons)
- Senior 250m, 500m (principally Currumbin Dragon Masters & Arafura Dragons but also included paddlers from Vic, SA, NSW)

Championship classes

- 8 classes and 20 events

Premier Open	250m	500m	1000m
Senior Open	250m	500m	1000m
Junior Open	250m	500m	1000m
Premier Women's	250m	500m	1000m
Senior Women's	250m	500m	
Premier Mixed	250m	500m	
Senior Mixed	250m	500m	
Junior Mixed	250m	500m	

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**Medal Table**

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Canada	6	4	3	13
USA	3	5	3	11
Germany	5	3	3	11
Great Britain	-	1	5	6
China	2	-	1	3
Italy	-	2	-	2
Russia	-	1	1	2

The Australian Performance

Australia didn't medal at these Championships. While Australia's overall performance was reasonably solid individual crews didn't quite make it to the medal podium. The Australian crews regularly reached the final 6 with the best results being several 4th placings. Also pleasing was the performance of the first Seniors crew to represent Australia at an IDBF World Championship. The Philadelphia experience should be the catalyst for further growth and stronger performances in this class in the years ahead.

Other Highlights

- Held in conjunction with North American Club Crew Championships
- Competition featured races among crews of breast cancer survivors
- The five day festival began with a Parade of Countries up Benjamin Franklin Parkway
- Local television coverage by NBC, ABC, CBS and KYW-3
- Streaming video highlights broadcast over the Internet
- Canada won the IDBF Nations Cup

IDBF World Championships**A Paddler's Perspective** by Vic Fazakerley, Australian Mixed Masters crew

Philadelphia, August 2001, the World Dragon Boat Championships, 2000 paddlers and 20 countries, what a great trip and thanks to everyone for making it so good.

After 36 hours of travel we finally arrived in Philadelphia to find our beds. Next morning, Saturday, after a short lie in we mustered at 10:30 am for a cross training session in a nearby 'park'. It was time to meet the other members of the Masters Team who had come from Victoria, NSW, SA and Queensland. Exploring Philly would have to wait.

Sunday saw us all out cross training again in another park, a few more bonding games to get to know each other and break the ice including a group photo around Benjamin Franklin's statue. By the afternoon the weather had turned cool and a little wet, not so good for the sensitive tropical flowers from Darwin. Going for a training session in a pool had been wiped out because of the cost, \$US10 each for the day (just think in terms of the exchange rate!!!!).

Monday saw our first training session in a dragon boat, the first session lasting 1.5 hours and a second session of one hour, then the mad rush back to the yellow school bus. The boats were great, a German fibreglass design, less freeboard and narrower seats than ours but great foot purchase. The training schedule was to be repeated over the next two days with the weather making a significant improvement, becoming quite warm, things were looking up for the tropical flowers. The Masters crew was coming

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together, under the strict eyes of our coaches Alan (Culbertson) and Phil (Rallings). By Wednesday afternoon we must have been looking pretty good certainly some of our training runs felt good and we were getting good feedback from spectators. We were as ready as we ever would be.

Thursday was a day off. Most of us didn't go any where near the course, instead opted for a Group tour to Intercourse an Amish Community in Lancaster County, where some of us sampled genuine Amish cuisine, bought souvenirs and fruit from a wayside stall, \$1.35 for a huge 'rocky'. Those that did go to the venue saw the German crew paddle 1000m in less than 4 minutes, awesome. Friday, the other Australian crews from the Gold Coast and PD's were racing so we went to the course to offer support and get a feel for the site in operation.

Saturday was our first race day with the 250m races. Our first race was 9 am, there were a few race nerves and I am sure everyone was on edge. Everyone was focused in the boat as the starter said 'GO' and we were off. Winning this race would mean a place in the finals and no repechage. Not to be, the repechage it was, at 10 am. What a race, we shaved 2 seconds of the first race.

Supporters said our start was fantastic, the boat just seemed to lift out of the water, but alas not enough to get into the grand final so it was to be the minor final against the USA B crew at 11 am.

We wanted this one and we went out and got it. What a feeling after the disappointment of the first race.

Sunday saw the 500m races with a repeat of the 250m races and into the minor final against the Poms but alas they just beat us. I think everyone felt disappointed but given that we were a crew that had only paddled for the first time that week we put up a very creditable performance. One of our 500m races was in a time of 2 minutes 04 seconds, not bad. In another race only 1 second separated the first 4 boats, including us.

Sunday evening saw the closing celebration, which after a slow start turned into a massive T-shirt swap meet. Australian and ADPC training singlets are now scattered all over the world. We in turn have some 'interesting' paddling attire. The PD's put on a cultural display that was a little different; perhaps some more training required boys.

Monday morning and for most it was on the bus to New York for a few days before heading home or doing other things.

In summary whilst the masters crew didn't get a medal our performance was right up there with the best in the world. We certainly didn't let the Australian side down or disgrace ourselves. It was great paddling with the crew and I am sure many new friends were made. The spectators loved us, especially our war cry, adapted from the Victorian Navy Team, no not the rude one. The Australian Team race shirts were in hot demand and were widely accredited with being the best on the course.

Whilst the racing venue from a water conditions perspective was pretty good the water quality was highly suspect to the extent that swallowing it could have had us with serious stomach problems and certainly there would be no wind assistance! Generally the venue was OK and after some teething problems on the first day the regatta went reasonable smoothly with over 150 races run over four days. There were a few things that were less than the best; it being 1.2Km from the marshalling area to the finish line, how many kilometres did we clock up walking up and down the course? The toggle starting system left something to be desired especially when trying to compare times between races and some rather uneven starts.

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Special thanks should go to Alan and Phil for bringing the crew together in such a short time; they did a tremendous job, thanks guys.

Also a special thanks to all who helped prepare some great meals for the Masters crew, very much appreciated. We should also not forget the contribution from the other crews from Gold Coast and the PD's and of course Jon Taylor and Trevor Huggard who put it all together.

But wait for it the NT didn't come away empty handed, Michelle and Penny paddled for one of the breast cancer Survivor Crews and won a gold medal in their event, congratulations ladies.

All in all a great trip and experience and I am sure many other highlights that will be remembered by others. Now for the really hard work, to get a crew ready for the next worlds, Rome next year and Shanghai in 2003. Join Dragon Boating and see the world!

IDBF Congress Meeting Philadelphia - 3 August, 2001

At the 8th Biannual Congress of the IDBF, which convened at Philadelphia PA, USA, the following Council positions were confirmed by the Congress.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - Mr. ZHANG (pronounced like "jong") of China.
Mr. Zhang is a Vice President, China Olympic Committee
Vice Minister, State Sport Administration of China
Vice President, All China Sports Federation
Elected to 4 year term.

Executive President - Mr. HASLAM of Great Britain
Mr. Haslam's 4 year term began at the 7th Congress 1999
Chairman, British Dragon Boat Assn (BDA)

Secretary General - Mr. HUNG of Hong Kong
Mr. Hung's 4 year term began at the 7th Congress 1999

Treasurer - Mr. COGSWELL of Great Britain
Mr. Cogswell's 4 year term began at the 7th Congress 1999

1st Vice President - Mr. WANG (pronounced like "wong") of China

2nd Vice President - Mr. RUSS (pronounced like "roos") of Germany

3rd Vice President - Mr. YUKI of Japan

4th Vice President - Mr. LEE of Canada

These four vice presidents were elected by 8th Congress for four year terms, and take responsibility for Austral Asia, Europe/Africa, and the Americas.

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COMMISSION CHAIRHOLDERS (Appointments ratified by Congress)

Chairman - Competition & Technical Commission - Mr. CHUNG of Hong Kong

Chairman - Marketing & Media Commission - Mr. HAYDEN-SADLER of GBR

Chairman - Sport Medicine & Science Commission - Dr. FISHER of Canada

CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVES (Appointments ratified by Congress)

Asian DBF - Mr. LIM of Malaysia (& 1 other to be nominated)

European DBF - Mr. SCHERMI of Italy & Mr. VAN CAUBERGH of The Netherlands

North America - Mr. MORRO of USA

Australasia - **Mr. TAYLOR of Australia**

Southern Africa - Ms. OSSE of South Africa

Other Congress News

The Congress unanimously approved the application for Full Membership from the Australian Dragon Boat Federation effective 1 January 2002. Also approved were Germany, Japan, Italy, the Philippines, Sweden and the USA.

MEMBER NEWS

South Australia

Duncan Bee was elected Secretary of Dragon Boat Association of South Australia. Contact details are:
PO Box 684

ADELAIDE SA 5001

Telephone: (08) 8387 0967

Mobile: 0416 000 344

E-mail: deebuzz@chariot.net.au

NT

Michelle Hanton reports from NT that Dragons Abreast are the NT/ACT winners of the NABCommunity Link Volunteer Award in the Health category! As a result of the races held in the Breast Cancer Division at the AusDBF Nationals held in Darwin the Dragon Abreast were to be nominated in that State. NT/ACT are counted as one for the purpose of these awards.

Michelle reports that this is wonderful news for Dragons Abreast to have been recognised at this level! It carries a prize of \$5000 (plus a certificate) which will all be going into the National fund.

David Annesley was elected the new President of DBNT at the recent AGM. David replaces the inaugural DBNT President, Austin Chin, who stepped down to take a well-earned break with the fishing rod after overseeing the initial development of DBNT and the hosting in Darwin of this years Australian National Championships. Congratulations Dave; well-done Austin.

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NSW

DBNSW have taken office/storage space at 7 Underwood Rd, Homebush. The space was organised through the NSW Confederation of Sport and is close to the Olympics sports precinct. DBNSW has also received a \$5,000 grant to buy office equipment and furniture!!

Vic

The Victorian Corporate Games dragon boat event will be held on Saturday 24 November.

Member Directory/Contacts

Board

President	Trevor Huggard	trevorhuggard@hotmail.com
Admin Director	Jon Taylor	jon_taylor@optusnet.com.au
Finance Director	Mark Englebert	mark.inglebert@twes.com.au
Cultural Director	Jillian Newton	jillie@primus.com.au
Development Director	Ewan Hall	hmd@optusnet.com.au
Technical Director	Gary McDougal	gazzapaddlegod@hotmail.com
Marketing Director	Phil Rallings	rallings@powerup.com.au

Members

QDBF (Qld)	Kylie Blade	kyliebade@ozemail.com.au
DBNSW (NSW)	Melanie Cantwell	melandjo@ozemail.com.au
CDBA (ACT)	Les Williams	security@nla.gov.au
VDBA (Vic)	Anne Watson	awlandfa@netscape.com.au
DASA (SA)	Julie Clinch	clinch@txc.net.au
WADBA (WA - Memb)	Lexie Carter	wadba@networx.net.au
DBFWA (WA - Assoc)	Debbie Watson	debbiewatson@bigpond.com
DBNT (NT)	David Annersley	david.annesley@nt.gov.au

**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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