



**Minutes of Presidents Forum
8:00pm Wednesday 14th September 2011
at 1 Jenkins Street Port Adelaide**

1 OPEN MEETING

2 PRESENT

Ming Fang	Black Dragons	Rick French	DBSA
Steve Holt	Adelaide Survivors Abreast	Jennifer Bould	DBSA
Paul Mellis	Subsonix	Patrick Doogue	DBSA
Andy Kelly	Powerblades	John Holland	DBSA
Dianne Adey	Adelaide Phoenix	Steve Clinch	DBSA
Julie Clinch	Blade Runners	Chris Wood	DBSA/ASD
Debbie Attewell	Water Warriors	Julie French	SADA
Colin Attewell	Water Warriors		

3 APOLOGIES

Adele Wood	Adelaide Phoenix	Helen Macleod	SADA
Sandy Jansen	DAPL	Janice Jones	Waiwilita

4 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes from the previous Presidents Forum meeting held 12 May 2011 were approved as a true and accurate record.

5 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 The Sailing Club

6.1.1 Launch 12 November 2011

The Sailing Club was expected to be available for training in about two weeks.

The launch will be a big event with clubs invited to participate on the day to promote their club and attract members and for both users to increase awareness of the venue to the local community. Corporate dragon boating races will be held along with Come N Trys and other festivities throughout the day and evening.

The launch is also intended to be a fundraiser in order to recoup the \$2,500 contributed by each user for the start up fund to cover initial expenses. Interested clubs and stall owners would be charged \$30 for the morning or afternoon session.

Interest has already been received from outside parties interested in using the venue. A local school is interested in storing a rowing scull here and in return would encourage their school children to participate in dragon boating. The Port Adelaide Fine Wines Society had also expressed interest in using the venue for their activities.

A liquor license is being applied for and once available all DBSA clubs will be able to use the venue for meetings with DBSA contributing money towards the room hire. An education session would be held for clubs to book the venue on SmartSpace and as participants and clubs are already entered it would be a simplified process.

The intention is that the meeting room would house the DBSA Season trophies and the States National Trophies from the preceding Nationals and clubs were requested to bring back any Season trophies in their possession for display.

The current sign promoting the Port Adelaide Sailing Club would either be removed or replaced with a new one promoting "The Sailing Club" and both users.

Further details re the launch would be circulated after the next meeting.

6.1.2 Working Bee

There are a number of maintenance and cleaning jobs required at The Sailing Club and clubs were asked if available to assist to advise John Holland of this who would then assign tasks accordingly.

6.2 Mildura Masters Games – 27 Aug

The organisers of the Mildura Masters Games sent in a letter of thanks to DBSA for their efforts in coordinating the dragon boating event and extended an invitation for the 2013 games. There were 154 participants in dragon boating and overall 620 with the dragon boating proceeding smoothly.

Comment was passed by some participants that the entrance fee was high in comparison to the Australian Masters Games and that the standard had slipped in regard to the promotional material received.

The next Regional games will be held in Port Pirie in 2012 and Ceduna in 2013.

6.3 13th Australian Masters Games – 7-9 Oct

The overall number of participants for these games is down by about 2,500 with 400 registered for dragon boating, comprising 13-14 teams.

Racing will be over the 3 days with an earlier finish on the Saturday to allow participants to attend the opening ceremony. Medal presentations are currently being planned to be held on the Sunday.

The team sheets had all been revised by John Holland in the same manner as the DBSDA race entries for easier coordination with the organisers encouraged to use SmartSpace in future to simplify the process.

Clubs are able to use their own tents and store their trailers behind as security is available. SADA, ASA and ASD expressed interest in using their own tents otherwise Rennix would be supplying tents.

There were currently 19 volunteers.

Chris Wood advised that the organisers had rung and advised her that Adelaide Sea Dragons had won \$1000 for being the largest club entered in the games which is to be spent on equipment suitable for the sport.

6.4 Pub & Corporate Challenge – 6 Nov

The entry form for this event is being finalised for use by all entrants (hotels, social, corporate, health and fitness) and would be emailed out clubs by Chris Wood the following day. An A5 flyer is also being printed which could be easily made into A3 for promotional purposes.

Action: Chris

Chris Wood advised that Finance Tactics a Water Warriors sponsor had generously donated \$1000 and a trophy for the winner of the Fitness category which was very exciting.

The eligibility criteria had been tweaked slightly with two categories only: Open and Mixed). Mixed requires a minimum of 4 and maximum of 6 women.

The 10s races would be held afterwards.

6.5 Naracoorte Come N Try – 19&20 Nov

An email would be sent to clubs seeking further expressions of interest for participants and volunteers to help coordinate this event. DBSA would help cover expenses to get there. The general consensus by clubs was that the timing was not suitable to most.

Advertising would be arranged locally to promote the event however should there be insufficient interest three weeks out it would be cancelled.

Debbie and Colin Attewell advised that they would be willing to assist.

6.6 Nationals State Team/s

John Holland noted that over the last 4-5 years that SA had strong representation in Masters and Grand Masters at the Nationals however struggled to form a strong Premiers team as the best paddlers did not try out. The natural progression was if there was a strong Premiers team then those participants in turn would eventually move on and compete in Masters and Grand Masters categories.

He felt one way of overcoming this as was done in other sports was to fund the Premier team through a scheme to raise money with some financial contribution also from DBSA. Clubs were asked for their views on this.

The consensus was that the Premier team was not aged based (ie up to 39) and anyone of any age could try out. It was for the best paddlers regardless of age. As in other sports the Premier team was the one that could attract funding from the Sports Commission, not the Masters or Grand Masters.

Steve Clinch advised that he was working on a proposal to put to the Board for consideration on this for the Premiers team selection for 2012 which would be based on a similar vein to that used by the National squad when selecting their team.

It was proposed that the race fee of \$5 per person per day be increased to \$7.50 with the additional amount deposited separately to fund the Premier team. The general consensus by clubs present was that this would be the preferred option and unless their members objected strongly DBSA would continue to discuss and progress this.

In regard to the Masters and Grand Masters teams selection John Holland advised that it may well be the winning Club Champion from one year that would organise the state squad for the following Nationals.

John Holland said that the Cruising Yacht Club was now selling sponsorship rights to their races and something similar could be offered to companies to sponsor a full race day. MGA Insurance had taken up a \$3000 sponsorship package for 5 years to have their name painted onto one of the dragon boats on the River Torrens and have booked another corporate event in November.

The timing of the Nationals at the Docklands was discussed with some noting that it was not suitable as would finish just before Easter and make it difficult to obtain cheap flights. It was noted however by most that normally it was held over Easter and would not be an issue. John Holland said in future the Nationals may be evolving to the stage where Premiers racing is held separate from Masters and Grand Masters.

6.7 Dragons Breath

Clubs were encouraged to submit articles for the next edition of Dragons Breath newsletter as it was an opportune forum to promote activities/sponsors/issues to the dragon boat fraternity.

Suggested article be written on the forthcoming corporate events.

Action: Chris

6.8 Child Protection Policy

Clubs were reminded that if they have any involvement with children under the age of 18 to familiarise themselves with the updated DBSA Member Protection Policy available on the website.

As part of DBSA agreeing to monitor this on behalf of the clubs they had identified the Prescribed positions in relation to Child Safety as being:

-  Team Manager
-  Coach
-  Database Coordinator

Anyone holding these or similar positions would need to obtain a police check and provide names of referees which would be checked by DBSA and kept on file in the office.

The Risk Management document would also be posted to the website and **clubs were again encouraged to familiarise themselves with it**. New procedures would be put in place at Canoe SA with juniors required to shower in their underwear/bathers.

The recommendation was given to club officials to visit the "Play by the Rules" website (www.playbytherules.net.au) to familiarise themselves with their risk management responsibilities for the various positions held within their club.

6.9 Port Festival – 8&9 October

This Festival is being held at the same time as the Australian Masters Games and clubs not competing were encouraged to involve themselves in this as it was expected that there would be up to 15,000 attendees over the weekend. It would be a wonderful opportunity for clubs to promote themselves and attract members through being involved in the 6 x Come N Try sessions available.

Meg Vine (Adelaide Phoenix/DBSA) had offered to help coordinate the event and would keep a record of the number of participants. A pre-activity form would be given to each participant prior to paddling and clubs would be able to follow the up afterwards.

Further details to be circulated by Chris Wood.

Action: Chris

6.10 Catering 2011/12

The general consensus was for Black Dragons to continue offering the catering for the 2011/12 season under the same arrangements whereby volunteers would be fed gratis.

6.11 Care of Equipment

Clubs were reminded of the need to take care of the equipment as there had been recent incidents of life jackets being left on the ground and heads and tails not stored away.

There is a requirement for those paddling on the Port River to wear a PFD and DBSA had purchased some sample life jackets available for trial at the Boatshed for feedback prior to purchasing more. The individual cost is \$48.50 and about 80 would be purchased if considered suitable for use at The Sailing Club and be of a different type to distinguish themselves from those at the Boatshed.

Clubs were reminded to use the new paddles recently purchased only for Corporate paddles or to hand out to new paddlers undertaking a Come N Try session.

6.12 2012 WCC Hong Kong

The date for the World Club Crew Championships has reverted from August back to 4-7 July 2012.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Karen Graetz has been appointed as the Junior Development Officer and was keenly working with local high school and primary schools with the aim being to establish a junior competition on a designated Friday in 2012.
- In addition discussions were being held by Karen with the Adelaide University Dean as a result of the recent demise of the Student Union and students participating in sport. Their aim was to have 8 activities in place with dragon boating being the only sport accepted to date.

- Any club wishing to make changes to the DBSA website and their club details were asked to forward them to John Holland or Chris Wood in the first instance.
- The updated website was expected to be launched at The Sailing Club launch.
- Water Warriors advised of repeated incidents of items going missing at the Boatshed and it was agreed that an article would be written in Dragons Breath reminding everyone to be aware of this.
Action: John
- Paul Melis (Subsonix) invited any club with Junior members wishing to have them compete in more races was welcome to have them participate in their junior team.
- Steve Holt asked everyone to acknowledge the enormous contribution by John Holland in getting The Sailing Club up and running. In return thanks were passed to Steve for his endeavours also.
- Black Dragons offered to move their ergo machine to The Sailing Club for use by all clubs.
- John Holland advised that the AusDBF meeting would be held this weekend and if any clubs had any issues they would like raised at this level to let him, Jennifer Bould, Steve Clinch or Chris Wood know.

8 NEXT MEETING

The date for the next Presidents Forum meeting is to be advised.

The meeting closed at 10:07 pm.