



Edition 44 – February 2012

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Welcome to the first edition of Dragons Breath for 2012.

We seem to be having a particularly difficult time with our racing season at the start of 2012. Our first event for

the year on January 7th was a twilight meeting on a Saturday afternoon which from a scheduling perspective seemed to work well – the feedback from participants was positive and we will certainly try it again next season. The weather is something out of our control and unfortunately a particularly bad electrical storm forced a cancellation halfway through the program.

Our next race meeting on the 5th February did not even get started due to high winds and particularly nasty weather. The Australia Day Cup (for Premier Mixed 20 over 500M) was to be contested on this day and will be carried forward to March 11th.

Both of these regattas were well organized and a lot of time and effort went into them for a less than satisfactory outcome. All clubs are doing an excellent job in arranging their allocated day and it is disheartening for all this work to go unrewarded with the day being either cancelled or cut short. At least everyone is gaining the experience to run events and we don't have to rely on a few controlling the knowledge base.

State Championship qualifier updates have been sent to all clubs and the medals for the championships have been ordered – for interest we have ordered a total 1688 medals to cover the categories being raced. The qualifiers have been collated from the entries on Smart Space and there are a couple of anomalies appearing – crews

are not entered on Smart Space but are actually listed as racing in the program. Please remember that if changes are made for race days they need to be reflected in the Smart Space entry.

The Sailing Club at Port Adelaide is now fully operational and several clubs have been training there. There have been some safety concerns and clubs are encouraged to identify risks and advise the Association of recommended controlling measures. The boat ramp can be rather slippery and ASD has provided some rubber mats to be used when launching and retrieving boats. The boat trolley in use at the Sailing Club is rather heavy and was sent to us as a trial. We are now looking at having a trolley manufactured in aluminium and to a slightly different design to make boat manoeuvring much easier and safer. There is a Safe Operating Procedure for lifting the boats (both at the Sailing Club and Aquatic Reserve) listed on our website – policy 34. The Port Pirie Masters Games are coming up on Saturday 21st April and registrations are now open on the website:

www.portpiriemastersgames.com.au.

Registration for the games is \$ 40 and the event fee for Dragon Boating is \$25 for the first event and \$10 for each subsequent event. Port Pirie is a great place to visit and the games really bring the town to life. They regularly get over 1500 people competing in the sports on offer and these sports are listed on the website.

The State Teams are currently being finalized and it appears that we will have representation in Premier Open, Women and Mixed, Grand Masters Open, Women and Mixed and Great Grand Dragons Mixed. Congratulations to all who have put in the extra effort to support our State and good luck in Melbourne. All the best as well to all the Club Crews racing in Melbourne and I'm sure you do the State proud.

Let's hope that the weather is kinder to us for our next regatta on February 26th.

John Holland
President - DBSA.

SADA TURNS 10!

SA Dragons Abreast (SADA) is 10 years old this year and to help celebrate the occasion a Dinner Dance was held at the Grand Ballroom, Fulham Gardens on the 29th of October. The fun night was attended by over 330 people and we were thrilled that 7 other Dragon Boat Clubs were represented at this special occasion. The music from the band, ModSkwod was terrific and the 3 course dinner meal was a hit. There was much reminiscing from past and present members, family, supporters and friends.

Tim Monson outlined his involvement in the inception of the club to support survivors of breast cancer and Ginny Simmonds spoke of the first years of the club and its successes internationally. We were all entertained as well by a continuous slide show of 100s of photos collected over the past decade.

To mark this very special birthday event SADA launched their new racing uniform to take them into the next decade. Thank you all who attended and supported SADA and made this evening such a memorable event.

We are all looking forward to the next decade of paddling.



FUNDRAISING
FILM DAY
Sunday 4th March 2012

ANY film @ ANY session

at HOYTS Norwood, Tea Tree Plaza or Salisbury cinemas

Price : \$22.00 includes cinema ticket PLUS "munchies" – any 2 of the following 3 items : Small popcorn / Small softdrink / Choc-top icecream

Bonus prize : You will be automatically entered into a raffle.

Stapled to your purchased ticket will be your raffle ticket. If you see your raffle ticket number displayed at the ticket office when collecting your cinema ticket, you will have won 4 cinema tickets (worth \$76) for future use.

Special offer – buy 6 tickets for \$125 –
this saves you \$7 and you get an extra 6 entries into the raffle

How to buy tickets:

- Available at future race meetings
- Call: Tina Pupello on 0412 038 279
- Email: tinapupello@financetactics.com.au

CLUB ONE SMALL SPONSORSHIPS

club one These are considered every one to two months, and announced regularly throughout the year. Small sponsorships are to a maximum of \$500; although in special circumstances can be as high as \$600. Download further information and the application form from the Club One website: <http://www.clubone.net.au/club-one-sponsorships.asap>.

NEXT DRAGON'S BREATH

Next Dragon's Breath Articles and Pictures are due:

Friday 13th April 2012

be active go for a paddle