

POLICY: CONDITIONS OF ENTRY TO RACES (Eligibility, Fixtures & Team Composition)

Policy No	005	Issue	16
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Introduction

DragonBoat BSA oversees and encourages member Clubs to participate in a competitive competition.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out the rules for conditions of entry to races.

Policy

Member Clubs will organise the competitions through membership of the Racing Committee under the guidelines set out in the DBSA Regulations.

The Procedure and Functions of the Race Committee are set out in DBSA Regulation 006.

1. Participant Eligibility

DBSA reserves the right to make decisions as to a person's physical ability to undertake what can, at times, be a demanding sport. Therefore:

- 1.1 All participants, regardless of Category or Division, must be ten (10) years of age or older to take part in dragon boat racing within South Australia. That is, must have turned 10 by 31 December in the year of the event.
- 1.2 Drummers must be twelve (12) years of age or older (that is have turned 12 as of 31 December in the year of the event) and must have a demonstrated knowledge of the safety requirements for drumming.
- 1.3 Exemptions to the above rulings may be granted for training and other non-competition purposes on application to DBSA.
- 1.4 All participants under eighteen (18) years of age must always wear an approved Personal Flotation Device (life jacket) whilst in the boat - inclusive of training and other competition events. No exemptions shall be granted from this requirement.
- 1.5 Participants must be registered with DBSA and have paid the required registration fee prior to competing in DBSA organised events.
- 1.6 Participants can only race with any one club during any financial year
- 1.7 Once a participant has registered with a Club after 1st July in a given year, DBSA will not grant a clearance to race with another Club during that year. An application for special dispensation may be made to the Board in exceptional circumstances. The application will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
- 1.8 Where DBSA determines that a person is not capable of participating in dragon boat events, DBSA shall provide reasons for such a determination.
- 1.9 DBSA shall always do its best to assist with the uptake of the sport to all persons, through recommending and providing appropriate other pathways into dragon boating.

2. Event Fixtures

- 2.1 Fixtures will be advised, where possible at least 1 month prior to the start of the season.
- 2.2 Any changes to fixtures will be forward to member clubs in writing by DBSA.
- 2.3 DBSA will load race results to the website during the week following competition – the aim will be to have them loaded the day after competition.

3. Team Composition - Number of Participants required for an Event

- 3.1 Numbers of participants on Teams Sheets for local competitions. Up to twenty six (26) Members shall be allowed to be named for a 20's crew and up to fourteen (14) Members shall be allowed to be named for a 10's crew.
- 3.2 Each boat must carry one Drummer and one Sweep. Drummers and sweeps can cross divisions on a race day i.e. from sports teams to other racing divisions.
- 3.3 A participant within a Club can be on more than one team list within a Division for that Club (i.e. 2 mixed twenties team lists) provided they only paddle in one team and sweep or drum for the other one.

3.4 Categories and Crew Composition

Three categories of teams exist for dragon boating events in South Australia:

- 1. **OPEN** Crew of any composition (any mix of male or female paddlers) may enter this competition. Sweeps and drummers may be male or female
- 2. **WOMENS** Crew shall be comprised entirely of female paddlers, drummers and sweep
- 3. **MIXED** **Standard Boat, 20's Crew** A minimum of 8 paddlers to a maximum of 10 of either gender (excludes drummer and sweep).

Small Boat, 10's Crew minimum of 4 paddlers to a maximum of 5 of either gender (excludes drummer and sweep)

A drummer and steerer (sweep or helm) can be of either gender but must be 12 years of age or older

4. Team Events

4.1 20's Team

- a) A 20's team will consist of a **minimum** of 18 participants, 16 paddlers, 1 drummer and 1 sweep.

4.2 10's Team

- b) A 10's dragon boat may carry up to ten (10) paddlers, minimum of eight (8) paddlers, 1 drummer and 1 sweep.

5. Event Team Sheets

All teams must present a completed team sheet thirty (30) minutes before the first race of the competition in which the team is entered, containing the name of each team member to the Chief Judge or Chief Official.



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6. Event Team Divisions

Five divisions of teams are used for dragon boating events in South Australia:

- 6.1 SPORTS** Designated for regular competition paddlers.
- 6.1.1 Sports Division shall have two Grades, A and B.
B Grade will only cater for 10s crews.
Once a paddler has competed in 3 (three) A grade race days, he/she is no longer eligible to compete in B grade competition without special exemption from DBSA
- 6.1.2 Where there are special circumstances (i.e. Medical evidence of injury) submissions may be made to DBSA to consider allowing participants to paddle in other Divisions.
- 6.1.3 Sports paddlers must abide by the IDBF Race Rules and race with IDBF approved paddles.
- 6.1.4 All Sports Paddlers must be registered with both DBSA and AusDBF.
- 6.1.5 The following age classifications may be raced in Sports Competition:
- Open – Any age
 - Junior – Under 18 years on the first day of the Australian Championships
 - Senior A – 40+
 - Senior B – 50+
 - Senior C – 60+
 - 40+ – 40 years by 31 December of the year of the event
 - 55+ – 55 years by 31 December of the year of the event
- 6.2 SOCIAL** Designated for regular social paddlers.
- 6.2.1 Paddlers must not be from any Sports division team (excepting with prior DBSA approval).
- 6.2.2 On race days, Social paddlers may elect to paddle with a Sports team, but once recorded on a team sheet for that division, may not return to their Social division or any other division for the remainder of that race day.
- 6.2.3 On race days, Social paddlers may elect to paddle for any other division (taking into account the requirements for Schools divisions) and be allowed to return to the Social division during that same race day.
- 6.2.4 Social paddlers must race with AusDBF approved paddles.
- 6.3 SCHOOL** Designated for regular, or occasional, secondary school paddlers.
- 6.3.1 Paddlers must not be from any Sports division team (excepting prior DBSA approval).
- 6.3.2 All paddlers must be current students of a recognised secondary educational institution, notwithstanding the allowance for up to two (2) teachers to be members of that team.
- 6.3.3 On race days, School team members may elect to paddle with a Sports team, but once nominated and recorded for that division, may not return to their School division or any other division for the remainder of that race day without prior approval from DBSA.



6.3.4 Excepting Sports division, on race days, School paddlers may elect to paddle for any other division and be allowed to return to the School division during that same race day.

6.3.5 School paddlers must race with AusDBF approved paddles.

6.4 CORPORATE – designated for occasional social paddlers.

6.4.1 A maximum of 2 paddlers in a corporate team in any race can be regular sports paddlers.

6.4.2 Excepting Sports division, on race days, Corporate paddlers may elect to paddle for any other division (considering the requirements for Schools divisions) and be allowed to return to the Corporate division during that same race day.

6.4.3 Corporate paddlers must race with AusDBF approved paddles.

6.5 BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

Refer to Regulation DBSA 016.