



**Minutes of the
PRESIDENTS' FORUM
Thursday 18 February 2021 @ 8:00pm
At The Sailing Club and via Zoom**

1. OPEN MEETING – 8:00pm

2. PRESENT

DBSA:	Peter Button, Jennifer Bould, Kat Reid, Allison Bretones, Valda Cooper
ACDC DF:	Sharon Knights (President)
Adelaide Phoenix:	Apology
ASA:	Steve Holt (President), Mary-Ann Holt
Black Sea Dragons:	Chris Payne (President)
Blade Runners:	Apology
Blue Water Raiders:	Apology
Coorong Dragons	Roylene Nixon (President), Annie Beach
Copper Coast:	Valda Cooper (President)
DAA:	Jo Hamlyn (President)
DAPL:	Sandra Jansen (President)
KIDS:	Mary-Alice Swan
Mannum:	Alison Barr (President)
Powerblades:	Peter Button (President)
SADA:	Julianne Kuhlmann (President)
Subsonix:	Michael Petrovs (President)
Water Warriors:	Apology
Vicky's Pride:	Sandra Bennett (President)
Victor Dragons:	Jill Watkinson (Alternate)
Waiwita:	John Klopp (President)

3. APOLOGIES

Victor Dragons:	Les Sharp (President)
Blade Runners:	Julie Clinch (President)
BWR:	Tiffany Hibble (President)
KIDS:	Ants Harris (President)
Water Warriors:	Chris Kelley (President)
Adelaide Phoenix:	Jason Thompson (President)
DBSA:	Mick Cahill, Julie Clinch, Vi Duong, Maria Darby

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION
 THAT the Minutes from the Presidents' Forum held 25 November 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record subject to noting that Roylene Nixon was actually an apology for Coorong Dragons and not in attendance for BWR.
 MOVED: J. Hamlyn Seconded: J. Kuhlmann CARRIED.

5. BUSINESS ARISING / ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEMS – 26/11/20				
NO.	ACTION	DUE DATE	BY	STATUS
33	Follow up Council to see if another set of steps can be located nearer to the caravan.	ASAP	Board	Ongoing

34	Follow up insurer to ascertain if non registered paddler can attend Sweep course. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted insurer response was that they did not, and it was up to DBSA if they chose to allow this person to attend. 	B4 6-Dec	Board	Done
ACTION ITEMS – ONGOING				
2	Check the slings at Aquatic to see how readily / easily the top boats can be moved and update Policy #043 – SOP Lifting Procedure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted engineering solution is now required for the trolley as the new block and tackle is a different length. Once completed photos will be taken and SOP updated. 	ASAP	Mick & Peter	Ongoing

6. DBSA

6.1 Future direction of racing categories – discussion

- Noted a discussion paper will be circulated to Clubs in due course seeking their preference for categories to be raced in future and to assess the impact to them, and overall to the association, if changed (ie Open Senior A,B,C to Open, 40+, 55+ etc.). **Action: Peter (#35)**

6.2 Courses – status

- Sweep & Drummer – Sat 1-May**
 - Noted is currently only one person registered and more is needed before it will proceed.
- AusDBF Level 1 Coaching – Sat 22& Sun 23-May**
 - Noted there are 7 registered at this stage and a minimum of 10 is needed to proceed
- Volunteers' course**
 - To be advised.
- First Aid – TBA**
 - The next course is planned for either March or May with dates to be advised once confirmed.
 - DBSA will refund any Sweep undertaking this course through another provided 50% of the cost up to a maximum of \$80.

6.3 Events:

- Western Zones event – Friday 5-Mar**
 - Noted volunteers will be sought closer to the date.
- State Champs – Sat 27 & Sun 28-Mar**
 - Noted new streamlined process will be in place with the medals and inserts being bundled up for each category prior to the event by one Club. Clubs will be encouraged to return any spare medals not awarded as a cost saving.
 - Noted 2020 inserts were discarded.
 - Question asked as to why the supplier charged a set-up fee when only the year needed to be changed each time. Noted DBSA would be sourcing a local supplier in future if cost competitive.
 - Noted pontoon would need to be moved with assistance from Rowing SA and a letter box drop beforehand of the residents.
- Sat 17 Apr – Regional Masters Games Copper Coast**
 - Valda Cooper provided an update on this event:
 -  Clubs are being informed regularly
 -  Feedback – registration process is cumbersome however as is a Council system cannot be changed. Any issues can be followed up with Chloe (Council) or Valda.
 -  Corporate race scheduled for the middle of the day for about 5 teams whose participation was postponed from the Copper Coast Challenge to this event.
 -  Looking forward to seeing everyone and hoping that registration numbers will increase.

- **Sat 13-Feb – Hat Regatta**
Sharon Knights advised:
 - 120 participants so a busy day.
 - DBSA dragon boats have been relocated for event.
- **Sun 16 May – Vogalonga Down Unda**
 - Reminder of upcoming event.
 - DAA asked if there will be a composite team with ASA advising they have about 4-5 seats available.
 - Clubs wanting to form a composite team to contact DBSA to help coordinate.
 - Noted Coorong Dragons have a spare boat.
- **AusChamps 2022 – update**
 - Bump in: Sun 03-April
 - Bump out: Tue 12-April
 - Volunteers welcomed to nominate for the organising committee to ensure it is a successful event.
- **Australian Masters Games 2022**
 - Noted will be held in Adelaide.
 - EOIs will be sought for organising committee.

6.4 EOIs – Treasurer’s position

- Noted Jennifer Bould’s term as Treasurer expires at upcoming AGM.
- One EOI has been received for the role.

6.5 Membership fee review

- Valda Cooper provided an update on the reasoning and process undertaken for this review. Of note:
 - Originated from correspondence received from Black Sea Dragons re the viability of a Club on the Eyre Peninsula querying how their membership could be sustained with such high registration fees.
 - Is somewhat subjective, based on 2020/21 financials only, guiding principle being proportionality in order to be consistent.
 - KIDS enquired as to how the kilometres were worked out with the response being if able to reasonably get to Adelaide and return in one day was Zone B, Metro Zone A and everybody else Zone C.
 - KIDS have a four hour trip to Adelaide and the ferry does not arrive until 11am providing limited opportunities for their whole team to travel which was a good case for them to be considered remote (Zone C).
- The review was then discussed. Of note:
 - Noted some regional Clubs have an additional expense of buying their own boats, maintaining and storing them along with insurance with the question posed that perhaps metro Clubs should have to pay a higher registration fee.
 - Noted metro Clubs have more opportunity to attract members as they have a large pool to choose from.
 - DBSA intent is for a far more equitable, reasonable and attractive membership fee to increase the membership growth.
 - Question asked if Valda Cooper had reviewed fees in the eastern states with the response given that the focus was only on SA fees.
 - Country and remote clubs responded well to assistance from the Board and metro members. It was important to share the ‘love’ through travelling to these clubs and assisting in areas like sweep and coach training and technical training. A structure to assist this would go a long way in supporting these clubs.
 - Question asked as to what decision was being sought now.
 - Noted the purpose of presenting this paper was for the Clubs consideration with the recommendation to be put forward at the AGM for voting upon.
 - One issue raised was the problem of using historic budgets rather than using a future year’s budgets. The query was raised as to what was being done by the Board to drive down the costs, with a fee structure to be based on that.
 - In response Valda Cooper advised that was a separate discussion and a compelling one however what has to be foremost in the Board’s mind is to look after the money of the association, the review itself was over the fee structure.
 - Peter Button advised the Board was constantly reviewing the income stream and what could be done to drive down expenses.

- Question asked if DBSA could contribute to those regional Clubs who have additional costs over metro Clubs (ie storage rental).
- One comment was made about the cost of having a race announcer each day at \$250 and whether this was worthwhile or could be a cost savings instead.
- Peter Button advised that the Board would welcome any feedback and offers to assist with efficiencies at any point in time.
- Clubs – to take back for discussion and feedback at next Presidents' Forum before being put at the AGM for voting upon. **Action: Clubs (#36)**
- Consensus was that this was a significant body of work and congratulations were extended to Valda Cooper.

6.6 Incident reporting

- Clubs are reminded of the requirement to submit a report into DBSA for any incident or injury that occurs during training or at a sanctioned event.

6.7 Return of trophies before States

- Clubs reminded to return any trophies by 28 February and to make sure they have been engraved. **Action: Clubs (#37)**

6.8 Registration fee – post 1 January

That anyone registering post 1 January will pay the applicable fee at that time.

- Background: noted the current Registration fee applicable at 1 January has to date only been for new participants to the sport and any returning paddler is required to pay the higher registration fee applicable before 1 January.
- Noted DBSA often receives requests from Clubs or participants to have this waived, under special circumstances, with one received in the last week.
- The consensus from meeting attendees was in favour of this being changed as it was felt it deterred many former paddlers from returning to the sport:
 - *That the 1 January registration fee will apply to anyone registering, irrespective if a new or returning paddler.*

Action: Marie (#38)

6.9 Concept II and Paddle Adapter – Auroras assessment use

- Noted this equipment has been purchased and will be available only for use for Auroras training and assessments and not available for Club use. It will most likely be stored at The Sailing Club.

6.10 Sweep Level 2 recommendation

- L2 Sweeps cannot sweep at Nationals/ AusChamps.
- Noted there has been a lot of recent discussion on this amongst the Sweep Committee and AusDBF on this.
- AusDBF advised that it is up to each state association to set the rules at the local level.
- The recommendation from the Sweep committee was that Clubs be given notice that the ruling will also apply to our State Champs from 2022 – just before our nationals
- Ruling is: *That clubs, in line with the AusDBF sweep manual, be given notice that L2 will not sweep at State Champs from 2022.*

6.11 RC Minutes – distribution

- Noted RC Minutes will now be sent to Club Secretaries as well as Club Presidents to ensure (hopefully) that they get distributed to all paddlers for their information.

6.12 Merlin Paddles – arrangement

- Noted the Board has entered into a partnership with Merlin for them to be DBSA's official preferred supplier of paddles. Through this partnership, DBSA Member clubs and paddlers can save significantly on purchase of these high quality, Australian products.
- Details of this arrangement will be sent out to Clubs and promoted on the DBSA website.
- Discounts will be offered to Clubs and individuals with individualised stickers able to be printed on the paddles.
- As part of this arrangement DBSA has purchased a number of carbon fibre type paddles at a discount rate as they are end of a run. They will not be available for general Come & Try type events but more so for experienced paddlers on school events.
- Appreciation was extended to Valda Cooper for her endeavours in setting up this partnership.

7. AUSDBF

7.1 Pride in Sport Survey

- Noted survey had been circulated to Clubs.

7.2 AusDBF Communication Survey

- Noted survey had been circulated to Clubs.

8. CLUBS

8.1 ACDC – Scotch College boatshed status

Noted renewal lease received from Scotch College for River Torrens boatshed use in 2021 at \$2,000.

Discussion held on viability of renewing lease considering limited use of the asset and agreed at this stage to renew. Action: Jen (#1857)

- Noted annual lease is \$2,000 and has just been renewed.
- Noted if not renewed in future that another location would need to be sourced and a container purchased to store the three dragon boats and possibly another trailer.
- Noted a new trailer would cost around \$8,500 and that there were two trailers available already to tow, one more robust than the other.
- Peter Button advised he could for a few years find a suitable location however a container would need to be purchased and an alternate location sought down the track.
- Discussion held on pros and cons of racing on the River Torrens with some in favour and some not.
- Noted DBSA intention is to rotate the dragon boats through the boatshed so that they have fair wear and tear.
- Noted the boats could also be sold if not utilised.
- Suggested that the discussion point should be left to the RC to come up with a solution. It was pointed out however that individual Clubs may also use the Boatshed for their own use so the decision should not be limited just to the RC or Board which was agreed.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- There was an overwhelming amount of appreciation given to Valda Cooper by attendees for the provision of her Membership Fee review document and being inclusive of the whole of the state.
- Mannum – extended appreciation to Mary-Ann and Steve Holt for helping out with their Tindale School day the week prior which was another example of city Clubs helping out remotely.
- Coorong Dragons – extended appreciation for the support received in the provision of sweeps on occasion.
- KIDS – extended appreciation for “Sharon’s team” that came over in December.
- Mannum – noted that a commentator can make the most boring thing exciting and make the race day.
- SADA – noted have rebranded recently and purchased new PFDs so have about 40+ surplus to their needs. Interested Clubs would be welcome to contact them with a donation for their purchase.
- Aquatic boat spraying – agreed to relocate the spray bottles into the shed and trial first rinsing the boat and then cleaning with the spray. **Action: Peter (#39)**
- ACDC – advised have been using hospital grade disinfectant mix at The Sailing Club with no notable damage to the boats. Info to be sent through to Peter Button. **Action: Sharon (#40)**
- Subsonix – extended appreciation to Marie Cunningham for taking the photos on a race day.
- DBSA – noted AusDBF were seeking for an SA club to produce a new capsized video as Canberra Clubs were unable to assist and would provide the relevant information for this. ACDC responded that they might be interested with email to be sent out to Clubs seeking expressions of interest. Suggested state tops could be worn or a blend of Club tops. **Action: Marie (#41)**
- State Champs merchandising – noted Team Elite would once again be providing the merchandise with ACDC working with them locally for their supply.
- DBSA – as part of designing the logo for AusChamps was a long way down the path with the design of the 2022 event logo. AusDBF advised to hold off as they were looking at producing a generic logo instead for use at every event. The DBSA logo designed is considered by the Board to be really good and would be finalised and used in future for state merchandise and some documentation.
- State Champs – noted naming rights offer of \$880 (GST incl) or \$550 (GST incl) per day was available with details to be sent out to Clubs to attract any business seeking some good publicity.
Action: Marie (#42)

10. NEXT MEETING

The PF meeting dates for 2021 are scheduled as follows:

- Wed 12-May
- Wed 18-Aug
- Thu 11-Nov

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

ACTION ITEMS – 26/11/20				
NO.	ACTION	DUE DATE	BY	STATUS
35	Circulate discussion paper for Clubs to advise preference for racing categories into the future and reasons for and against any change.	ASAP	Peter	
36	Clubs to take Membership Fee review document back for feedback at May 12 th PF.	ASAP	Clubs	
37	Send reminder to Clubs to return (engraved) trophies by 28 February.	28-Feb	Clubs	
38	Advise Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>That the 1 January registration fee will apply to anyone registering, irrespective if a new or returning paddler.</i> 	ASAP	Marie	Done
39	Relocate spray bottles from office to Boatshed for trial of washing boats.	ASAP	Peter	
40	Provide Peter with details of hospital grade disinfectant mix used at The Sailing Club.	ASAP	Sharon	
41	Seek EOIs from Clubs or participants to be involved in the filming of a capsized video for AusDBF use as a training drill.	ASAP	Clubs	
42	Send out sponsorship details for State Champs to Clubs.	ASAP	Marie	Done
ACTION ITEMS – ONGOING				
2	Check the slings at Aquatic to see how readily / easily the top boats can be moved and update Policy #043 – SOP Lifting Procedure.	ASAP	Mick & Peter	
33	Follow up Council to see if another set of steps can be located nearer to the caravan.	ASAP	Board	