



**Minutes of the
PRESIDENTS' FORUM
Wednesday 12 May 2021 @ 7:00pm
At The Sailing Club and via Zoom**

1. OPEN MEETING – 8:00pm

2. PRESENT

DBSA:	Peter Button, Jennifer Bould, Valda Cooper, Mick Cahill
ACDC DF:	Sharon Knights (President) (Z)
Adelaide Phoenix:	Jason Thompson (President) (Z)
ASA:	Steve Holt (President)
Black Sea Dragons:	Chris Payne (President)
Blade Runners:	Julie Clinch (CEO) and DBSA Board, Steve Clinch
Blue Water Raiders:	-
Coorong Dragons	Roylene Nixon (President) (Z), Annie Beach (Vice President) (Z)
Copper Coast:	Valda Cooper (President) (Z)
DAA:	Jo Hamlyn (President)
DAPL:	Sandra Jansen (President) (Z)
KIDS:	-
Mannum:	Apology
Powerblades:	Peter Button (President)
SADA:	Julianne Kuhlmann (President) (Z)
Subsonix:	Michael Petrovs (President)
Water Warriors:	Chris Kelley (President) (Z)
Vicky's Pride:	Sandra Bennett (President) (Z)
Victor Dragons:	Les Sharp (President)
Waiwita:	John Klopp (President) (Z)
AusDBF:	John Holland – AusDBF report only

3. APOLOGIES

Mannum	Julie Metcalfe (President)
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4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

<p>MOTION THAT the Minutes from the Presidents' Forum held 11 February 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record subject to updating attendance to remove Roylene Nixon as BWR President. MOVED: V. Cooper Seconded: S. Holt CARRIED.</p>
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5. BUSINESS ARISING / ACTION ITEMS

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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted the paper will be circulated for next season and at this point of time there is no intention to change the race categories for the 2021/22 season. 	ASAP	Peter	Ongoing
36	Clubs to take Membership Fee review document back for feedback at May 12 th PF.	ASAP	Clubs	Done
37	Send reminder to Clubs to return (engraved) trophies by 28 February.	28-Feb	Clubs	Done

38	Advise Clubs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted instructions will be provided. 	ASAP	Peter	Done
40	Provide Peter with details of hospital grade disinfectant mix used at The Sailing Club. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted another type of disinfectant has been sourced. ▪ Is now a filled blue 15L container with a tap. ▪ Dymo labels will be placed on the drum to notify users. 	ASAP	Sharon	Done
41	Seek EOIs from Clubs or participants to be involved in the filming of a capsized video for AusDBF use as a training drill. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted ACDC are coordinating this video and currently sourcing a company to film it. 	ASAP	Clubs	Done
42	Send out sponsorship details for State Champs to Clubs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted this was done at the last minute and although there was interest, it was withdrawn due to the late notice for sponsors to coordinate. ▪ Aim will be to send out earlier next season. ▪ Working with AusDBF on AusChamps sponsorship. 	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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted small engineering job required to affix the slightly larger block and tackle to ensure boats can be lifted high enough. 	ASAP	Mick & Peter	Ongoing
33	Follow up Council to see if another set of steps can be located nearer to the caravan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted is on hold due to upcoming redevelopment of the Boatshed at Aquatic. 	ASAP	Board	On hold

6. DBSA

6.1 Future direction of racing categories – discussion

6.1.1 SADA – response to impact of proposed age category change

Circulated and for further discussion next season.

6.1.2 ASA feedback response to impact of proposed age category change

Circulated and for further discussion next season.

Noted there was some support for the positions in both papers and this would be considered again prior to next season.

6.2 Courses – status

6.2.1 Sweep & Drummer – Sat 1-May feedback

- Noted mixture of Drummers and Sweeps which was a positive step especially for the Drummers to gain an idea of their responsibilities.
- Noted radio instruction was valuable as some participants had never used one before.

6.2.2 AusDBF Level 1 Coaching – Sat 22 & Sun 23-May – status

- Noted there are 11 registered and the deadline for registration has expired.

6.2.3 First Aid – Sat 22-May – status

- Noted there are 19 registered with one place remaining.

6.3 Events:

6.3.1 State Champs – Sat 27 & Sun 28-Mar – feedback

- Noted positive feedback received at RC meeting.
- Consensus of this meeting was that it was a well run event.

6.3.2 Sat 17 Apr – Regional Masters Games Copper Coast – feedback

- Congratulations extended to Valda Cooper for a well coordinated event.
- Appreciation extended to volunteers and officials.

- Valda Cooper advised it was a fantastic day due to the goodwill and spirit of all of the participants, volunteers, officials and everyone who helped coordinate the event.

6.3.3 Sun 16 May – Vogalonga Down Unda – status

- Noted there are 220 participants registered and six dragon boats entered.
- Registrations have closed however there may be the opportunity for last minute entries on the day.
- Feedback is sought from Clubs if they would prefer to hold it on a Saturday or Sunday next year and agreed to send out a survey to Cubs. **Action: Marie (#37)**

6.3.4 AusChamps 2022 – update

- Noted fourth planning meeting held this week.
- AusDBF are now attending which assists with the coordination.
- Meeting held with Council this morning which was positive, and they are willing to work with DBSA to coordinate this event.
- As part of decision making process for the fleet investigation option to purchase x10 new boats and to freight in 10 boats from NSW who use a similar model.
- Noted this will allow boat stock to be refreshed.

6.3.5 Tatiara Regional Masters Games – 7-11 April 2022

- Scheduled for the same period as the AusChamps.
- Valda Cooper advised she had contacted Sport SA as the event coordinator to request that DBSA be contacted in future prior to setting event dates to avoid any conflicts, given it is the largest participant. This regrettably did not happen on this occasion.
- Sport SA were also advised of the frustration of dealing with the RevSport registration program and they noted that they were seeking an alternate option.
- Noted due to AusChamps being held it may not be possible to source any boats from DBSA and they may need to source these from interstate.

6.3.6 End of season celebratory dinner – Sat 29-May

- Noted have over 80 registrations currently.
- Is a combined end of season dinner and appreciation dinner for volunteers.
- New shields will be presented for each category won at the State Champs.
- Dietary requirements to be provided to Julie Clinch.
- Clubs and individuals still welcome to attend.

6.4 Membership fee review

- Feedback was sought on the documentation circulated and in particular if there were any objections to what was being proposed, with none put forward.
- Annie Watts asked if it would be possible for regional Clubs to have some discussion as to what their actual running costs were (ie depreciation, storage) and to take this into account.
- Valda Cooper responded that this did not impact the operating costs of the association and it was incumbent on everyone to try and increase the membership base which would flow benefits on to the association.
- Valda Cooper advised that grants were a good avenue to assist Clubs and that Copper Coast had received a grant for \$10,000 which helped them build their shed however it had taken 10 years to fundraise the remainder.
- Les Sharp announced that Victor Dragons have received a Federal grant for \$25,000 for a new shed and were now seeking a suitable location.
- Discussion was held on the high participant registration fee after AusChamps noting that this deterred many new paddlers and previous paddlers coming back into the sport from joining. They would often wait until the new season registration opened or not come back to the sport. Agreed DBSA Board would take this on notice and ascertain what can be done to assist Clubs and to look if this fee can be reduced. **Action: DBSA (#38)**
- Noted in the absence of any further discussion about not progressing the fee review proposal further it will be presented at the AGM as the fees going forward for the 2022/23 season. **Action: DBSA (#39)**

6.5 Incident reporting reminder

- Clubs were reminded of the requirement to submit a report into DBSA for any incident or injury that occurs during training or at a sanctioned event.
- Noted form has been updated to include medical episode reporting.

6.6 Season 2021/22

6.6.1 Registration fees – no increase

- Noted as voted upon at the AGM there would be no increase to the fees for this season.
- AusDBF have advised there will be no increase to the Participant levy this season either.

6.6.2 Club Affiliate registration fee

- Noted the Board reviewed this registration fee as part of a review of the Constitution and agreed to withdraw it as there was no value in retaining it.
- Noted volunteers were covered under the insurance policy held.

6.6.3 Categories to be raced

- Noted at this late in the season that the race categories will not be changed.

6.6.4 Working bee – boat rotation

- Noted working bee will be scheduled to rotate the boats at The Sailing Club and River Torrens with those at the Boatshed as some at the latter are showing signs of wear and tear more so.
- Noted Powerblades will look to rotate two and other Clubs would be welcome to volunteer also.
- Agreed to keep some better quality boats at The Sailing Club.
- Reminder given that it is incumbent on Clubs to ensure their allocated boats are cleaned and in the best condition for the next Club coming along to use them.

6.6.5 Early bird period – 1 June – 30 June

- Clubs have been advised this period will open on 1 June and registration paperwork has been provided.

6.6.6 Reminder re noise complaints – sandbags / PA status

- Noted at Council meeting they advised that were only doing their job in managing the complaints received.
- Ruling remains in place for there to be no pegging of tents prior to 9am and the suggestion given that sand bags or water bags should be used where suitable. Confirmation to be sought if tent pegs can be tapped in still after 9am. **Action: Peter (#40)**
- Star pickets – noted will need to change from belting them into the sand on the beach in future.
- An update was sought on the DBSA investigation into providing blue tooth speaker options to individual tents rather than continuing to use the clunky PA system. Response given was that that option would most likely not work with alternate options being pursued.

6.6.7 Draft race program

- The race program was endorsed by the Racing Committee and circulated to Clubs. Copy will be provided to Rowing SA for inclusion in the overall race program for West Lakes to be submitted to Council.
- Reminder given that B-Grade teams are permitted to race every race day despite the distance being raced.

6.6.8 Suggestions of incentives to be offered to regional teams to participate more in local events

- Noted question raised at RC meeting as to what did “regional focus” actually mean on some of the race days scheduled. The Board will be looking into incentives to encourage regional teams to compete more throughout the season.

6.6.9 Hat regatta – EOI

- Noted email to be sent seeking expressions of interest to facilitate this event with DBSA. **Action: Marie (#41)**

6.6.10 Volunteer management discussion

- Noted the management of Volunteers on race days is a perpetual discussion and the requirement remains for Clubs to provide a volunteer on race days despite the role they are given.
- Noted Officials are not Volunteers.

6.6.11 Boat maintenance – reminder

- Noted the boat allocation list is on the website and Clubs encouraged to undertake this.
- Main issue of concern is the seat retaining bolt.

6.7 Aquatic Boatshed – upgrade status

- Noted a stakeholder meeting was held with the Council mid-week to review the rudimentary concept plans produced.
- Council advised of requirement to have a 3 metre clearance for boat stackers so focus is on pursuing the new side of the build which will allow for this. Their intention still is for it be finished this calendar year.
- Noted may be a requirement to operate out of shipping containers until build is finished.

7. AUSDBF

John Holland advised:

- The national Code of Behaviour has been circulated and that it replaces the various separate ones used for paddlers, officials, sweeps etc.
- Dragons Abreast Australia (DAA) – changes are afoot in that they are looking to dissolve the association. AusDBF have been asked to look after it and have produced a Charter for a committee, with no one appointed to date. DAA have indicated that they will pass on their intellectual property to AusDBF who will administer the various related ceremonies (ie flowers on the water). The International Breast Cancer Paddlers Commission have advised they have no relationship with DAA.
- Undertaking a review of the categories for next season and have crunched some membership numbers Australia-wide. Statistics lean towards having 40+ and 60+ categories and suggesting that DBSA also look at this.
- The AICD Directors' course is scheduled in Adelaide on 29&30 May. The Saturday night coincides with the DBSA end-of-season dinner so some participants will be unable to attend. It is hoped given this is a national course that there will be some cooperation between the states and AusDBF with participants working together.

8. CLUBS

■ ASA – barbeque at Aquatic – status

- Advised have been offered a barbeque and were looking to place this at the Boatshed for Club use and had sought feedback from DBSA if this was possible.

In response noted there was a barbeque already there belong to Black Sea Dragons which was available for general Club use however users would need to bring their own gas cylinder.

- Noted the fridge in the Boatshed belonged to Adelaide Phoenix and was available for general Club use with the question asked if any Club required access to it and if they had a key. The response given was that the Club would look to relocate it soon and access was not being sought.

■ Waiwilta

- Seeking clarification on long term absentee people from the sport returning to paddle and enquiring as to how many Come & Try sessions they can have before having to join.

In response it was noted that they could only have the four free sessions, and this applied to anyone returning from an injury which kept them out of the sport.

Noted as advised earlier DBSA would look at ways to assist Clubs with attracting members after the post AusChamps period.

■ SADA

- Queried if the insurance policy would normally cover a 12 month period as the current one on the website covered the period 30 August 2020 to 30 June 2021.

In response it was advised that this was due to COVID-19 and the insurance company extending the 2019/20 coverage by an additional two months to help the sport financially.

■ Coorong Dragons

- Extended appreciation to Annie Watts for raising earlier the discussion point about regional Clubs expenses (ie boat storage, depreciation) being considered as part of the fee review and supported Chris Kelly's request for DBSA to look at the post AusChamps fee.

■ Black Sea Dragons

- Enquired if the medals from State Champs were still able to be returned to DBSA as several of their paddlers did not want to retain them. The response given was that they were.

DBSA is looking at other options to source the medals at a cheaper rate if a significant amount is purchased to cover a three year supply.

- **VDs**
 - Noted two of their former members are seeking a clearance to a metropolitan Club and are intending to remain as Club Associate members and support the Club in all ways, except for racing. Clarification was sought if they could:

1. Still be a Coach.

The response given was that there were no restrictions to this.

2. Still be the Race Delegates

The response given was that DBSA would be discussing this at the next Board meeting.

Action: DBSA (#42)

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Reminder given to be cautious of canoeists at night without lights. Follow up to be had with DIT on this.
Action: DBSA (#43)

- Valda Cooper reminded Clubs of partnership with Merlin paddles to source paddles locally designed and manufactured at discounted rates up until 20 November. Club logos and paddler names can be printed on them. Noted one part is obtained from overseas as it cannot be sourced locally. Reminder to be sent.
Action: Marie (#44)

- Noted Merlin have donated prizes for the DBSA raffle to be drawn at the end-of-season dinner. Proceeds will go towards junior development with further discussion to be held by the Board on allocation.

- Reminder given to all Clubs when paddling around the island to move in a clockwise direction and to keep to the right and that a complaint had been received recently from a canoeist.

One comment in response was that sometimes boats do not paddle around the entire island and may just go up a distance and return which makes this not a viable option.

- COVID marshal requirement – noted not required for a training session and only for race events.
- COVID Safe Officer – noted requirement early on with Clubs encouraged to accredit multiple paddlers and are in place to ensure social distancing conditions are met along with sanitising measures. DBSA will ensure multiple codes are available for Club use and will also provide smaller ones for individuals to check in before they leave their car. **Action: Peter (#45)**
- QR Code – requirement for everyone to check in via this method or to sign in on an attendance register.
- CEO Sleep Out – Peter Button advised that he would be co-registering this year as DBSA President and would circulate an email to his Club to help raise funds for Vinnies. Permission was sought to send this to all Clubs which was duly given. **Action: Peter (#46)**
- Reminder given to Clubs to notify Julie Clinch if attending the dinner or not to help with planning purposes.

10. NEXT MEETING

The remaining PF meeting dates for 2021 are scheduled as follows:

- Wed 18-Aug (after the AGM)
- Thu 11-Nov

The meeting closed at 8:26pm.