

DRAGONBOAT SA MINUTES (v3)



Racing Committee Meeting

8pm Wednesday 1 December 2021
via Zoom

1 MEETING OPEN – 8pm

2 PRESENT:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| ▪ ASA 1 | Michele Lennon | ▪ KIDS 1: | Apology |
| ▪ ASA 2: | Michael Rehbein | ▪ KIDS 2: | Apology |
| ▪ ACDC DF 1: | John Holland | ▪ Mannum Dragons 1: | Alison Barr |
| ▪ ACDC DF 2: | Chris Wood | ▪ Mannum Dragons 2: | Apology |
| ▪ ACDC DF 3: | Sharon Knights | ▪ Powerblades 1: | Nil |
| ▪ Adelaide Phoenix 1: | Nil | ▪ Powerblades 2: | Avi Kleinburd |
| ▪ Adelaide Phoenix 2: | Nil | ▪ SADA 1: | Apology |
| ▪ Black Sea Dragons 1: | Lyn Payne | ▪ SADA 2: | Heather Wingard |
| ▪ Black Sea Dragons 2: | Cheryl Watson | ▪ Subsonix 1: | Ronnie Lane |
| ▪ Blade Runners 1: | Apology | ▪ Subsonix 2: | Julie Lister |
| ▪ Blade Runners 2: | Sandy Douglas | ▪ Waiwilta 1: | Nil |
| ▪ Blue Water Raiders 1: | Terral Coote | ▪ Waiwilta 2: | Nil |
| ▪ Blue Water Raiders 2: | Nil | ▪ Water Warriors 1: | Jacky Smith |
| ▪ Copper Coast 1: | Chris Wolf | ▪ Water Warriors 2: | Meegan Ballantyne |
| ▪ Copper Coast 2: | Jane Gersch | ▪ Vicki's Pride 1: | Sandra Bennett |
| ▪ Coorong Dragons 1: | Brigitte Chapman | ▪ Vicki's Pride 2: | Apology |
| ▪ Coorong Dragons 2: | Apology | ▪ Victor Dragons 1: | Les Sharp |
| ▪ DA Adelaide 1: | Jo Hamlyn | ▪ Victor Dragons 2: | Janine Hateley |
| ▪ DA Adelaide 2: | Nil | ▪ DBSA: | Peter Button |
| ▪ DAPL 1: | Apology | ▪ Sweep Coordinator: | Pat Doogue |
| ▪ DAPL 2: | Nil | | |

APOLOGIES

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| ▪ Blade Runners 1: | Julie Clinch | ▪ Vicki's Pride 2: | Liz Hunkin |
| ▪ Coorong Dragons 2: | Sue Jones | ▪ SADA 1: | Rick French |
| ▪ DAPL 1: | Sandra Jansen | ▪ Mannum Dragons 2: | Julie Metcalfe |
| ▪ Adelaide Phoenix 1: | Leigh Woodrow | | |

The meeting was chaired by: Lyn Payne – Black Sea Dragons.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION

THAT the Minutes of the previous meeting held 18 November 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Chris Wolf and Seconded: M. Lennon CARRIED.

Action: Marie (#151)

4 BUSINESS ARISING – ACTION ITEM STATUS

ACTION ITEMS – 2/11/21				
NO	NEW	DUE	WHO	STATUS
143	Amend 2/11/21 Minutes to reflect changes put forward by Jacky Smith (WWs).	ASAP	Marie	Done
144	Send email out to Clubs to see if they have the 6-station timer unit.	ASAP	Marie	Done

145	Send email out to Clubs to move silver trailer.	ASAP	Marie	Done
146	Look to reposition first trailer placed near container to allow more room otherwise put up a "no parking" sign on the fence.	ASAP	Neil	Ongoing
147	Provide Chief Official's report for Wallaroo and recent race days.	ASAP	Steve, Jen & Julie	Ongoing
148	Task Club with assisting Ron at the start / end of the day to load and offload equipment from the pontoon / umpire's boat etc	ASAP	Marie	Done
149	Task someone to take out the stop watches from the caravan for Peter Bristow.	B4 Peter Bristow	Neil	Done
150	Prepare a tribute to Peter Bristow for the presentations.	Peter Bristow	Neil	Done
ONGOING				
133	Upload amended Minutes of 2-Nov meeting.	ASAP	Marie	Done
134	Purchase and install solar panel to container roof to charge Umpire's boat in container.	ASAP	Neil	Ongoing
135	Task List – review and advise Sandy Douglas of any changes needed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted CW had received advised from Sandy that changes should come back to the RC meeting for approval. ▪ CW advised she would send the changes to the contact list. 	ASAP	Chris W	Ongoing
-	From Nov Board meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extract from previous RC meetings motions of note, decisions etc. to include in a reference guide and be updated each season. 	ASAP	Chris W	Ongoing

Pat Doogue advised that he trialled using his smartphone as a stopwatch during the event as he was concerned the stop watches may not last the entire event. With the use of the lap counter function, it proved to work well and the time was only a few seconds out from those recorded by Joy Fisher. He proposed in future that this method be used instead with just one back up person also using their smart phone which would negate the need for so many volunteers.

John Holland advised that the other timing unit was still needed to be founded.

5 GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 27/11/21 – Peter Bristow Long Course – feedback

- The attached issues paper circulated by ACDC prior to the meeting was discussed.
- Various viewpoints were put forward.
- Pat Doogue apologised for the behaviour of the power boat and his behaviour during the presentations with respect to dismissing some concerns raised about water in the boats, from the power boat. He noted he had submitted a report into Julie Clinch on the race day and suggested in future that the boat not carry a spare fuel can as it unbalanced the boat and is a fire safety issue. In particular he requested that participants at the C&S be respectful and arrive when called and not to carry on loud conversations in the background.
- Discussion was held about the overtaking issues noted that it had been raised at the previous RC meeting and the C&S meeting prior to the race.
- It was suggested by one Club that composite teams set off last to avoid this in future.
- This was not entirely supported as it was felt it would lengthen the race day and that both teams were only about a minute behind making for exciting racing. It was also felt that they were being unfairly punished if this was to be the case for the alleged error made by their Sweep in not pulling over. They considered the rest of the crew should not be punished.
- One suggestion was for next season that there be two separate events with composite teams racing separately.

- One suggestion was for the Sweep only to be penalised. Pat Doogue responded he would first like to see the video of the incident which would be forwarded to him before any decision was made. Verbal reports were not sufficient.

Action: Sharon (#152)

- Following feedback from Rick French was circulated prior to the meeting:

1. I question the need to have the Course Umpire's boat on the water. Clubs traverse the lake every day of the week without it and with fourteen minutes between first and last boat to start, it seems unnecessary. In fact Saturday night it proved to be dangerous and nearly swamped our boat on a couple of occasions.
2. I would like the team also to consider positioning the Starter on land and start all boats roughly between where lanes 1 and 2 would be, near the Eastern side of the lake. The only reason we start between lanes 5 and 6 is for the 2km turn races. The Starter on shore would then be stationary and not affected by movement due to wind and tide and boats being close to shore they could all hear the starter's instructions.

Apart from those discussion points, I thought the race was well run and enjoyed by all who participated despite the strong winds that we have all come to expect.

Good luck for tonight. Regards

- Pat Doogue advised that it would have worked better if there was an actual start and finish line in place. His preference was to be actually on the boat rather than the shore.
- WWs – good event and in favour of the Starter being on the boat.

5.2 Task List – any changes

- Noted suggestion put forward by Sandy Douglas that as Powerblades are responsible for the Umpire's boat and the caravan on race days, that they are not given any other tasks as it took up a lot of time. This was agreed.
- John Holland advised when they returned the boat on Sunday that they cleaned it and noted that the ears for the motor could not be found. Agreed to purchase another set. **Action: DBSA (#153)**

5.3 12/12/21 – 20s over 500m + 2000m – planning

- The earlier decision for 2000m races to always have Mixed and then alternate with Women and Open was reviewed as it did not appear to be working evenly.
- **Suggested:** from January to race 2000m Mixed, Open and Women – however Open and Women can be in the one race and cannot enter both as there must be x2 distinct crews. **Action: Marie (#154)**
- BCS race – noted ASA looking for some more paddlers. Clubs to contact Mary-Ann Holt if interested.
- WWs – sought support for more Clubs to support 20s races as it was frustrating that there was so little competition.
- In response Clubs noted they were doing the best and it depended on paddler availability and the number of races they participated in each race day.
- Suggested that next season that the last race day be a 10s event as it proves difficult for most Clubs to source enough paddlers due to conflicting social events.
- **Agreed:** standard race program to be drafted and forwarded to Jennifer Bould. **Action: BSD (#155)**
- **Agreed:** Clubs to launch their own boats and put them away. BSD and Juniors ot have an additional boat.
- Expected finish time is 1-2pm.
- Chief Official – Julie Clinch

5.4 Sweeping up requests

- Nil

5.5 Composite Crews

- Approved: ACDC – Senior A and Senior B Mixed – non qualifying
- Approved: Subsonix Senior A – Women and Premier Women – non qualifying. Will comprise paddlers from VDs.

5.6 Sweep & Drummer course – 4/12/21

- Noted seven participants registered for this course which will be held again in May 2022.
- Pat Doogue advised that the National Sweeps Committee was keen for all Sweeps to be able to back into the pontoons readily at the AusChamps. This will be discussed at the next Sweep Committee meeting on Thursday with a possibly refresher type course scheduled. Clubs encouraged to think about who might like to participate. If there is insufficient interest then it will not be held.

6 DBSA – update

- Next Board meeting is set for Wednesday 8 December with some of the issues raised tonight to be discussed then.
- Dragon Pass and Safe365 are up and running.

7 AusDBF

- Noted release of next update memo soon.

8 SAFETY ISSUES

- Julie Lister advised there had been much discussion at training on Sunday about Ronnie Lane allegedly hitting the wall during the Peter Bristow event. She noted this never happened, that she never went near the wall as she had dug it in with a big wave coming and they paddled x5 strokes back and then set off again. There was no boat damage or injury to any paddler.
- Chris Wolf – expressed dismay that Jane Gersch had been advised it was unsafe for her to drum one of the composite team crews and was not given the opportunity to put forward her own viewpoint on this. They went without a drummer.
- Pat Doogue responded that he had mentioned this in his report, Thought Jane had been consulted and was not in favour of the decision to not have a drummer.
- Peter Button advised that a report had been received from Copper Coast from the sweeping incidents during their event which would be reviewed by the Board first.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- BSD – asked if the trailer wheel had been repaired and why there was no spare available. John Holland advised that it had been done on Saturday and a spare was not needed. Clubs were reminded they have a maintenance delegate to report such issues through rather than waiting on someone else to fix an issue and they could also contact Mick Cahill.
- BWR – extended appreciation for the Dragon Pass information.

10 NEXT MEETING

Scheduled for 8pm on Thursday 6 January 2022 with Subsonix to Chair.

11 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9pm.

RC meetings:

▪ Tue 18-Jan	▪ Wed 23-Feb
▪ Wed 09-Feb	▪ Tue 15-Mar

ACTION ITEMS – NEW				
NO	NEW	DUE	WHO	STATUS
151	Upload Minutes of 18-Nov meeting.	ASAP	Marie	Done
152	Provide video footage of alleged incident with composite team Sweep not moving over to Pat Doogue to investigate.	ASAP	Sharon Knights	
153	Purchase another set of ears for the engine on the Umpire's Boat.	ASAP	DBSA	
154	Change 2k categories back to: Open / Women / Mixed for races in January onwards.	ASAP	Marie	Done

155	Prepare race draw and send to Jennifer Bould.	ASAP	BSD	
ONGOING				
134	Purchase and install solar panel to container roof to charge Umpire's boat in container.	ASAP	Neil	
135	Task List – review and report back any changes to RC first for consensus.	Next RC mtg	Chris W	
146	Look to reposition first trailer placed near container to allow more room otherwise put up a “no parking” sign on the fence.	ASAP	Neil	
147	Provide Chief Official's report for Wallaroo and recent race days.	ASAP	Steve, Jen & Julie	
-	From Nov Board meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extract from previous RC meetings motions of note, decisions etc. to include in a reference guide and be updated each season. 	ASAP	Chris W	

PETER BRISTOW LONG COURSE – ISSUES FROM ACDC.

The event on Saturday night was well organised and from most participants it was an enjoyable experience.

For ACDC there were two incidents which had the potential to cause harm.

1. On the eastern side of the 'Bartley Tavern' bridge the umpire/safety boat passed us in proximity leaving a wake which swamped our boat. This caused us to take on a large amount of water putting our sweep and paddlers at risk. The motorboat continued to travel in front of our boat leaving our crew to battle with the wake directly hitting our racing line.
2. The second incident occurred halfway between the yellow turning buoy and the 200m start line an exceptionally large wake/swell was left by the umpire/safety boat as they moved to the finish line. This caused our boat to severely rock 3 to 4 times almost capsizing the crew. The boat took on more water and was pushed off the racing line. Had we not had a very experienced sweep and a crew with tenacity the outcome could have been quite different.
3. Having spoken to the boat driver after the race he explained that as he needs to look forward he was unaware the boat was creating such a large wake/swell. When this first occurred, we had to yell out to the umpire/safety boat crew to make them aware of what was happening. We are not aware if the driver of the motorboat has had any training navigating around dragon boats. We do know the Chief Official who was travelling in the motorboat is experienced in this regard. We accept mistakes are made once but not twice.
4. These incidents were treated as somewhat of a joke by the Chief Official during the presentation. Our crew failed to see the humour in the incident given we all have a duty of care to each other. Furthermore, the incidents clearly impeded our race which for a crew who have trained hard was completely disheartening. We had new paddlers in the boat and for them it really raised the question regarding a lack of professionalism within the sport.
5. We have provided photographs of the incident; Go Pro footage is available on request.

Our Solution:

The umpire/safety boat should remain stationary at the halfway point of the course and follow the last boat home – that way they should not cause any issues (rowing use a similar system for their around the island race). We recommend motorboat drivers are trained to ensure the safety of all our crews.

A further incident occurred which from ACDC's perspective was inexcusable.

6. A composite crew not allowing clear water for competing crew to overtake on the inside line (as discussed, agreed and recorded at the Race Committee meeting on 18 November 2021). Mario Ferrari was the sweep of this boat and does not seem willing to co-operate in the spirit of the race. We have photographs and video of this occurrence.

Our Solution:

Composite crews should start after the competing crews with the slowest composite first. This would avoid any issues between composite and competing crews and would in effect, have the composite crews working in their own division.

John Holland
ACDC Head Coach

