



**Minutes of the  
PRESIDENTS' FORUM  
Monday 17 February 2025 @ 8pm  
Aquatic Boatshed / Zoom**

---

**1. OPEN MEETING – 8:05 pm**

Chris Wood (DBSA Secretary) opened the meeting and read to the Acknowledgement of Country.

**2. PRESENT**

**In person:**

ACDC:	Chris Wood, John Holland
Adelaide Phoenix:	Kearney Sieberhagen (President)
ASA:	Mary-Ann Holt (President)
Black Sea Dragons:	Chris Payne (President)
SADA:	Helen MacLeod (President)
Victor Dragons:	Morag Craig (President)
Waiwilta:	Rosealie Giza (Secretary), Petra Hanke (Treasurer)
DBSA:	Chris Wood, Mary-Ann Holt, John Holland
DBSA SC:	Pat Doogue

**Online:**

ACDC DD:	Heather Graetz (Secretary)
Black Sea Dragons:	Chris Payne (President)
Coorong Dragons:	Annabel Kitchin
DAA:	Deb Effenbein (President)
DAPL:	Sandy Jansen (President)
Murray Bridge:	Miranda Roccisano (President)
Subsonix:	Lynette Ferrari (Secretary)

**APOLOGIES**

Copper Coast:	Judy Burdon (President)
DAA	Julie Howie (Vice-President)
Subsonix:	Jack Salagaras (President)
Waiwilta:	Kay Cameron (President), Jill Furrage
DBSA:	Teresa Goodwin-Riccio

**3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**3.1 Meeting 13/11/24**

Ratified as a true and correct record.

**3.2 Meeting 15/8/24**

Ratified as a true and correct record.

**Action: Marie #98**

**3.3 Action List**

Reviewed and all completed or will be by the end of this meeting.

**4. DBSA**

**4.1 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary – any interest**

It was noted that minimal suggestions had been put forward and little consensus on any specific activity that would involve and interest all members. Discussion was held, and it was agreed to revisit this on a more significant anniversary, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2035.

#### 4.2 FinishLynx training – volunteers

Noted volunteers are being sought to be trained up on the FinishLynx system by John Holland. The commitment does not have to be for the entire race day, as a roster could be put in place if there were sufficient people trained.

Clubs to ask their members if interested to contact Mary-Ann Holt: [holtz4@bigpond.com](mailto:holtz4@bigpond.com).

**Action: Clubs #99**

#### 4.3 RevSport reminder re Committee Contact list to update

Reminder given to be conscious of the need to update RevSport regularly (in the back end) as committee members change so that emails from DBSA can be sent to the correct person. The Treasurer contact needs to be correct so that invoices go to the correct person.

#### 4.4 DBSA Club Liaisons:

Noted the following new Board contacts as the liaison person for Clubs:

- John Holland: BSD, Subsonix  
[johnholland@senet.com.au](mailto:johnholland@senet.com.au);
- Rodney Purbrick: RP: ACDC, BWRs, VDs  
[rodneypurbrick@gmail.com](mailto:rodneypurbrick@gmail.com)

#### 4.5 State Champs

##### 4.5.1 Merchandise – any interest?

Discussion was held to see if clubs were interested in having state merchandise available for purchase from 2026 onwards as the one and only time it was offered previously it was not successful. The consensus was not in favour of this given there were not enough overall paddlers involved to warrant the effort or to make it worthwhile.

##### 4.5.2 Early planning

Noted RevSport has been opened up for entries for both days, and Clubs are reminded to submit their teams by midday of the race day meeting of 5 March.

Noted if a Club has entered every race day in the season, they can choose to enter additional Sports A categories that they might have raced, if they had the numbers, at that time.

##### 4.5.3 Pontoon moves – volunteers

Noted volunteers will be required on the Saturday before the Head of River Race (8<sup>th</sup> Mar at 4pm) or the Sunday (Sun 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am) to shift the pontoons.

They will also be required at the end of the State Champs on the Sat (22<sup>nd</sup> Mar) to relocate it from the 500m to the 200m start and again on the Sun (23<sup>rd</sup> Mar) to relocate it to the 1000m line.

There will also be another move required a few days later to move it to the 2000m start line for Rowing SA.

Agreed to follow up Rowing SA to confirm the exact number of volunteers required for each move and whether they charge DBSA for any volunteers they need to provide in lieu of DBSA volunteers. **Action: Marie #100**

#### 4.6 Events:

##### 4.6.1 Level 1 Coaching course – 22&23 Feb-25

It is noted that 10 people have registered for this two-day course, which will be held this weekend. Details about the prerequisites have been sent to all registrants.

##### 4.6.2 First Aid Course – Sun 13/4/25

Noted that the convenor advised that the course will need to be held at Aquatic as she no longer has premises available and that the actual maximum number of students will be x22.

At this stage there are 12 registered and it is noted that SADA have quite a few needing to do the course again as they are due again after doing the last course.

Clubs were encouraged to follow up with their members to register as soon as possible and if there is enough interest perhaps a second course could be held sooner rather than later and to note numbers are limited to 22 maximum. **Action: Clubs: #101**

#### **4.6.3 Sweep & Drummer Course**

Pat Doogue advised that this course will likely be held after the Australian Championships in May.

#### **4.6.4 Port Augusta Regional Masters Games – Sat 5/4/25**

Noted 6 clubs have registered to date.

The organising committee is seeking volunteers to assist with coordinating the event and to learn how to plan it as well so interested parties can contact John Holland or Chris Wood.

Morag Craig advised she would be attending the event and be happy to assist as a volunteer and would like to encourage Bronwyn Bowen to join her. This was appreciated and noted more volunteers would be needed and welcomed.

Noted there will be a requirement to transport boats to and from Port Augusta for this event.

#### **4.7 AusChamps – DBSA Flag Bearer appointment**

Noted there have been no nominations received and that the Clubs participating at this event are ACDC, Black Sea Dragons and Powerblades.

Noted it is open for all Clubs and Officials to nominate anyone from the above Clubs or anyone else from DBSA who may be in attendance and they consider worthwhile.

Nominations are due in by 5pm on Monday 10 March.

#### **4.8 Boat relocation – Murray Bridge**

Noted there is a need to relocate a DBSA boat from the Murray Bridge dragon boat club back to the DBSA compound and the trailer would need to be collected from Dock 2 for this purpose.

Noted DBSA will cover the mileage cost at a set rate and if there were no volunteers then they would need to hire a vehicle and arrange this.

Robyn McKenzie advised that as she travels to Murray Bridge frequently and has a vehicle with a tow bar that she could arrange this.

This offer was appreciated and Miranda Roccisano advised that she would arrange for assistance to load the boat at their end and would coordinate this with her. **Action: Robyn/Miranda #102**

#### **4.9 Peter Bristow race fees – donate to charity**

Chris Wood asked Clubs if they would consider having annual race fees imposed for this event which would be put towards a charity aligned with Peter Bristow's memory (ie SA Heart Foundation).

**Action: Clubs #103**

#### **4.10 Boat loading / unloading area**

Reminder given to Clubs to ask their members to keep the pathway clear from the roller door through to the back door and to not congregate around the boat loading/unloading area. This will assist Clubs when they are loading or unloading the boat. **Action: Clubs #104**

#### **4.11 Website revamp – Club “dynamic” photos needed**

Clubs were asked to provide a maximum of six “dynamic” photos for use in upgrading the website as the current photos have been there for a considerable period. **Action: Clubs #105**

### **5 AusDBF**

Noted AusDBF requires that for their funding purposes with the Australian Sports Commission, there is now a requirement for anyone seated in a dragon boat to be registered in RevSport and will seek registration details quarterly from state associations.

Because registered paddlers are already included in RevSport and Dragon Pass covers Come & Try participants this new requirement is for Corporate Pass and School Pass event participants only.

AusDBF now require specific information (data fields) to be reported back to them and for this purpose, they provided some instructions to Clubs as to how to set this up which was included in the Agenda papers.

DBSA will then seek from Clubs on a quarterly basis this information and report it back to AusDBF.

DBSA understands this is a learning curve for both DBSA and Clubs and acknowledges that it is not always possible for Clubs to arrange for this information to be provided beforehand. The information can be captured on a registration form and entered into RevSport by the respective Club once they have set up the specific event (ie Corporate team) or they can ask the school or corporate team to enter that data into a spreadsheet provided to them for later uploading into RevSport.

DBSA has designed a group event waiver which Clubs could use and modify as needed and it captures the data fields needed by AusDBF. It was circulated with the Agenda papers. It was noted that for School groups that the Clause related to Right to Use Image would need to be withdrawn as photos are not able to be taken.

An email reminder of this process will be sent to Clubs, and those entering Corporate teams in the next event and those organising Schools events will need to follow this process. Noted that Marie Cunningham could assist Clubs and individuals to work through this process in RevSport, and they could also follow up with AusDBF if needed. **Action: Marie #106**

## 5 CLUBS / OTHER

- Murray Bridge: noted are rebranding and will follow up with new Club promotions, including being more visible in the region and that they are preparing for the Regional Masters Games.
- DAPL: noted have two new paddlers (one only 45!) and are also preparing for the Regional Masters Games. They will enter a Breast Cancer 10s team and looking for x4 more people and seeking a sweep for each category. Chris Wood offered to assist.

Held a raffle night, doing lots of social events and have the upcoming Coorong paddle with 21 paddlers from KI participating. Hoping to have sufficient numbers for State Champs and have 8 new members training up and registering.

- PDs: preparing teams for Regional Masters Games and State Champs.
- ACDC DD: noted as there is no water currently that they are unable to paddle.
- SADA: extended appreciation for the quick repair of the trailer by DBSA and that a report was submitted to the Council about the outside boatshed toilet not flushing. Noted as the toilets are public that anyone can submit an issue for follow up.

Participating in the Regional Masters Games and including some paddlers from VDs and ACDC and have asked PDs to join them to make a 20s team for the BC challenge.

- Adelaide Phoenix: trying hard to recruit new members and held a Come & Try a few weeks earlier and it is hoped that at least two will join. Noted Sharon Knights has transferred from Water Warriors and they are looking to qualify a new sweep to Level 2.

Kearney Sieberhagen raised an item of concern around the conduct of Clubs and delegates at RC meetings which he felt had been deteriorating over time. He asked for a readjustment of attitude going forward.

- VDs: endeavouring to build up member numbers and now have 42 financial paddlers. They are targeting many of the retirees that relocate down there. Dragon Pass is offered however some join up straight away.

Yesterday they had a paddler from Parkes (NSW) who is aiming to visit as many dragon boat clubs as she can on her travels.

Working with the council (unsuccessfully) still in order to get a suitable piece of land to lease from them so that they can then apply for grants to build a clubroom.

They have four paddlers competing at the Regional Masters Games.

- ACDC: noted they have some recent new members and now have around 102 members in total across their metro and regional clubs.

- ASA: have a couple of new members joining and will celebrate their 20 year anniversary in May by doing a social event on the “handle bar” bike ride around the city. They have one qualified Sweep.
- Waiwilta: have 39 members and receiving interest from the community. Their demographics have them attracting younger paddlers keen to make friends and older paddlers just looking to paddle.

They went to a Chinese New Year celebration at a Woodville Chinese restaurant where they watched an original dragon dance.

They have three accredited Sweeps and one in training. They are getting their safety procedures up to speed.

- DBSA: noted that Julie Lister (DBSA President) is taking a leave of absence and will be back in action from Monday 7 April.
- DBSA: encouraged Clubs to attend meetings in person where possible.

## **6 NEXT MEETING**

The meeting closed at 9:09 pm.