

Newsletter



Northern Beaches Dragon Boat Club

September 2005 Issue

The new Dragon Boat season has started.

Welcome to all new paddlers

I would like to welcome all of the new paddlers and everyone having a tryout at paddling, as well as all of the existing members coming back. We are currently in the beginning of the season, and as such in a stage of rebuilding the club. Open days and paddler recruiting are all a part of this stage of the season. Some people will come along, enjoy the paddling and join, while others may never come back after having a tryout. The conditions, both weather and water have not been favourable for us in the past few weeks but this will improve and hopefully those who came once only to tryout will come back for another paddle.

Open Day

On Saturday 3rd September we held our first open day at Manly, this attracted a lot of interest and a number of those who attended have since joined up. Since then we have had a lot of people attending training to give paddling a go. Hopefully more will join.

Training

Training is presently being held every Sunday at 9am starting from September 11th. I am also running an early morning session on Sundays at 7am for 1 boat only. Weeknight training at 6pm will start with daylight savings.

Next race

The next race will be held on Sunday 9th October at Donnelly Park, Connells Point Sailing Club, Connells Point (off Kyle Pde, Connells Point). For those who would like to see where this is, have a look at the site

<http://www.whereis.com/whereis/mapping/emailedMap.do?mapLinkId=220626&brandId=1>

The races start at 8.30am and are scheduled to finish at 4pm. Everyone is expected to be at the race site at 7.30am. The race distance is 500m and we are entering a mixed and a womens team. There will be 2 heats and possibly a final (depends how hard you paddle) for each category.

Because of the distance to the race site, carpooling would be recommended, and I will send out an email next week for all who have indicated that they want to race and this can be organized amongst yourselves. Further info on the race will be sent out at this time.

Every member, new and old, is welcome to race at this next event. The only conditions are that everyone must have completed and returned both membership forms (club and NSW association), have paid their fees and supplied a passport photo by training on 2nd October.

Race Schedule

Those new and old paddlers that feel that they are not yet fit or ready enough to race 500m, there is always the next race which is being held on Sunday 6th November.

Sunday 9th October 2005, venue - to be announced (TBA).

Sunday 6th November 2005, venue - TBA.

Sunday 4th December 2005, SIRC Penrith .

Saturday 14th January 2005. somewhere on the Central Coast.

Saturday 11th February 2006. Chinese New Year, Darling Harbour.

Saturday 25th March 2006, NSW State Championships, Penrith.

In addition to these races, there are also events in Canberra, Grafton, Shellharbour, Ulladulla, Taree and Forster.

The races that we will ultimately be entering will be decided later but it is expected that we would be entering all local events.

Membership Fees

The cost for membership to the club will be \$175 for the season. This covers race entry fees, boat hire, public liability insurance, individual personal insurance, individual and club membership to Dragon Boats NSW and race uniform.

Payment for club membership can be made by either direct deposit or EFT to:

Account: Northern Beaches Dragon Boat Club

Bank: National

Account No: 546915835

BSB: 082299

Please put name as referral when transferring funds

Everyone is required to fully complete the Club Membership and Dragon Boat NSW membership forms and return these with a passport size photo.

Please note, all payments, forms and photos have to be submitted before anyone is allowed to race.

Sponsors

I would like to briefly introduce everyone to our new sponsors for the season:

Crocs. - Great shoes for on and off the boat. For more info, check out these shoes on the website at www.crocs.com or contact Peter Brett on 9977 0358

Future Finance. - for all your financing needs. See www.future-finance.com.au or contact Mark Hegarty on 9909 3599

Digital4sight. - offers the ultimate in digital media home entertainment systems. Find out more at www.digital4sight.com.au

Redalto Communications - for all your website needs. Contact Tim Van Der Griend on tim@vandergriend.com

Paddles

If anyone is interested in purchasing their own paddle, Merlin offers the best with both Carbon Fibre and Texalium. Check out these paddles at www.merlingear.com/
Contact Maree on maree@merlingear.com or 0409 921156 to find out the super saver prices for Northern Beaches club members.

Website

Our website has all information on the club as well as all membership forms. The site can be found at www.nbdbc.com

Coaches and sweeps

Anybody interested in becoming a coach or sweep then contact Geoff Taken on 0418239980. We need more sweeps and coaches (Love them or hate them, we need coaches and trainers). We will not be allowed to race in the womens category without our own accredited female sweep, so I would like to see all girls give it a go.,

Finally

If anyone has anything that they could contribute to the club, then please contact any of the committee members. The more people that can help, the better for the club.
If anyone needs to contact me by phone, I can be reached on 0418 239980 or at night, on 99719361 (or on the mobile).

See you all on the water,

Geoff Taken