

2019

AUSTRALIAN DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS



Rowing Course
Weston Park, Yarralumla
(Lake Burley Griffin)
17-22 April 2019



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Message from the Minister for Sport and Recreation



Welcome to Canberra for the 22nd annual Australian Dragon Boat Championships.

The nation's capital has been the most active community in Australia for many years, with the ACT Government continuing its commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of Canberrans. As a part of these continued initiatives, the ACT Government is proud to support Dragon Boat ACT in hosting the 2019 AusChamps.

Canberra holds a strong history of support and passion for dragon boat racing since the sport was first introduced to the capital in 1990. Playing host to these championships for the third time, the Weston Park facility continues to attract high level competition.

We welcome the 3500 competitors and support staff to what is yet another celebration of the diversity of cultures that exist within the ACT and the capacity of our great city in hosting elite sporting events.

While the competition on the water is sure to be fierce, we encourage all our visitors to get out and about, enjoying everything from our striking land marks to famous attractions and world class dining. We are proud that Canberra was named the world's 3rd best city to visit in 2018 by Lonely Planet, and hopefully all competitors will be able to testify to this during your stay through enjoyment of the all the region has to offer.

I wish everyone the best of luck throughout the week and trust that you will have an unforgettable experience here in Canberra.

Yvette Berry

ACT Minister for Sport and Recreation

International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) Presidents Welcome

It is an honour for me to welcome the Australian Dragon Boat paddling community to the 2019 Australian Dragon Boat Championship being held at Weston Park, Yarralumla, Australian Capital Territory from 17th to 22nd April. I believe the Championships were held at this venue back in 2005 and will be the 4th time in Australian Championships history for the event to be held in the Australian Capital Territory.



IDBF wishes to congratulate AusDBF and all the clubs who will be enjoying their Easter break competing at the five day national championships. This is a huge undertaking and larger in scale than many events around the world. I wish to thank all the volunteers in Dragon Boat ACT for the hundreds of hours they have invested in hosting what I anticipate will be a fantastic Championships.

I would like to acknowledge the considerable and positive contribution Australia has made and continues to make to the development and promotion of the sport of dragon boat racing, as founding members of the IDBF. Since 1991 Australia has been instrumental in promoting the sport not only within your own country, but as part of the Asian Dragon Boat Federation. IDBF congratulates both the Australian Dragon Boat Federation and New Zealand Dragon Boat Association for signing off a 5-year memorandum of understanding between the two countries which is a giant step forward in promoting the sport across the Oceania Region.

Australia's consistent presence in large numbers at Championships around the world proves what everybody knows about Australians – you love competition and the challenge.

Over the last few years, the IDBF has seen the Australian Team (the Aurora's) challenge and hold their own amongst the dominant nations with many podium finishes both at the World Nations and Club Crew World Championships. Whilst Australia may not have the same population as Canada and China – your paddlers are committed and show determination to succeed. This is a sign of leadership and inspiration from the governing body and Australian Team Coaches.

I wish all the paddlers, officials, crews and volunteers the very best of luck for the 23rd Australian Championships and to all the clubs who will be fighting it out to qualify for the 2020 Club Crew World Championships in Aix les Bain, France.

May you all stay safe and the spirit of the dragon be with you all throughout the Championships.

Mike Thomas
President

Message from the AusDBF Chair

It is with great pleasure the Australian Dragon Boat Federation (AusDBF) Board welcomes competitors from around the country to the 2019 Australian Dragon Boat Championships (AusChamps). This year the event is being held in our nation's capital, Canberra, at the beautiful Weston Park, Yarralumla, on Lake Burley Griffin.

The AusChamps is the premier dragon boat racing event in Australia, where States compete against States, and clubs compete against clubs to decide the best teams on the water in the country. It is an exciting event, with fast and furious racing – medals can be won and lost by a hundredth of a second. Despite the fierce competition on the water, the dragon boat community is a strong network of people bound by the same love of our sport, and as such the event is also a celebration of friendship and camaraderie as old friends meet again and new friendships are formed.



In 2019, AusDBF is introducing live video streaming, drone footage and race result updates to the AusChamps in what will hopefully be an ongoing addition to the event. A significant amount of work has gone into developing the linkages between various providers and platforms to ensure all the computer systems can 'talk' to one another and deliver the data streams as required for the desired outcomes. This is a very exciting development, and hopefully all will go smoothly during the first use of these systems at the 2019 AusChamps!

This event would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of the numerous people who freely volunteer their time to make the event happen. A huge 'thank you' to the 2019 AusChamps Organising Committee and the AusDBF Board members who have worked together for many, many months to plan and deliver the event. It is no small feat planning an AusChamps!

Acknowledgement is also due to all the people who have offered to give their time to be an official event Volunteer or Official. Without these generous folk, the racing at AusChamps would not occur. Please be sure to say 'thank you' to our Volunteers and Officials as you see them around the event grounds, and tell them how much you appreciate their efforts.

It should also not be forgotten that it is the hard work and dedication of club coaches, team managers, committees, State Board members and all the competitors that has brought the clubs and State Teams to the AusChamps. Congratulations to everyone for their efforts – every year the crews are getting stronger and faster and the competition is constantly improving, which is a credit to all members of our sport.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and successful 2019 AusChamps! Paddles up!

Kristin Priest

AusDBF Chair

Event Schedule

Wednesday, 17 April 2019	
	AM – Training Sessions PM – Officials and Volunteers Meeting PM – Managers Meeting PM – Opening Ceremony
Thursday, 18 April 2019	
Day 1	AM - Mixed - 500m PM - Open, Women - 500m
Friday, 19 April 2019 (Good Friday)	
Day 2	AM - Seniors A/B/C – Mixed – 2km AM - Seniors A/B/C – Mixed – 200m PM – Seniors A/B/C – Open/Women – 200m
Saturday, 20 April 2019 (Easter Saturday)	
Day 3	AM – Seniors A/B/C – Open/Women – 2km PM – State v State – 500m Jnr/Premier/Snr A/B/C
Sunday, 21 April 2019 (Easter Sunday)	
Day 4	AM – Premier/Jnr – Mixed - 2km AM – Premier/Jnr – Mixed - 500m PM – Premier/Jnr – Open/Women – 500m BCS – 500m
Monday, 22 April 2019 (Easter Monday)	
Day 5	AM – Premier/Jnr – Open/Women - 2km AM – Premier/Jnr – Mixed - 200m PM – Premier/Jnr – Open/Women – 200m BCS – 200m

Opening Ceremony

3.00pm, Wednesday 17 April 2019

Pescott Lane, Weston Park, Yarralumla

Please arrive 10 minutes prior

3.00pm Official welcome and overview

Tim Gavel, MC

3.05pm Arrival of Flagbearers and Flag Parade

The flagbearers will arrive in 10s boats. They will be paddled across the lake behind the stage, disembark at the boat loading pontoons and then parade up to the stage area.

3.15pm Welcome To Country

Ngunnawal Elder Wally Bell

3.25pm Australian National Anthem

Sarah Walsh

3.30pm Paddlers Oath

Angus Thompson

"On behalf of all paddlers, I promise to take part in this regatta, showing mutual respect and abiding by the rules that govern, with the Dragon Spirit in heart and mind, for the glory of Dragon Boat and the honour of all teams."

3.35pm Officials Oath

3.40pm Blessing of the Boats

Sangha monks

Dragon boats will be assembled on the shore where dignitaries will approach the heads to dot the eyes and the forehead.

4.10pm AusDBF Welcome

Kristin Priest, AusDBF Chair

4.20pm Opening of the Championships

The Hon Yvette Berry, ACT MLA, Deputy Chief Minister

4.30pm Closing

Tim Gavel, MC

Refreshments for invited guests from 5pm at the Southern Cross Yacht Club, Yarralumla.

The Dragon Spirit

Play the Game for the Game's sake;

Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

**The most important thing in dragon boating is not to win but to
take part;**

Just as in life; it is not the triumph, but the struggle.

Be true to your fellow paddler.

Paddle not for yourself but for your team.

Work hard. Be strong.

Expect no reward and reward will come.

The Paddler's Oath

On behalf of all paddlers,

I promise to take part in this regatta,

showing mutual respect

and abiding by the rules that govern,

with the Dragon Spirit in heart and mind,

for the glory of Dragon Boat and

the honour of all teams.

Site map



The history and traditions of dragon boating in Australia

The Australian Dragon Boat Federation Ltd (AusDBF) is the Australian governing body for dragon boat racing in Australia. All States and territories are members of AusDBF.

Until the formation of the Australian Dragon Boat Federation in 1997 there had been no cohesive, unified national body managing the sport of dragon boat racing in Australia. Several earlier attempts to form a national body floundered through either lack of effective management or lack of support from the clubs and paddlers.

AusDBF is the most recent and successful body to organise dragon boat racing at national level and the first dragon boat body in Australia to implement a formal National Sporting Organisation structure. In 2011 AusDBF became a Public Company Limited by Guarantee.

Dragon boat races are held in Australia from Broome to Brisbane, from Perth to Sydney and from Adelaide to Darwin. The first Australian involvement occurred in 1980 when the Penang Tourist Development Corporation invited the WA Surf Life Saving Association to send a team to the Penang Festival. This was followed the next year by invitations from the HKTA to WA and NSW to send teams to what was then considered the unofficial world championships on Hong Kong Harbour. In 1984 Sydney held the inaugural Sydney Dragon Boat Festival at Farm Cove. The states have subsequently formed State Associations.

The modern sport of dragon boat racing was born in Hong Kong and many people still consider Hong Kong as a dragon boat “mecca”. In Hong Kong there are two major ceremonies involving boats. One is the Eye Dotting or Awakening Ceremony and the other is the Naming of a new boat. If you want to know anything about the traditions of the sport you look to the Fishermen. The Fishermen, who populate the various harbours around Hong Kong, are the keepers of the traditions of the sport.



The ceremony which is known as the “Eye Dotting”, is actually the “Awakening of the Dragon” and should be repeated each year after the dragon’s rest during the off-season. It is typically performed when the dragon boats are first returned to service and again just prior to racing. It is important to remember that it is considered very bad luck to paddle or race in a dragon boat that has not been properly awakened or has its eyes closed.

In Asian culture the ceremony is about respecting the dragon and getting him into a good and friendly mood towards you, the team, and the community. You want the dragon’s protection, not his anger.

Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country

Incorporating a Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country into meetings and events recognises Aboriginal people as the first people of the country, promotes awareness of the history and culture of Aboriginal people and acknowledges past and ongoing connection to the land.

What is a Welcome to Country?

A Welcome to Country is a ceremony performed by an Aboriginal Elder (or a person who has been given authority) to welcome visitors to their traditional land. Protocols for welcoming visitors to Country have been a part of Aboriginal culture for thousands of years.

A Welcome to Country always occurs at the opening of an event and is usually the first item on the program. The ceremony is conducted by a recognised Aboriginal Elder (or a person who has been given authority) for that region and may include singing, dancing, a smoking ceremony or a speech in traditional language or English. The speaker who follows the Welcome to Country should provide a response which includes an Acknowledgement of Country and acknowledgment of the person who carried out the Welcome.

What is an Acknowledgement of Country?

An Acknowledgement of Country is a way of showing awareness of and respect for the traditional Aboriginal owners of the land on which the meeting or event is being held, and of recognising the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to their Country. A non-Aboriginal person can perform an Acknowledgement of Country but a Welcome to Country must be performed by an Aboriginal elder or person of authority.

There are no set protocols or wording for an Acknowledgement of Country. A statement may be along the lines of:

"I would like to acknowledge that this meeting/event/workshop is being held on the traditional lands of the (appropriate group) people and pay my respect to the Elders both past and present."



Australian Championships

Year	Venue	Length	Club numbers	Paddler numbers
1997	Adelaide, SA	1 day		
1998	Canberra, ACT	1 day		
1999	Yarra River, VIC	1 day		
2000	SIRC, NSW	1 day		
2001	Darwin, NT	2 days		
2002	Gold Coast, QLD	3 days		
2003	Adelaide, SA (West Lakes)	3 days		
2004	Perth, WA (Canning River)	3 days		
2005	Canberra, ACT	3 days		
2006	Nagambie, VIC	3 days	36	800
2007	SIRC, NSW	4 days	41	900
2008	Perth, WA (Champion Lakes)	4 days	21	720
2009	Sunshine Coast, QLD	4 days	39	1491
2010	Adelaide, SA (West Lakes)	4 days	48	1973
2011	Canberra, ACT	4 days	71	2461
2012	Melbourne, VIC (Docklands)	5 days	75	2964
2013	SIRC, NSW	5 days	90	3083
2014	Sunshine Coast, QLD	5 days	76	3000
2015	Perth, WA (Champion Lakes)	5 days	60	2000
2016	Adelaide, SA (West Lakes)	5 days		
2017	Albury-Wodonga, VIC	5 days		
2018	Sunshine Coast, QLD	5 days	68	2369
2019	Weston Park, Yarraluma, ACT	5 days	72	
2020	Penrith, NSW (SIRC)	5 days		
2021	Perth, WA (25th Anniversary)			
2022	Adelaide, SA (West Lakes)			
2023	Victoria			
2024	Sunshine Coast, QLD			
2025	ACT			
2026	Penrith, NSW (SIRC) 30th Anniversary			

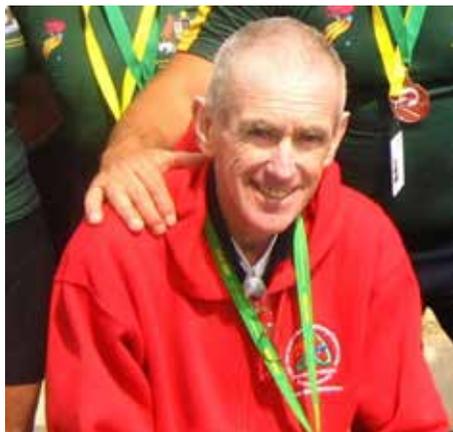
AusDBF Honour Roll

Life Members

- 2008 - Trevor Huggard (Victoria)
- 2008 - Raymond Leung (NSW)
- 2008 - Les Williams (ACT)
- 2009 - Jon Taylor (NSW)
- 2010 - Michelle Hanton (NT)
- No Life Members were inducted in 2011, 2012, 2013
- 2014 - Melanie Cantwell (NSW)
- 2015 - Christopher Alexandrou (NSW)
- 2017 - Loretta Lewis (QLD)
- 2018 - None awarded

Jon Taylor Award Winners

- 2009 - Jennifer Bould (SA)
- 2010 - Michele Moroney (ACT)
- 2011 - Vic Fazakerley (WA)
- 2012 - Blair Gamble (QLD) and Malcolm Wills (NSW)
- 2013 - Darryl Manzie (NT)
- 2014 - Loretta Lewis (QLD)
- 2015 - Eliza Campbell and Melissa O'Brien (VIC)
- 2016 - Christopher Alexandrou (NSW)
- 2017 - Marilyn McClellan (VIC)
- 2018 - Janine Lette (QLD)



Australian Flag Bearers

- 1999 World Championships, Nottingham, UK – Kylie Bade-Peters (QLD)
- 2001 World Championships, Philadelphia, USA – Barry Young (QLD)
- 2003 World Championships, Poznan, Poland – Melanie Cantwell (NSW)
- 2004 World Championships, Shanghai, China – Linda Ng (NSW)
- 2004 Asian Championships, Mian Yang, China – Janine Lette (QLD)
- 2005 World Championships, Berlin, Germany - Chris Moran (NSW) and Amanda Wyllie (NSW)
- 2006 Asian Championships, Macau, SAR China - Jenny Petterson (NSW)
- 2007 World Championships, Sydney, Australia - Ian Peters (Qld)
- 2008 Asian Championships, Penang, Malaysia - Steven Davidson (NSW)
- 2009 World Championships, Prague, Czech Republic - Roula Bland (Qld)
- 2010 Asian Championships, Wujin, China - Geoff Eldridge (NSW)
- 2011 World Championships, Tampa Bay, USA - Diana Dent (NSW)
- 2015 World Championships, Welland, Canada - Georgie Wakim (VIC), Larissa Woosup (ACT) – Indigenous
- 2016 Asian Championships, Adelaide Australia - Allison Burgess (SA)
- 2017 Junior/U24 World Championships – Divonne-Les-Bain, France - Rachel Phillips (NSW) Matilda Slater-Phillips (NSW) – Indigenous
- 2017 World Championships, Kunming, China - Jennifer Reilly (VIC)
- 2018 Asian Championships, Foshan City, China - Rowena Coghill (QLD)

Australian Team Captains (first appointed in 2008)

2008 Asian Championships, Penang, Malaysia - George Louie (NSW); Vice Captains: Mathew Roberts (NSW) and Tina Bain (ACT)

2009 World Championships, Prague, Czech Republic - Darren Ma (NSW); Vice Captains: Janelle Gamble (Qld) and Cynthia Kuiper (NSW)

2010 Asian Championships, Wujin, China - Michael Fogliani (ACT); Vice Captains: Richard Balkin (Vic) and Michelle Chim (NSW)

2011 World Championships, Tampa Bay, USA - Michael Fogliani (ACT); Vice Captain: Janelle Gamble (Qld)

2012 Asian Championships, Busan, South Korea - Claire Hosegood (NSW); Vice Captains: Bryan Buttery (SA) and Georgina Wakim (Vic)

2013 World Championships, Szeged, Hungary - Frank Calcara (NSW) Georgina Wakim (Vic)

2014 Asian Championships, Macau, SAR China - Georgina Wakim (Vic) Marcio Martins (NSW)

2014 Inaugural World Cup, Fuzhou, China Georgina Wakim (Vic) Marcio Martins (NSW)

2015 World Nations Championships, Welland, Canada - Paul Langely (QLD) Melissa O'Brien (VIC)

2016 Asian Championships, Adelaide, Australia - Jarrod Whitwell (VIC) Inga Davis (NT)

2016 World Cup, Wujin, China

2017 Junior/U24 World Nations Championships, Divonne Les-Bains, France - Abbie Ryan (ACT) Carrie Edgar (NSW)

2017 World Nations Championships, Kunming, China - Eliza Campbell (VIC) Bryan Buttery (SA)

2018 World Cup, Chongqing, China

2018 Asian Championships Foshan City, China - Amir Yadegari (VIC) Emily Maon (VIC)

State by State



AUSTRALIAN
DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS
CANBERRA 2019

Australian Capital Territory

State team



ACT are very excited to be playing host to what will be an amazing week of racing at AusChamps 2019, on Canberra's very own Lake Burley Griffin.

Bred in the ice cold winter of the capital and with unmatched camaraderie, the 70-person strong team trains regularly as one unit; Juniors, Premiers and Masters paddling alongside one another.

Building on successes year after year, ACT Fire are gearing up to challenge for the podium across multiple categories, with the heart of every paddler going into putting up their best performance as a crew. After a rigorous selection process and gruelling training season the team are enthusiastic, are red hot and ready to bring it on the National stage.

Ready. Aim. Fire!

Flag bearer



JACKIE GIRVAN

Dragon Boat ACT is proud to have Jackie Girvan as our Flag Bearer for 2019.

Jackie commenced paddling in 2002 and was awarded a Life Membership of the NAVMAT Dragon Boat Club in 2015. Jackie has been a sweep since 2005, is one of the coaches who mentors new and junior paddlers, and is a qualified AusDBF Official. Jackie was part of the Canberra Titans who competed as a joint ACT team at the Penrith AusChamps in 2007-2008. Jackie was a member of the ACT State team from 2005-2011, and coached the ACT Senior C crew in 2011 who won a silver medal.

Jackie is actively engaged with the ACT paddling community, mentoring the school teams, accrediting new sweeps, assisting with Corporate team sessions and regularly volunteering at the annual Dragons Abreast Canberra Corporate regatta. Jackie has also paddled internationally in Penang, China and Russia.

Dragon Boat ACT thanks Jackie for her dedication, commitment and mentorship.

New South Wales

State team



Dragon Boats New South Wales is proud to be sending 290 dragon boaters to this year's AusChamps.

This includes crews in all divisions (Junior, Prem, Senior A, B & C) as well as 4 regional squads. NSW has held onto the Peter Bristow trophy for a number of years and will hope to retain the trophy once again in Canberra.

Western Region Team

The NSW Western Region Team consists of paddlers representing the following clubs: Bathurst Pandragons, Dubbo Outback Dragons, Forbes Lachlan Dragons, Parkes Endeavour Dragons, Orange Colour City Dragons, Orange Pinnacle Dragons, Lithgow Flash Dragons and Wagga Bidgee Dragons.

These clubs are scattered across the central west and Riverina of NSW and the distances travelled is testament to the dedication of the team! Some members have clocked up in excess of 7000 kilometres over the past few months just to get to training sessions!

While we just 'take it in our stride' to travel long distances regularly for training, this season we have also had the drought in our midst. For some paddlers this has meant a few training sessions at the local swimming pool instead of the usual waterway.

Under the professional and motivating guidance of our coaches we have worked hard as a squad and are all looking forward to putting our training to the test at the 2019 AusDBF Championships, where we will represent regional NSW with a great deal of pride.

Southern Regional Team

The NSW Southern Region team brings together paddlers from as far north as Wollongong, as far south as Merimbula and inland to Jindabyne. It involves clubs such as Sudu, Nowra, Nature Coast, Merimbula and Jindabyne. Paddling takes place in picturesque locations that include inland and coastal lakes and rivers. The team travel considerable distances to train together and have built up a strong camaraderie.

Flag bearer



Bob York

The title of flag bearer for NSW has been given in honour and memory of the recently passed NSW paddler Bob York.

Bob was training with the Far North State Team Squad this past February when he suddenly collapsed in the boat without warning. Despite the efforts of emergency services and those around, Bob was unable to be revived.

Libby Woodbry, fellow state team squad member and president of Rainbow Region Club of which Bob was a member, will be carry the NSW flag in Bob's honour.

Queensland

State team

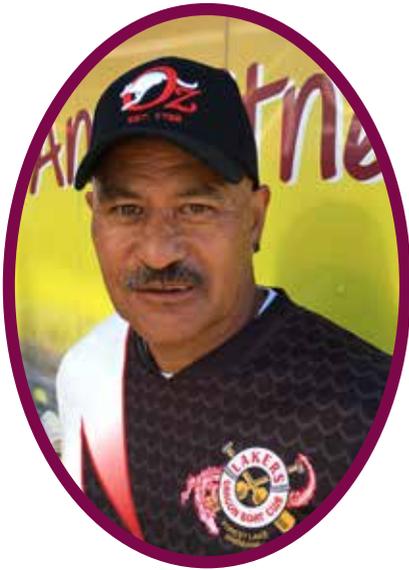


Queensland's 2019 State Representative Squad consists of approximately 200 paddlers from 22 Queensland Clubs from Townsville to Tweed. Paddlers from 13 of these clubs have made the fantastic effort to represent their state in the State vs State competition, even though their club will not be participating at this year's Championships.

We're very proud of the extra ordinary efforts of the paddlers, coach and manager from our Northern Region in the aftermath of the Townsville flood a few months ago, to honour their commitment to our state squad.

Thanks to our coaches, managers and mentor coaches for their commitment to this campaign and to the paddlers for their ongoing commitment to represent their state.

Flag bearer



Pani Martin

Pani Martin has been a member of Dragon Boat Queensland since 2006 when he joined as co-founder of the Manly DBC (QLD), and commenced coaching and becoming the club's first L3 Accredited Steerer.

In 2009 Pani joined the Te Waka Dragon Boat Club as part of their Coaching and Steering team. During 6 years with Te Waka, he competed in 2 Club Crew World Championships (Hong Kong & Italy), and at the NZ National Championships. He also competed in State and National Regattas. Under the guidance and tuition of Anthony Skipper (Skip), Head Coach of Lakers DBC, Pani learned many dragon boat skills, achieving L5 Sweep Accreditation, L1 Coaching Certificate, L1 Officials Certificate and certification as a Sweep Assessor.

In 2015 Pani become Head Coach of The Lakers Dragon Boat Club, where he remains today, and has enjoyed watching and helping the club grow from a social to a competitive Club both State and nationally.

Pani says "This sport has given me the opportunity to travel, make new friends, and to use my experience helping new and established clubs come through the sport". Pani has been the QLD Senior A Coach for the past 2 years and was previously the QLD Senior B Coach.

South Australia

State team



The 2019 State team is truly a representation of the State consisting of paddlers of all age groups, a mix of experience and inexperience, many new faces, coming from numerous metropolitan and some regional clubs. Some of our regional paddlers travel over 400km to attend sessions, which is where our enthusiasm and dedication starts.

Previous campaigns spanning almost 20 years have given rise to continued dedication, success and recognition of State team representation. This will be the first year SA will compete in all age groups so it's a big 'welcome' to our dragonmites, the paddlers of our future. As a 'new look' team, you just have to admire our vibrant coloured new tops, a mix of the old traditional and a new design.

Our team has welcomed the many challenges, paddling all age groups together, back to back training sessions with State and Club teams and the weather. Heading out in 40+ degrees is real dedication and commitment. Together we have worked as a team, are proud of our training achievements, had lots of laughs along our journey and look forward to testing ourselves in Canberra.

As Coaches we wish the paddlers the very best of luck, every success and hope they enjoy the team spirit of State dragon boating and hopeful they can bring home some bling!

Flag bearer



Vi Duong

That Vi Duong always applies himself 100 percent to becoming the best paddler possible is evidenced by his Auroras selection for the past 2 World Championships. He also encourages other SA paddlers to try out for the Auroras.

Vi is currently the Vice-President of DragonBoat SA with joint responsibility for the High Committee Performance Portfolio plus is the SA representative on the National Athletes Pathway.

Vi is a Level 1 coach, a Level 0 Sweep, and Assistant Coach for his club, Black Dragons, who awarded him Best Male paddler in 2016/17 and 2017/18.

He's been a member of the State team from 2015 to 2019; Captain of the State Senior A team in 2018 and is the SA Premier/Senior A Coach for the 2019 State team.

As a GP with expertise in Sports Medicine, Vi provides assistance to injured paddlers and gives advice for injury prevention and management. Vi is an excellent ambassador for the sport.

Tasmania

State team



Although a small team in numbers, the 25 strong Tasmanian team is keen and raring to go at Canberra in 2019.

The State coaching team of Donna Fittock and Sue Sanderson have been preparing the team for the State vs State 500m races with a program of demanding training sessions on the Derwent River in Hobart. Tasmania is entered in Senior A Small Boat Open, Senior B Small Boat Women and Senior A Standard Boat Mixed.

The team has achieved gradual improvement over the years participating in the National Championships and aims to be amongst the medals this year.

Flag bearer



Brendan Breen

The flag bearer for Tasmania this year is Brendan Breen.

Brendan paddles with Derwent Storms in Hobart and has been with this club for six years.

Brendan has made a significant contribution to the sport of dragon boating in Tasmania as a Board member with Dragon Boat Tasmania for the past five years, and is currently in his third year as President.

Brendan's leadership within the Board has led to the recent successful onboarding with RevSport and the hosting of the Masters Games and State Championships events.

There are seven clubs affiliated with Dragon Boat Tasmania, with membership on the rise.

Tasmania is a great place to go dragon boat paddling!

Victoria

State team



Victoria continues to develop as a power in Australian dragon boating. This year is the strongest presence Victoria has had at State competition with crews in every division from Junior U18 to Senior C plus our Regional crew from North East Victoria.

We are represented by 176 paddlers from eleven clubs across Victoria. Our youngest team member is not yet eleven and our Senior C crew has four members over seventy.

Our Premier paddlers are determined to maintain their dominance of their Division and all our paddlers are inspired to emulate them.

Bring it on!

Flag bearer



Ray Olsson

Ray Olsson is carrying the Victorian flag at the 2019 AusChamps. Ollie has represented Warriors Albury Wodonga, Victoria and Australian Auroras. Ollie is well known in the dragon boat community having paddled with several crews in Australia and internationally including China 4 Cities and the recent Nile regatta.

He was a key member of the event teams that delivered the outstanding 2017 AusChamps at Gateway Lakes, Wodonga and 2018 AusChamps at Kawana Waters as well as 2017, 2018 and 2019 Victorian Championships.

When not in a dragon boat, Ollie is often in his workshop inventing something to improve the course at Gateway Lakes.

DBV awarded Ollie and his volunteer team our Volunteer of the Year award in 2017.

Victoria is honoured to have Ollie as their flag bearer.

Western Australia

State team



The DBWA State team consists of members from all WA dragon boat clubs and includes representation from both metropolitan and regional areas. Some of the members travel up to over four hours each way to attend state training. Now that's commitment.

The experiences of regional paddlers at the state level provide exposure of dragon boating to developing and potential regional clubs, especially for junior members.

Our State Team has trained tirelessly this season under the guidance of our state coach, Laura Hughes and are looking forward to success at this year Championships.

Juniors / Youth / Premiers - The Future of Australian Dragon Boating.

Masters - The Heart and Soul of Australian Dragon Boating.

Flag bearer



Mark Kusin

Mark has Life Membership of both Dragon Boating WA and Forza Dragon Boat Club.

He has had a distinguished and decorated career within the WA dragon boating community since 1992. When he joined Forza Italia DBC, he was one of the few non-Italian paddlers of the club.

Representing both his club and state, Mark has attended eight AusChamps, and winning medals of all colours at these events.

He has been a Board Member, filling numerous roles at Forza Dragon Boat club (18 years), Dragon Boating WA (10 years) and WA Dragon Boat Association (6 years). Mark was a member of these boards at the same time, working to reunify the sport in WA after a split in 1997.

Mark has been the Event Coordinator of two State Championships and 19 dragon boat festivals held annually in Bunbury. These festivals, whilst competitive and professional, also promote the benefits of the sport whilst also having fun.

Mark is also on the Board of Community Home Care and Choose Respect Bunbury.

Mark wishes to acknowledge all the people who have helped and supported him over the years, enabling him to pursue his paddling passion.

Dragons Abreast Australia

Flag bearer



Kerrie Griffin

Kerrie Griffin has been a longstanding and valued member of Dragons Abreast Canberra for over 10 years and has contributed to dragon boating, breast cancer research and fundraising support significantly in that time.

Kerrie is a fabulous ambassador for the sport and her teammates value her drive in promoting the benefits of dragon boating, locally, nationally and internationally.

Kerrie's advocacy of people with breast cancer sees her shine in several roles, including as BCNA Consumer representative on the Breast Cancer Treatment Group, SE NSW and ACT, BreastScreen ACT Advisory Group and Cancer Australia Priority Driven Collaborative Research Proposals Committee.

She has been the deserving recipient of DA Canberra's Dragon Spirit award, for inspiring others, the time she spends volunteering and her commitment to training and to the club and the Kashgar Cup, awarded for her extraordinary contribution to the work of Dragons Abreast Canberra.

Kerrie is the very embodiment of the emotional, social and physical benefits dragon boating provides people following a breast cancer diagnosis and Dragons Abreast Australia is very proud to have her as a member and as the flag bearer.

Club team profiles



AUSTRALIAN
DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS
CANBERRA 2019



ACCA

ACCA Dragon Boat Racing Team was founded in 1984 in collaboration with the Australian Chinese Community Association. Since then, the club has grown and evolved and, although no longer affiliated with the Association, has members from a variety of cultural backgrounds and age groups.

Our training location is at Bank St, Pyrmont and we compete in races all over the greater Sydney area. Races are held each month during the on-season between August to April with the premier event, the Australian Dragon Boat Championships,.

As a club, we encourage our members to go above and beyond their full potential. This is evident by the high number of State and National representatives within the team each season. As a club, ACCA finished the 2014-15 season as the #3 club in the Australia and #1 club in NSW – a huge achievement and a result of hardwork, support and dedication from each and every team member.

We pride ourselves on not being a club of individuals but a family – one that supports, motivates and drives each other to achieve goals we never expected to be possible. We aim for more than mediocre, we aim for exceptional.

When you join ACCA you belong from the first moment your paddle hits the water and we also have a hell of a lot of FUN too!



Adelaide Combined DBC

Adelaide Combined Dragon Boat Club – ACDC is Adelaide's newest Club established in September 2016.

Our club consists of ACDC Dragonfire based in West Lakes, ACDC Desert Dragons based in Padthaway (400km SE of Adelaide) and our newest addition, Coorong Dragons based in Goolwa (100kms from Adelaide).

We are a diverse, multi-cultural Club with over seventy members throughout the State. Our members range in age from 12 to over seventy. We are a very friendly, vibrant club with an amazing team spirit which has resulted in lots of family participation.

2019 has seen us advance into competitive rankings as our commitment to train and our program began to show encouraging results.

Dedication also resulted in having 22 members competing for SA State Crews, 5 members achieving Auroras selection (3 Juniors & 1 Senior B from Adelaide and 1 Senior B from Goolwa). ACDC can also be credited with the first Junior crew in South Australia.

This is the first time that our Club has competed at an Australian Championships and I know from the experience our members will enjoy that they will come away with increased enthusiasm.



Adelaide Sea Dragons

Adelaide Sea Dragons started in 1986 with the amalgamation of three corporate teams combining with the original Adelaide Dragon boat racers and has resulted in a very successful and strong club.

We are a proud and inclusive club aspiring to local, national and international success in a friendly and enjoyable environment.

Over the years we have proved ourselves being successful at local, national and international events.

Our members come from 3 regions of south Australia, Adelaide, Ceduna and Streaky Bay.

Our credo is "train hard – win easy"

Our club philosophy is unity, harmony and competitiveness

We always strive to win, and train hard to achieve that, but underlying our goal is a culture which places high emphasis on fun whilst ensuring that whatever we undertake is enjoyable.



Adelaide Water Warriors

Proudly South Australian

Water Warriors is small in numbers but big in heart and passion, we train hard on and off the water and appreciate that dragon boating is the ultimate team sport.

It is the mix of talent that makes our team unique, we have strong leaders, loyal followers, clever tacticians and talented technicians to taste victory. We are looking forward to competing at AusChamps and seeing what our hard work may bring.



Ballina DB Racing Club

Ballina Dragons probably have the best waterways and climate for training year round. Our canals are protected and perfect for those windy days, and lead us out onto our beautiful Richmond river for the better days. We often share the water with dolphins, and are watched over by pelicans.

Here we are again at the AusChamps for the 3rd year in a row. As a club that is only just over 4 years old, we love that we have new members put their hands up every year to join in this challenge. Our passion and competitiveness continues to encourage us to try these great events. Last year we improved on the previous years placing, let's hope we can do it again this year. I also have a feeling we will be back next year



Bei Loon

Bei Loon paddles out of Bayview on Sydney's Northern Beaches on beautiful Pittwater.

We have some 100 members, including 30 Breast Cancer Survivors known as the Pittwater Pinks.

Bei Loon is a blend of the highly competitive and the more social paddlers, where the emphasis is on achieving all you can against your personal goals.

Whilst we strive to maintain our outstanding competitive record (2 crews qualified for CCWC Hungary), we wish to balance that with the desire to provide an enjoyable, friendly team environment. Visiting paddlers are welcome at any time.

We train hard, race hard, and have fun doing it.

Our own annual 8km Challenge Race Regatta is a season highlight, and is now capable of accommodating 20 crews.

The Bei Loon Social calendar is also a busy one, providing lots of enjoyment throughout the year.

Our Canberra team is looking forward to competing in the Masters events and are hoping for success once again.



Black Dragons

Black Dragons was formed in 2003 by a number of long term paddlers who used their experience to take dragon boating to the next level.

Each year, the club continues to grow from strength to strength.

The club works under the creed of 'Play hard, Paddle harder,' with an emphasis on training hard but keeping it interesting and above all, fun and enjoyable.

In addition to solid training and competitive racing, Black Dragons hosts many social events throughout the year.

With dragon boat racing being one of the fastest growing water sports in the world, Black Dragons provides a fantastic opportunity to compete at the highest level against national and international teams and the opportunity to travel to world staged events.



Brave Hearts DBC

Brave Hearts Dragon Boat Club is a team of dedicated paddlers who train together for fitness, teamwork and competitive racing; to have fun and make friends! The Club is located at Gateway Lakes, Albury/ Wodonga

We compete at local, state and national regattas. We have qualified coaches who run regular training sessions with an emphasis on working as a team, whilst supporting each individual to strive to their own personal best.

Our team's greatest achievement was competing in the World Club Crew at Adelaide in 2016. Winner of Mixed 10s 200m minor final and fifth in Mixed 10s 500m.

In 2017 we had our first team member accepted into the Aurora's Senior C team and this year seven of our members will travel to Thailand to compete. Proud moments for Brave Hearts.

Brave Hearts Dragon Boat Club's current membership ranges from 10 to 80 years. We are passionate about promoting junior development in our sport and can boast having the first full junior crew in Victoria.

The club formed in 2006 after a group of breast cancer survivors built their own dragon boat at the Riverina Institute of TAFE, Albury Campus with the help of volunteers and teachers. The boat hangs in our shed and is the pride of our fleet. It is mainly used for ceremonial purposes.



BlueFins Dragon Boat Club

Formed in 2002, BlueFins is a social and competitive dragon boat team based in Sydney. We train at Blackwattle Bay on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings throughout the year.

BlueFins achieved an outstanding record in corporate racing events and won many titles in the early years. The club became an affiliate of Dragon Boats NSW and have been competing in DBNSW sports racing events.

BlueFins competes in Premier Opens (Mens), Womens (Open), Premier Mixed categories. We always welcome new members, as long as they love being on the water.

In AusChamps 2019, BlueFins will participate in the 200m - Premier - Small Boat - Mixed and Open races.



Brisbane River Dragons

Established in 1998, Brisbane River Dragons (BRD) is the oldest dragon boat club in Brisbane. The blue, yellow and red of the BRD 'eyes' is a distinctive way to recognise BRD on the water. BRD trains and competes throughout the year, with training sessions tailored for all levels of paddlers, and offers a range of tailored packages for corporate events.

BRD is not only a dragon boat club, but also offers outrigger canoe as a discipline with paddlers competing at local, national and international events.

A significant association for BRD, is with the Dragons Abreast Brisbane team, Missabittatitti. This team is made up of breast cancer survivors who demonstrates that people can live full, active, and satisfying lives after a diagnosis of breast cancer.

BRD has performed strongly at Club Crew World Championship events winning 7 Gold, 6 Silver and 4 Bronze medals in Adelaide 2016; 4 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze medals in Italy 2014; and 3 Gold, 6 Silver and 1 Bronze medal in Hong Kong 2012. BRD has also supplied a number of members to Australian Auroras teams at the World Championships held in Hungary in 2013, Welland in 2015, and China in 2017. The 2019 Auroras teams competing in Pattaya, Thailand, include BRD participation as coaches, sweeps, drummers, managers, and of course, paddlers. We have representatives involved at all categories from Junior to Senior C.

Through the waters to friendship.



Burleigh Fire Dragons

Burleigh Fire Dragons is based at Burleigh Heads on the Gold Coast and trains on the vast waterways of Burleigh Waters and Varsity Lakes.

Our small team of dedicated paddlers has travelled extensively in recent years competing in IDBF (CCWC), AusDBF and Queensland State championships, as well as local regattas, Pan Pacific Masters Games and corporate events. In 2018 we competed at the 11th IDBF CWC in Hungary where we finished 2nd in the Senior C women's 200m events and 4th in the 500m events in a hot field of club teams from across USA, Canada, Europe and Australia.

As in previous years, our 2019 AusChamps squad will bring with it the same tenacity, determination, and camaraderie on which its reputation as a 'champion team' has been built. However, AusChamps is not just about competing and when the racing is done, we look forward to catching with old friends and new and enjoying all that Canberra has to offer.

See you on the water!



Canberra Girls Grammar

The Canberra Girls Grammar School Dragon Boating Club is made up of students from Year 8 to Year 12. The students are a mix of experienced paddlers and sweeps, some of whom are in their third season, and new paddlers, who are just getting started in the sport. We combine paddling technique, race practice, fitness and team bonding into our training sessions to foster a strong sense of community, while also improving our dragon boating skills.

The club is coached predominantly by previous student paddlers and sweeps at our school and is supported by our teachers and ACT head coach, Sally Bromley.

This season we have been lucky enough to compete at Chinese New Year in Darling Harbour, the Flowing Festival in Jindabyne, ACT Championships and various local regattas. We are very fortunate and excited that AusChamps this year will be held in Canberra (our own backyard).



Canberra Grammar

We are a junior club of Canberra Grammar School based in Canberra. We have 20 plus years of paddling history locally. We train three times a week in the famous Lake Burley Griffin.

In many AusChamps that we participated in, we won many accolades including the Trevor Huggard award for the fastest Open crew and the Alexandrou award for the fastest Mixed crew.

We were one of the few junior clubs in Australia who had been selected to compete at an international level including the CCWC in Adelaide in 2016.



Canberra Griffins DBC

The Canberra Griffins Dragon Boat Club has been paddling Canberra's Lake Burley Griffin since 1994. Since those early beginnings the team has travelled extensively competing at interstate and local regattas.

The Griffins pride themselves on being a competitive team whilst on the water but enjoy a social element to foster team spirit and unity. The club also prides itself on encouraging all age groups to get involved and paddle. We believe in being competitive without sacrificing our basic philosophy: the Griffins follow a path of inclusiveness, mutual respect, encouragement, support and good humoured participation.

Everyone gets to paddle at every regatta; it's not an option!

We also love to share a coffee, cake or meal after paddling, and we invite non-paddling family members to join in with this bit!



Cockburn DBC

Racing as the 'Blades', the Cockburn (pronounced 'KOH-burn') Dragon Boat Club has a history that spans back to 1985.

Located at the East Fremantle Yacht Club on the banks of Perth's beautiful Swan River, the club prides itself on having competed at almost every Australian Championships. Last year we were the sole representatives from Western Australia.

As a small club from the west we are also extremely proud of our four Auroras who represented Australia at the World Championships in Kunming, China in October.

We come to the 2019 AusChamps looking forward to competing against the best in Australia, catching up with friends from other states and, perhaps, taking a medal home!



Currumbin Dragons

Born in 1999, Currumbin Dragons had the great thrill of racing in their very first year at Penrith in the 2000 National Dragon Boat Championships. They tested the waters before the 10,600 Olympic athletes converged on Sydney and before hundreds of on-water athletes plied the waters of the newly built facility in their kayaking and rowing events. Those Currumbin paddlers felt honoured just to be on the same water as the world's best paddlers and rowers were going to be.

And now this year, Currumbin's 20th, our new members look towards the 2019 AusDBF Dragon Boat Championships to be held in the Canberra. Only two members remain of the CDPC contingent when the club first raced in Canberra in 2005. Currumbin will be proudly represented by over 30 women and 10 men this year.

They all know they will be facing the best Australian teams - many they've met before and a few who will be new to them. All crews will be in Canberra to perform at their very best. Currumbin paddlers know what hard work on the water is like, and on the other hand, they know how to have a good time both on and off the water.

We wish all the crews, teams, and clubs a great event, great racing and great competition.



CYL Dragon Boat Club

CYL is a subgroup of the Chinese Youth League of Australia, which has a history of 79 years celebrating Chinese culture including Wu Shu martial arts, lion and dragon dance, Chinese cultural dancing, Chinese Cantonese opera, social welfare, Tai Chi and table tennis.

Chinese Youth League is located in Sydney's Chinatown and our dragon boat training sites are located in Pyrmont and Chinatown.

Facebook Page: Chinese Youth League Dragon Boat (CYL Dragon Boat)

Website: <http://dragonboat.cyl.org.au/>



CYSM Sea Dragons

The CYSM Sea Dragons is a Melbourne-based dragon boating team, based at the Docklands. We are a friendly and inclusive team that values diversity.

The club welcomes people from all backgrounds who are interested in learning more about Chinese culture, keeping fit and teamwork.

The club first began competing at the Melbourne Dragon Boat Festival in 1985 and has evolved to a competitive unit that trains hard, whilst maintaining a fun and social atmosphere. The club regularly competes at local regattas and at State and Australian Championships. At AusChamps 2018, the club achieved personal bests in all the categories that it entered, with medals for the Open 10s crew over 200m (silver), 500m (bronze) and 2000m sweeps race (bronze).

The CYSM Sea Dragons are a sporting team of the Chinese Youth Society of Melbourne, a non-profit youth society which has promoted and celebrated all aspects of Chinese culture through participation in traditional activities since 1966. Through dragon boat, lion dancing, dragon dancing, folk dancing and soccer, they provide a centre that fosters friendship, teamwork and a sense of community.



Danebank

We started dragon boating in 2010 with a crew of 22 girls who competed at the Chinese New Year's Dragon Boating Festival in Darling Harbour. We had a great time there and literally got the bug for dragon boating. In 2011, our improvement at Chinese New Year impressed DNBSW and we were invited to attend AusChamps in Canberra. The highlight of this trip was winning a bronze medal in the 200m in last event of the championships. Since then we've had some amazing highs, travelled Australia for national and overseas in international championships (Hong Kong, Italy and New Zealand) making 'forever' memories and friends. Our paddlers range in ages from 12 to 18 years.

Danebank isn't just about the wins. We're about the journey. The girls have formed great friendships across the age groups, shared intense training sessions, given support to each other and enjoyed one another's company. We've loved the connection with Sandy Point Dragon Boat Club whom we now paddle alongside their boys in the Mixed division.

We've also enjoyed fantastic support from our parents, the Principal, Mrs Davis and staff as we have seen our girls 'shine like stars'.



Derwent Storms DBC

With a focus on a tough training regimen and a strong commitment from paddlers, Derwent Storms is going from strength to strength. The club currently has four Aurora paddlers in the World Championships Squad to compete in Thailand 2019, further enhancing its reputation as Tasmania's leading sporting dragon boat club.

Based on Hobart's sheltered Lindisfarne Bay, Storms is regularly attracting new members and is rapidly outgrowing its small fleet of boats and the car park at its paddling headquarters!

Competition paddling is limited in Tasmania but the club ensures its members are challenged with five paddling sessions a week. Derwent Storms paddlers regularly attend the AusChamps, Masters and Pan Pacs and travel even further afield for regatta and event experience.

On the water, Derwent Storms constantly builds on technique, fitness and emerging strengths but is also keen to foster other skills among its membership. The club is achieving a reputation for organising top-level events and promoting dragon boat paddling in Tasmania, particularly with the Masters Games and the 4 Bridges and the Huon Challenge long distance events. Last year's event was fully subscribed without the need for advertising and there is a wait-list for the next one.



Diamond Phoenix

Diamond Phoenix Dragon Boat Club is Canberra's only all-female dragon boat club, with a diverse range of women from teenagers to over 70s.

The focus of the team is empowerment and friendship, while continually striving for improvement. Members also enjoy social events and other fitness activities together. Our philosophy is: Encouraging women in sport: happier, healthier, fitter!

Our focus on inclusivity means we have members that are social and competitive, who enjoy competing in regional competitions and are also selected for world championship teams. Our members have been selected to compete in the Aurora Junior and Masters Teams and competed in the Dragonboating World Championships winning gold, silver and bronze medals in a number of categories..

Our greatest Team achievement is the solidarity and camaraderie shared by the women in our Club. We come together three times a week and put aside all the pressures and stresses of our busy lives to connect with other women in a positive team atmosphere.



Different Strokes

Different Strokes is an LGBTQI Sydney-based dragon boat club. Our members, ranging in age from 18 to 73, consist of individuals who identify themselves as gay or lesbian, as well as their friends, family and supporters. The Club, formed in 2008 with a modest 10 members, has grown to over 100 at the end of the 2018/19 season making it one of the biggest NSW clubs. The support we have received from other clubs who helped us on our journey and who encouraged us when so much seemed so daunting was amazing and much appreciated.

After years of continuous improvement, we are more than just a social club, reaching our first finals in 2010/11. Our race crews continued to raise the bar at regattas, with wins and placings in finals and State Championships, as well as member representation at both the state and Australian level. In 2018 we travelled to Szeged, Hungary to compete in the 11th IDBF Club Crew World Championships.

As a club, we are keen to contribute to the sport while growing our reputation within the gay and lesbian community. Our regular appearances in the Mardi Gras parade have provided the opportunity to share our love of the sport with the rest of the world through the live telecast.

Our club's strongest asset is our team spirit. It is that very diversity of dragon boating experience that brings us together and keeps us coming back for more.



Dragon Flyers

Dragon Flyers are excited to welcome our competitors to race on our beautiful Lake Burley Griffin! We hope you are looking forward to some high intensity racing and taking home stories of grit and determination.

This is our eleventh AusChamps campaign and we are combining our experience and a season of hard training to be worthy competitors. Our paddlers who have a history of competing on the world stage through Auroras and Club Crew World Championships know what it takes to win Gold!

We are a Masters club whose focus is team effort - in our training and in our racing. This year we are competing in small boats in the Senior B and C categories and aiming to qualify for the Club Crew World Championships in France next year.

Go Flyers!!



Dragon Masters

Fun, fitness, friendship, and competition. This is what Dragon Masters hold dear.

Dragon Masters is a Victorian, Melbourne Metro club, training all year round at Docklands since 2006. We enjoy the great facilities at Docklands and paddling around the harbour, as well as the Yarra river runs that are an frequent part of our training.

Dragon Masters is primarily a Masters team (over 40), which participates in most Victorian Regattas as well as competing in national and international events, and several of our members have been selected to represent Australia at the World Championships. We love the team element, the increased fitness the sport brings, as well as the social interaction, whether it be morning tea after Saturday training, monthly pub meals, the occasional training weekend away and the camaraderie and fun when we travel for competitions. We paddle for fun and race to win!

We have regular Come and Try Days which are announced on our Facebook page (Dragon Masters Dragon Boat Club) and our website. (<https://www.dragonmasters.com.au>)

Paddles up!



Dragons Abreast Brisbane

Dragons Abreast Brisbane is a member group of Dragons Abreast Australia.

We are known as Missabittatitti, or MBT for short. We are fortunate to be members of Brisbane River Dragons, one of Australia's largest dragon boat and outrigger clubs.

Paddling all year round on the picturesque Brisbane River near the Gateway Bridge, we often find ourselves amongst cruise ships, tug boats, river ferries, yachts and other small craft. Missabittatitti has a total membership of 80 Breast Cancer Survivors and 25 Supporters.

We paddle to show there is life after a breast cancer diagnosis, and to honour those who have passed. We paddle with those who can, as well as those who cannot.

We are thrilled to be participating at the 2019 AusDBF championships in the Breast Cancer Survivor category, with fellow survivors from around the country.



Dragons Abreast Canberra

Welcome.

Dragons Abreast Canberra's name is Goanna, after our founder, the late Anna Wellings-Booth OAM.

We are the second oldest Dragons Abreast Australia (DAA) club and the second biggest. We have 66 members – including some dual members and supporters. This year we turn 20! To celebrate we bought a new pink Champion 20 Dragon boat for the DBACT fleet, using donations to our club from the ACT community.

We have two other special training boats – Goanna is our 20 seater ceremonial boat and Gecko is our trusty windy weather/ice breaker robust 10s. We train three times a week.

We have fun on and off the water. We are paddling the DAA Ord River marathon in June, and practicing by paddling the length and breadth of our beautiful Lake Burley Griffin.

If you need anything while you are here in our city ask us.

canberra@dragonsabreast.com.au



Dragons Abreast Sydney

Dragons Abreast Sydney is a member of Dragons Abreast Australia. Established in 2003 we continue to grow and maintain a club which allows everyone to participate at their own levels.

We always welcome new members both survivors and supporters, men and women.

Supporting each other is a vital part of our teamwork. Social activities, team bonding weekends and information sessions are based around being active and well.

Our inclusive club provides opportunities for those who want to paddle socially plus paddlers striving for and achieving selection in State and National teams. Our successes are many at National/International events.

Interested in joining? Contact sydney@dragonsabreast.com.au



DSA

DSA has recently celebrated its 35th anniversary. A growth in membership (70+) has inspired the club to reach out to be as competitive as possible. An emphasis on fitness levels and a goal to improve paddle technique has seen strong support and commitment from all members.

An introduction of a land session prior to training on the water has tested fitness on all levels. A mentoring system for all new members has improved communication with greater clarity of Club expectations especially for those new to dragon boating. We have had an increase in interest and participation for our OC1 and OC6 sessions run every Saturday. This year we participated in the Australia Day Cupcake Cup for the first time in an OC6 and placed 2nd.

DSA has had a growing Corporate training program for Lunar New Year and Dragons Abreast festivals. This year we had some fantastic results on the water at the Lunar New Year Festival, including, gold and silver. DSA Mixed Senior B Team took out top position in the Regatta series this year and won Gold at the State Championships and Silver at the Lunar New Year Regatta.

One of our members competed in the Australian Auroras crew for the 13th Asian Championship in China in 2018 and came back with a total of 13 medals from 18 races.



FFB Dragon Boat Club

FFB Dragon Boat Club is committed to welcoming Sydney paddlers of all ages and abilities. Whether you are looking to spend time on a boat around our glorious harbour, take part in races across NSW or just get fit, FFB has it covered. We take pride in our team, our competitive spirit and our ability to have fun.

With more than 20 years of racing each season is full of excitement with our diverse, inclusive group of people meeting on one of the world's iconic waterways.

We paddle in Pyrmont, next to the fish markets in central Sydney and we welcome newcomers from every background.

So from the coaches, teams and friends of FFB come and join us in the friendships, the laughter and the challenge.



Flamin' Dragons

NSW Dragon Boat Club of the Year 2019

Flamin' Dragons call Port Macquarie on the NSW North Coast home.

Founded in 2004, Flamin' Dragons has become the third largest club in NSW with over 100 members. Both on-water and on-land activities keep our members busy. After constructing our new home and storage facility at the Port Macquarie Marina, this year we branched out and purchased OC1's for our members to train in single craft.

Recent local recruitment has seen many new members join our club, and are now proud having 20 strong male members! Each year we host a two day regatta on the June long weekend, this year moving venue up river and across the highway to Wauchope. Always a fun event, clubs from far western NSW, the NSW South Coast, Newcastle and Sydney spend time competing for line honours in our perfect part of the world.

Our club commitment to dragon boating, volunteering and the provision of officials for NSW regattas saw us awarded NSW Dragon Boat Club of the Year this year. We are very proud of our achievements and very fortunate to have a great group of members who not only care for each other and their community but also paddle well!

Come out of your shell and visit us in Port Macquarie when next you need a break from the day-to-day! Paddles up in Port!



Flying Dragons

Flying Dragons is a dragon boat racing club in New South Wales founded in 2010.

Our members train primarily at Bank St, Pyrmont in Sydney and compete at state, national and international dragon boat events and will be competing at this year's AusChamps in the small boat categories.

We are currently a small, multicultural club who cater for both social and competitive paddlers and are looking to grow bigger and better.

We welcome friends of all ages, backgrounds, and fitness levels to paddle with us in the future.



Forza DBC

Forza is an Italian word meaning "force, strength and power".

Forza Dragon Boat Club (originally Forza Italia Dragon Boat Club) has been an important part of the Bunbury dragon boat scene since the club was formed in 1991 by members of the South West Italian Club.

Forza was originally comprised of family and friends of the Italian community in Bunbury. Forza is now a diversely, multicultural team with paddlers from 15 years to 70 years. We have members from a diverse range of employment and educational backgrounds who make a substantial contribution to the Club.

The Club has performed with distinction at local, national and international levels. Forza is WA's most successful regional club with many outstanding performances over the past 28 seasons.

Forza's motto is "Fun, Fitness and Friendship".



Gold Coast DBC

It began in 1993 when the Gold Coast Dragons were known as GCCC - Gold Coast Chinese Club. 1996 saw the incorporation of Gold Coast Dragon Boat Club which it has been known as ever since.

We are a club that swept the board for many years at national level, competing at World Title level in Philadelphia and medalling in Nottingham and viewed as one of the most competitive dragon boat clubs in Australia from 1996 – 2003.

We were the club that had the vision to set up a State Sporting Body and founded QDBF in 2000, now Dragon Boat Qld.

We were the club in 2006 that had the vision to work with a major property developer DELFIN to build a \$2.5 million Sports House, which so many other sports groups and community groups now benefit from. We were the founding member!!

We are the club that continues to host the PANPACs masters Games since 1998, held on stunning Lake Orr which is our regular training ground.

Gold Coast Dragons continues to provide a first class training facility to its members, as well as qualified and experienced coaches and paddlers. We continue to provide a positive, friendly and inclusive environment for our paddlers, and support their goals to compete at an elite level, or attend for fitness and friendship.



Great Lakes Pearl Dragons

This season has been very busy for the Great Lakes Pearl Dragons as it is their 10th anniversary season. The club has 60 active members, 8 who are original members. As part of the club's celebrations we travelled to Wellington in March to compete in the Wellington Dragon Boat Festival.

Amongst the paddlers were three founding members - Kathy Dayment, Allan and Kathy Peter. The club had their first overseas paddling trip to Wellington in 2012 and it is because of those special memories the club decided to return in 2019 for their anniversary celebrations. The team was thrilled when it won gold in the Masters Mixed Open.

Great Lakes Pearl Dragons are from the beautiful Great Lakes region which is part of the Barrington Coast in NSW.

The Club trains four times a week and the paddlers are regularly within a boats length of playful dolphins, view the breathtaking sunrises, feel the warmth of the sun, the touch of the breeze and are occasionally refreshed by an odd drop of rain, all this while enjoying the healthy, social, sport of dragon boating.

Some of us like the competitive nature of the racing, others like the exercise and being part of a team. We paddle hard, stay strong and support one and other in all our endeavours.



Ice Dragons

The Canberra Ice Dragons Dragon Boat Club was formed in 2003, and was founded on the success of a social dragon boat team. From there the club grew to become one of Australia's premier clubs and was the Australian Champions in 2009, 2011 and 2014. Today the club remains one of the most competitive clubs in the Australian Capital Territory.

The club has competed successfully locally and internationally debuting on the international stage at the World Club Crew Dragon Boat Championships in Hong Kong in 2012. Each season the club has representatives within the ranks of the Australian Dragon Boat Team, the Auroras, and the Australian Capital Territory Fire. In 2009 the club broke the Guinness World Record for the longest distance paddled in a dragon boat over a 24-hour period. In addition to competing in regattas in Canberra, the club regularly competes in major regattas in regional New South Wales.

The Canberra Ice Dragons Dragon Boat Club is a diverse club which welcomes all paddlers to the sport whether they be new or experienced, male or female, and from any age group. Regardless of what your reason is for joining the club, be it friendships, fitness or your drive to compete, there is something to suit everyone within the Canberra Ice Dragons Dragon Boat Club.



Komodo Paddle Club

Once upon a time, a Blue and White horde emerged from the mists of Lake Burley Griffin and descended on the 2011 AusDBF AusChamps in Canberra.

While the Komodo journeys are many and the tales tall, our grass roots beginnings in borrowed Lifeline race tops are never forgotten. In that year we witnessed the best teams in the country and dreamed that one-day, we too could join them.

Fast-forward nine years and Komodo will enter stage on Day 1 with the same respectful AusChamps goal we've had every year: one podium finish over any distance in any category. Komodo welcomes all teams to the 2019 AusChamps.

We hope you have an incredible regatta and Easter weekend in Canberra.



Lake Jindabyne DBC

The Lake Jindabyne Snow Dragons are based at Lake Jindabyne in the NSW Snowy Mountains with a Club membership of about 30. The photo was taken at a recent carnival in Canberra.

Lake Jindabyne is at an altitude of over 900 metres which makes us the highest dragon boat club in Australia. This also means that our season is very short, usually from October or November at the earliest to about April or May when the cold weather and snow falls stop us paddling. While we have a short season we do get the privilege of paddling on recycled snow on a beautiful lake that is about half the size of Sydney Harbour.

We hold the Flowing Festival, our Dragon Boat regatta, every second year over two days. Our last Flowing Festival was on the 16 and 17 February this year. It was very popular with teams travelling from the North Coast, the Central West, South Coast and Canberra plus local community teams and school teams. Over the years we have enjoyed tremendous support from our local community.

For any paddlers visiting Jindabyne you are welcome to visit and join in on our training days, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Details can be found on our web page at www.floatingfestival.com.au

Happy paddling.



Manly DBC

The Manly Dragon Boat Club (MDBC) was created in 2006 and since then we have grown to around 120 members. Manly is located on Moreton Bay in Brisbane, Queensland. Brisbane enjoys a sub-tropical climate with conditions favourable to dragon boating all year round.

The Manly Dragons mantra is to "Believe and Achieve" and this is what we always try to do. Since our inception we have been fortunate enough to taste success at all levels. Since 2012 we have won gold medals and placed many times in every national and international competition that we've entered. This includes gold medal placings at the last four Club Crew World Championships, in Hong Kong, Italy, Australia and Hungary.

We look forward to returning to Canberra to compete again in the Australian Championships. Our last competition there in 2011 we were able to achieve Gold Medals in Senior A Women for both 200 and 500 metres as well as third in the Senior A mixed metre. Even though we were a small club there were sufficient members to compete in the Senior B category achieving Silver in Womens 200m and Bronze in the 500m Mixed. This year we will have members in all categories from Premier to Senior C as well as some keen Juniors who will be competing with the Queensland team.

The Manly Dragons wish all clubs the best of luck and see you on the water.



Marist Dragons

Although the club inherits its name from the Marist Sister's College where it originated as a school based sport, today it stands separately as a community club, accessible to anyone. The club trains on the protected water of the Lane Cove River and is an ideal location, with training able to continue well into the cooler months and at night.

The club caters for a wide range of ages from 12 years to 60+, and all fitness levels, from junior paddlers who are generally high school students, through to senior paddlers, and adults who are trying to maintain or regain a healthy lifestyle at a later stage of life. In fact, fitness is the reason many of our paddlers have joined, in some cases replacing gym memberships with the opportunity to gain fitness on the water.

The club trains 3 times a week, Saturday mornings and Monday and Thursday evenings. The club also organises social and fund raising events at other times throughout the year and participates in all Sydney based regattas.

Membership has been growing each year and the club currently has nearly 60 registered members. In past years, the club was more than half junior women, but this year that has changed and the club has a growing band of junior men, senior women and senior men, and it has set itself the target of being able to race in all of these divisions.



Maroochy Sea Serpents

Maroochy Sea Serpents are a social and competitive dragon boat and outrigger club located in Queensland, Australia. We were formed in 2015 in Maroochydore, followed in 2016 with an opening of a satellite club in Brisbane. Our achievements to date include strong results in local, state, national, and international regattas.

We are a growing club and are continually improving. We welcome new paddlers of any age, gender and ability.



Melbourne Flames

Melbourne Flames Dragon Boat Club, based in Docklands, has continued to evolve and grow since its humble beginnings in 2005.

We are proud to say that some of our club's founding members are still with us, contributing to our club and sport in every level. We have over 100 members this season from all walks of life and background, aged from mid-teens to late 60s.

With the guidance of our Head Coach, Serghei Cucsă, we are currently planning for our next overseas competition - to France! Our club has been working hard this season with a focus on qualifying and preparing for the 2020 CCWC in France (we have even appointed a Frenchman as our Vice President this season!).

This year we are excited to compete against Australia's best, catch up with old friends and to make new friends along the way. If you are ever in Melbourne, join us for a paddle!

We always welcome new members to our Flames family with open paddles!

www.melbourneflames.com.au



Merimbula Water Dragons

Merimbula Water Dragons was officially formed in 2016 following the amalgamation of two clubs, Sapphire Water Dragons and Zen, both operating out of Merimbula. The result has seen a club which caters for all levels of dragon boating.

Despite its remote location and small size the club prides itself on having produced six Auroras, all of whom have returned with medals. The club's latest Aurora is Gillian McCallum who will be representing Australia in the 2019 World Championships at Pattaya, Thailand.

The club has fed paddlers into the NSW Southern Region state team as well a regular competitors at regattas, the Pan Pacific Masters and Masters Games.

In March Pat Helmore was named NSW Dragon Boating Individual of the Year for her work as NSW Southern Region's sweep co-ordinator, the driving force behind the Mallacoota Marathon for the past eight years and the Southern Region team.

The club is fortunate to have Chris Cheung as a coach. Chris coached the Senior B Auroras women's team and provides inspirational training sessions. The attitude of the club is summed up by new Aurora and current president Gillian.

"You know how people say it takes a village to raise a child, I think it takes a team to make an Aurora."

Merimbula Water Dragons can be contacted online, on Facebook



Mt Warning DBC

The Mt Warning Dragons are a small club located near our namesake Mt Warning in the picturesque Tweed Valley.

Our club was founded in 2007 and since then we have slowly been growing our membership. We host both sporting and Dragons Abreast crews who have paddled nationally and internationally. Our club's focus is on good sportsmanship and determination and our motto is 'from strength to strength.'

The Club has performed beyond expectation, attending local, state, national and international regattas since 2010, and medalling in many of the categories entered. Paddlers have joined with other clubs to compete locally and overseas with the same outstanding results. The pinnacle of achievement for Mt Warning Dragons was to attend the 2014 CCWC in Italy, bringing home gold, silver, bronze and a 5th place in the four categories entered.

Dragons Abreast Mt Warning have participated as a full crew or joined with Dragons Abreast Gold Coast to achieve amazing results at local, state, national and international events in Canada and the United States. In 2016 a dream came true for the survivor members of DAMW by achieving gold medals in both entered categories at the CCWC in Adelaide. They also competed in a joint team at the IBCPC 2018 in Florence, Italy.



Naga Spirit DBC

NAGA Spirit was originally formed as the UNSW Malaysian Students' Organisation Dragon Boat Team (MSODB) in 1992. The initial program sought to foster friendships with newly arrived international students and help them adjust to life in Australia.

Naga Spirit today is very diverse club catering to all cultures and age groups and prides itself on the strong bond we hold both on and off the water. The club has been in numerous finals at regattas and has produced members who have represented in the NSW state squad as well as the Australian National squad).

We have been paddling for over 20 years and with an ever-evolving team our motto: "For Each Other" continues to bind us together with a strong sense of spirit and determination. We are dedicated to providing a fun yet challenging environment where paddlers come together and are involved in the unique sport of dragon boating.

Fast Facts

Club/state team name:

Naga Spirit Dragon Boat Team

Home city and state: Sydney NSW

Racing strip colours: Red and Yellow

Name meaning: 'NAGA' means

'Dragon' in Malay, as a dedication to our roots.

The season established: 1992

Website: www.nagaspirit.com.au

Email address: naga.spirit@gmail.com



Nambucca River Dragons

Nambucca River Dragons was formed in 2011 by a small group of interested people from the surrounding Nambucca Valley.

As a club, we have grown slowly and in recent years have proven ourselves competitive on our regatta circuit. We are a small club and we are really pleased to be attending AusChamps for the first time!

At the start of this season, Armidale Dam Dragons became a satellite club of Nambucca River Dragons and with the merging of the two clubs we were given the nickname, Dambucca Dragons. As a result of the merger we have had success at local regattas.

We are now building on this success and aiming towards AusChamps in our home state next year with a full team of Nambucca River Dragons.



Nature Coast DBC

Nature Coast Dragon Boat Club is based in Moruya, a coastal town in NSW about 300km south of Sydney. The club has a well-appointed clubhouse on the shores of the beautiful Moruya River and trains three times a week on the river.

The club celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2016.

Club members are keen paddlers and take part in regattas in NSW and the ACT. They have attended the World Masters Games, Australian Masters Games, PanPacs Games and have also taken part in long distance events such as the Huon Challenge, Mallcootta Marathon and the Murray Marathon. Some have also paddled overseas in China and Venice.

Visitors to the NSW South Coast are welcome to come join us for a paddle.



NAVMAT

NAVMAT Dragonboat Racing Club has been introducing people to this sport for over 24 years. The Club has a fun-filled and supportive vibe that promotes enjoyment, motivates us to challenge ourselves and encourages mutual support.

NAVMAT began about 27 years ago when members of the Naval Material Social Club decided to create a team to train and compete in the sport. NAVMAT first competed in March 1993 on Lake Burley Griffin. There were 103 teams in various racing categories involved in the competition. For many years now we have been a club for anybody from any walk of life!

NAVMAT Dragonboat Racing Club has grown with the sport with the Club registering teams to compete in local, national and international competitions. We have currently 75 members over an age range spanning close to 70 years.

We train summer and winter in Canberra and on most Saturday mornings between training sessions we can be found enjoying a friendly club "meeting" over a cup of coffee and nibbles at the National Museum.

We cannot wait to welcome other teams and race in the big Australian competition on our own lake in Canberra!



Newcastle Dragon Hunters

Newcastle Hunter Dragonboat Club has grown rapidly since it was founded in 2000. We now have over 130 members across all racing divisions.

Our club operates across 3 squads satisfying the needs and goals of all, whether that is on a social level or in a more competitive arena within the dragonboat community. Our members participate in both formal and community regattas and events.

This year at the Australian Championships we have 38 members competing across the competition.

While training and racing takes a lot of our focus, we also regularly enjoy each other's company off the water and have made lifelong friends within our dragon boat family.



Nowra Waterdragons

Nowra Waterdragons was formed in 2005. We are based in Nowra on the beautiful Shoalhaven River. Nowra is a small, proud club of 40 members.

We are a competitive bunch and love a good race, but also like to have fun on and off the water. Some Saturdays we enjoy a social paddle up the river to the Nowra Zoo, enjoy a coffee before returning to our clubhouse. If passing through Nowra, drop in for a paddle. Visitors are always welcome.

We support our paddlers at all levels and encourage them to be their best. This year we have 3 paddlers training for the Auroras, 8 in the NSW State teams and a crew of 19 training hard for the AusChamps in the Senior C category. We look forward to competing in Canberra this year.



Northern Beaches DBC

The Northern Beaches Dragon Boat Club (aka The Beaches) was formed in 1997 and has competed with great success in Premier and Senior Mixed, Women's and Open categories.

We train in Manly Cove, one of the most beautiful locations in Sydney.

The club is culturally diverse and currently made up of Aussies, Kiwis, Poms, Germans, French, Spanish, Dutch, Chinese, Argentinians, Colombians, Welsh, Americans, Irish, Scotts - you name it...

The club caters for all ages and we pride ourselves on being very sociable as well as competitive. We support and motivate our paddlers to reach goals they never thought would be possible. This also shows in the high number of State representatives within the team each season.

But we also have loads of fun at breakfast after training on Sundays, burgers at the Skiff Club next door after Thursday's session or other events our Social Coordinator might come up with.



Pacific Dragons DBC

The Pacific Dragons was initially established as a dragon boat club in 1993 as an expansion of the Dragon Ladies, who were part of the Australian Chinese Cultural Association. Initially a ladies club, it quickly expanded into a mixed paddling club, which became known as the Pacific Dragons.

In successive seasons, the Pacific Dragons have had people from all backgrounds join us. We are now one of the largest groups of active paddlers in NSW with over 100 members.

May we continue to provide a rewarding and enjoyable environment for our members, and grow paddlers and networks into the future!



Pendragons DBC

Pendragons Dragon Boat Club is located at the base of the Blue Mountains in Penrith, NSW. The club formed in 2002 and today has around 55 members of all ages. Our motto "We are a Sports Club, We Build, We Achieve, We Succeed!" encapsulates the club's ongoing vision to become the best paddlers that we can be by supporting each other and our community, and pushing ourselves further each time to reach our goals.

Our Philosophy of Success is bound in the analogy that "Success is an Iceberg". You may hear the reference to the "Icebergers", the Pendragons representing the Club competing in Canberra and that's just the tip. We also support the other Western Sydney Club Pendragons Abreast.

Many of our members have competed at the highest levels and 2019 is no different - we will have two team members representing Auroras at the World Championships in Thailand and seven team members representing New South Wales across a range of categories here in Canberra.

We train at the Sydney International Regatta Centre and on the Nepean River, so if you're ever in the area look out for us wearing our distinctive yellow and purple shirts and yellow caps and come down for a paddle!

Good luck to all the teams racing at the AusChamps this year.



Pendragons Abreast

Pendragons Abreast are a breast cancer survivor team from Penrith, New South Wales, situated at the base of the beautiful Blue Mountains. Our club was founded in 2004 and our membership takes in the large areas of Penrith, the Hawkesbury and the Blue Mountains. We train and paddle up to four times a week on the Nepean River and at our home ground the Sydney International Regatta Centre.

We are the Breast Cancer Survivor arm of the Pendragons Sports Dragon Boat Club. We regularly take part in the Dragon Boats New South Wales regatta series each year along with our sports crew. We also participate each year at the Lunar (Chinese) New Year Festival in February at Darling Harbour on the all cancer day, and the Dragons Abreast Australia Regatta Festival each year in October. We travel interstate to take part in Dragons Abreast Australia regattas and conferences as well as international events, such as the International Breast Cancer Paddlers Commission regatta last July in Florence, Italy.

We strongly believe in the ideals of paddling for recovery after a diagnosis of breast cancer, as well as improving our fitness while having fun. We encourage others to join us and embark on the wonderful journey of dragon boating.



Pittwater DBRC

Pittwater DBRC is a small club situated on the beautiful Northern Beaches of Sydney.

We were established in 2011 as a competitive racing club and have enjoyed considerable success in our short history. We have represented at CCWC on two occasions and have several paddlers who have representation in the Auroras.

We are a small club but we train hard and race hard - our motto is 'Just Paddle'. Many of us also compete in OC events.

Pittwater is one of the of the most spectacular waterways in NSW, so training is never a chore. We enjoy socialising off the water, but we are heading to AusChamps in Canberra with the intention to race for gold.



Port Hacking DBC

Port Hacking Dragon Boat Club was the first Dragon Boat Club formed in New South Wales in September 1983, to contest Australia's first dragon boat race in 1984. Initial training was in oyster barges until David Hooker (founding chairman-Sydney) delivered Sydney's first Dragon Boat to Port Hacking.

The team won the inaugural Australian Dragon Boat Races in Farm Cove on April 8th, 1984. The same year the club represented Australia in the Singapore and Hong Kong Regattas and returned to Hong Kong in 1993.

This season we celebrate 35 years of paddling and taking over the lease of our own clubhouse.

We are located in the south of Sydney, in the Sutherland Shire at Yowie Bay. We paddle on the Hacking River from Audley in the Royal National Park to the River mouth at Cronulla.

We paddle competitively and enjoy many exciting and challenging experiences including AusChamps each year, CCWC in Italy and Adelaide, Pan Pacific Games and regional Regattas. This year we had paddlers from Narrabeen which has not only boosted our numbers but strengthened our club.

Socialising is a big part of our club and we are often bonding over breakfast at the local Post Box Cafe, or at many of our fundraising and social events.



Powerblades DBRC

The Powerblades Dragon Boat Racing Club is the oldest dragon boat club in South Australia. Formed in 1989 from staff of the Electricity Trust of South Australia, the club grew to become a leading club, and dominated local competition for many years until the early 2000's.

The Powerblades club has the South Australian state colours of blue, red and gold. The Powerblades club was successful in many Australian championships, including National Open 10's Champions, National Masters Champions and National Long Course Champions in Canberra 1998, and National Open Champions, Perth 1996. Powerblades have competed in Singapore (1990, 1991), Penang (1993, 1997, 2008), China (1995), and participated in the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival in 2016.

The Powerblades team is based at West Lakes, the venue for the 2016 World Club Crew Championships. The club was runner up in the 2018 Good Sports Club of the Year (SA) - see picture.

The Powerblades Dragon Boat Racing Club seeks to be recognized as the 'friendly club'. The values of the club are reflected by the words: Discipline, Honesty, Passion, Ambition, Commitment, Respect and Fun. The club offers its members physical fitness, development of paddling skills, social connection, inclusion and fun through the team sport of dragon boat racing.



Qld Sonic Dragons

Established in 2011 Qld Sonic Dragons is an initiative of DBQ. Recognising the shortage of juniors actively participating in dragon boating, the Sonics was created to encourage and support junior development across Queensland. The club caters exclusively for juniors aged 8 to 18 years with our current member base spanning as far north as Townsville and as far south as Tweed Heads.

With a strong emphasis on team building, confidence building (and having a lot of fun!) QLD Sonic Dragons provides an opportunity to meet, train and compete with fellow juniors.

We are incredibly excited to have qualified in 2018 to compete at the 2020 World Club Crew Championships in Aix-les-Bains. With the arrival of new members this season, we are thrilled to field a full 20s boat for the 2019 AusChamps in Canberra.



Rainbow Region DBC

Based in beautiful Lennox Head (NSW), the Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club is a vibrant community sporting organisation that sprung from the Rainbow Dragons Abreast club in 2009.

The Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club boasts 80+ members, 30% of whom are Dragons Abreast paddlers. Rainbow Dragons come from all over the NSW Far North Coast - Ocean Shores, Byron Bay, Lismore, Federal, Kyogle, Coraki, Lennox Head, Ballina and places in between. This area is known as the Rainbow Region, hence their name.

The Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club is built on inclusion, respect, team spirit and camaraderie, welcoming women and men of all ages, fitness levels and sporting ability to experience the fun and physical challenges of dragon boating.

The club has enjoyed success at many regional regattas in NSW and Queensland, as well as the Pan Pacific Masters Games, Australian Masters Games, Chinese New Year regattas and the Wellington (NZ) Dragon Boat Festival, winning their first AusChamps medal in 2018.

Various club members have represented NSW and paddled in composite teams around the world, bringing home medals from such places as China, Italy and USA.

As their club grows, the Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club looks forward to continuing success in competition.



Redcliffe Red Dragons

Redcliffe Red Dragons was formed in 2002 and is based at Talobilla Park, Klinger Road, Redcliffe and we are fortunate to be able to paddle around the canals of the Newport Waterway and beautiful Moreton Bay.

We paddle all year round, and we have a club house which allows for off-water training in inclement weather.

As part of the dragon boat fraternity, our club works with the local community in promoting the sport within the region through corporate regattas, 'Come and Try' days and other community events. Currently our membership is 74 with ages ranging from teenagers to 70+.

We are affiliated with the Redcliffe Pink Snapdragons who offers support through paddling to all breast cancer survivors and their supporters. The Snapdragons are encouraged by the club to train as sports paddlers or just simply enjoy the achievements and the camaraderie that paddling in a dragon boat team brings.

Our club is linked to an outrigger club, to allow paddlers to cross-train and further develop endurance and strength.

Redcliffe have produced paddlers who have represented us successfully as Queensland State and Australian Aurora paddlers. Our coach is a member of the Australian team and brings a range of skills and techniques. Thank you to her for all the training in preparation for the Australian Championships.



SADA (SA Dragons Abreast)

SADA has a membership of forty eight paddlers, sixteen of whom are survivors of breast cancer. It competes in all categories at local, State, masters, national and international events, enjoying success at all levels.

SADA was the first breast cancer team in South Australia and the first Australian breast cancer team to participate competitively. The club aims to increase awareness of the disease through its membership with survivors, family and friends paddling together.

Since incorporation in 2001, SADA has attended Australian Championships and has successfully competed in four CCWC. It has attended international regattas in Rome, Cape Town, Penang, Hong Kong, Ravenna, Adelaide and Bali.



Sandy Point Dragons

Sandy Point Dragons is a community based club, situated in South West Sydney on the scenic George's River. Our club began in 2004 with locals wanting a new fitness activity that utilised the waterway. Since then, we have raced in community and state regattas, with many members representing the NSW State team and Auroras in numerous overseas competitions.

Over the years we have upgraded from a neighbours backyard to our very own clubhouse. Sure, having the George's River to ourselves has it's perks, namely the incredible sunsets and natural scenery. However, we regularly find ourselves racing reckless jet-skis, riding army boats wash, chasing sharks and constantly avoiding the Ross River infected mosquitos. Despite all of this we run an average of six sessions a week catering for our juniors/U24s, adults, sports and social paddlers.

Looking to the future, as a club we are striving to develop our premiers division to be as competitive as possible. We want to find the balance between sports and social paddling so all of our members feel welcome. Working with Danebank and other schools in the area we want to create an avenue for students to continue paddling after graduating. Integrating our more experienced members to help mentor the younger ones is beneficial in so many ways, as they are the future of the sport.



Sloths DBC

The Sloths formed as a dragon boat team in 2000, and have since become one of the largest and most successful dragon boat sporting clubs in Australia, achieving numerous state, national and international medals.

The Sloths are a racing club that focuses on training and racing hard. We expect a solid commitment from our members that extends to on and off water training sessions. We collectively focus on helping our members achieve their fitness goals – whatever you want to achieve it's likely one of the Sloths has done it and can help show you the way.

Training with the Sloths is the perfect preparation for paddling at a representative level. Our coach Zeus knows what it takes to win and can train you to get there.

The Sloths have provided many paddlers for the NSW State and National (Auroras) crews since 2002. In 2017 the Sloths have paddlers, coaches, sweeps and managers at the U24 Australian Championships in France and the World Championships in China.



Southern Storm Paddle Club

Southern Storm is a dragon boat paddling club based in Docklands, Melbourne. We pride ourselves on our sense of community and commitment to our club, our teammates and the broader paddling community.

The Club was founded in May 2012 by a group of enthusiastic paddlers who were keen to expand the sport in Melbourne. Run by paddlers for paddlers, our club competes at state, national and international dragon boat regattas. We love the thrill of competitive racing and the friendships forged on the journey.

We are a dragon boat racing team who train all year round, love to paddle, get fit and enjoy each other's company on and off the water.

As a small club, we are competing in Small Boat categories and are bringing together a crew of both experienced paddlers and some newer paddlers who are competing in their first Australian Championships!



St Scholastica's College

St Scholastica's College is located in Glebe, Sydney Australia. The school introduced dragon boat as an extra-curricular sport in 2012 and has competed locally in NSW and at every Australian Championships since.

Schols Dragons includes students from every year group working together to build a strong and energetic team that have created a wonderful sense of family. Schols girls paddle with heart, for their school and each other.

In 2018, Schols Dragons competed at the Club Crew World Championships in Szged, Hungary with students from Year 7 to Year 12 representing their school. They raced in both Junior A and Junior B competitions coming home with gold across the U16 Womens and silver in the U18s Women's competition.

The school is also very excited to see the growing number of girls selected into the NSW team and Auroras over the years, from just two girls selected for Australia in 2015 to 10 who will compete in Thailand later this year.

In 2019 St Scholastica's dragon boating numbers have grown from one crew to three crews racing at the NSW State Championships in Sydney in March.

This year we bring 34 girls to Canberra and are excited to be racing in both Junior Women's small boat and Junior Women's standard boat competitions.



Subsonix

Subsonix Dragon Boat Club are based in Adelaide, training all year round on West Lakes. The club's story began in 1990 when the Australian Submarine Corporation Social Club formed a corporate team to compete at a social level. Over the years, our club has mirrored the growth within the sport and now competes at the elite level of competition. This shift has endorsed the club's competitiveness with new and seasoned paddlers bringing us success at state, national and international competition.

Subsonix have continuously fielded a strong team of paddlers from varying ages, differing cultures and diverse backgrounds. However, we also cater for those who want to just paddle socially for fun and fitness, allowing people to enter the sport without necessarily needing the intense training required for the sports level of competition.

Subsonix train and race hard but we also have plenty of fun when not paddling, with many social events taking place throughout the year. We are one team and support each other both on and off the water. Our Subsonix family currently consists of 45 members.

Looking to the future and following on from our successful CCWC 2018 campaign, we come to Canberra looking forward to competing against the best in Australia.



Sunshine Coast DB and Outrigger Club

The Sunshine Coast Dragon Boat Club, fondly referred to as "Sunnies" was formed in 2005. We are located at Lake Kawana QLD on the Sunshine Coast with an additional chapter further south in Scarborough just north of Brisbane. We are passionate about all things dragon boat and outrigger racing, we firmly believe that what we lack in our numbers, we certainly make up for it, in the quality of our paddlers.

We welcome and encourage new people from as young as 10 to 70+ to give our beloved sports a try, members can choose to paddle socially for fun and fitness or take it a step further and join the competitive side of our great club and compete at the highest levels nationally or internationally. Our small club has a very proud record of producing world class paddlers who have achieved incredible success in our sports and we look forward to continuing this tradition long into the future.



Sydney Tsunami DBC

Sydney Tsunami has been making waves and having "Serious Fun" since 1992.

We train under the Anzac Bridge in Pyrmont on Blackwattle Bay.

Sydney Tsunami is known for being a friendly, competitive club and we are always ready to welcome brand new paddlers at any of our sessions.

We have a team of wonderful coaches who are equipped with great skills and knowledge to prepare our paddlers to represent at home, interstate and at international regattas.

Sydney Tsunami are looking forward to a great week of competition at the Australian Championship in Canberra this April.



Sydney Zodiacs

Sydney Zodiacs is a junior, youth exclusive club for young people between the ages of 12 and 23 years. Kicking off in 2012, we have grown to a club of around 60 people from all over Sydney and surrounds.

We have a vision to provide young people the opportunity to develop personally and professionally across all facets of the sport and actively encourage our members to get involved in the running of our club.

Over the last 7 years we have seen many Zodes, as we are affectionately known, go on to join premier clubs, represent their state and country, take up coaching and management roles, alongside learning to drive, completing the HSC and undertaking career pathways!

Our name stems from the Chinese Zodiac, a twelve-year cycle calculated according to Chinese lunar calendar. Each year relates to an animal sign. We are a fun, competitive, inclusive and committed group of young people, keen to develop skills and build friendships. We love to race with and meet other young people in our sport and welcome anyone to come and paddle with us if you are in Sydney!

Good luck to all the crews racing in 2019!



Townsville Combined

The city of Townsville has two passionate Dragon Boat Clubs, NQ Phoenix and the Townsville Dragon Boat Club.

The Townsville Dragon Boat Club was the first club, then NQ Phoenix in 2015. Both clubs have competed in Queensland State Titles, Pan Pacific Games and each year the clubs hold their annual regatta hosting clubs from Mackay and Cairns.

In January/February 2019 Townsville was hit by a major flooding event causing thousands of residents to be displaced from their homes and businesses. This flood event effected both clubs with damage to boats, equipment, not being able to train due to the flooding of the Ross River and members and families being displaced from their homes.

This is the first year our clubs will be competing at the Club vs Club at AusChamps and AusDBF have given approval for the clubs to join and compete as Townsville Combined. We are so excited to join together to represent our clubs and the City of Townsville.



Tweed Dragons

Tweed Dragons is a foundation member of Dragon Boat Queensland. Established in 1988, Tweed Dragons evolved from the Kids In Need dragon boat festival. Kids in Need, established in 1982, is a charity that supports families and children with a disabilities and serious illness.

Tweed Dragons competed in their first regatta at Darling Harbour in 1988 and since then have regularly competed in state, national and international regattas.

Based on the beautiful Tweed River and initially running on a shoestring budget, 2014 heralded the acquisition of the first brand new dragon boat to be owned by the club. Subsequently we have added two more Gen 4 Standard boats and a 10's boat. Tweed Dragons has a membership of around 60 paddlers, male and female, aged from 15 – 75 years.

2018 saw a Tweed Dragons Senior B crew compete in the Club Crew World Championships held in Szeged, Hungary. This was the first time the club had qualified to compete in a World Championship event and we made the Grand Final of the 500 metres event, finishing 8th in the world.

Club members socialise together on a regular basis at BBQ's, morning teas, dinners and other social events. The club motto "Fun, Friendship and Fitness", underpins the many things members do together as a friendly Dragon Boat Club, on the North Coast of NSW.



Warriors Albury-Wodonga Dragon Boat Club

The Warriors Dragon Boat Club was formed on 25 September 2012 with a focus on being a competitive sporting club competing in state, national and international regattas. We are located on the state border between New South Wales and Victoria in a picturesque regional area. Over the past 6 years we have established our home base at Gateway Lakes between the cities of Albury and Wodonga.

We have completed our 6th season and have had another very successful season under the guidance of Head Coach Graham Poynter. Warriors have been Victorian State Champions in Masters Womens 20s both 200m and 500m and Australian Champions in Senior B Mixed 10s and Senior B Mixed Women's 10s and qualified to compete in the World Club Crews in Hungary 2018.

We train on the water three times a week encouraging and developing all aspects of dragon boat Racing for our members from paddling technique, physical fitness, sweeping, coaching and team work.

Albury Wodonga Warriors provide Albury/ Wodonga and surrounding districts with friendship, fitness and success via a commitment to being a competitive team. We 'Train to Race and Race to Win'!



Yarra River Dragons DBC

The Yarra River Dragons Dragon Boat Club was formed in 2011 and we are based at Docklands in the City of Melbourne, Australia. Today, we have over 100 members aged between 16 to 65 years of age, from a diverse range of backgrounds and professions. Our paddlers range in ability from absolute beginners, through to representatives of our Victorian State Team and the Auroras Australian National Team.

From small beginnings we have grown from strength to strength – in 2016 we travelled overseas for the first time to Hong Kong, and in 2017 competed at the Singapore DBS Marina Regatta.

At the 2018 AusChamps in Caloundra our crew had a highly successful campaign, bringing home two bronze, three silver, and one gold medal.

Following on from this success, we took a small crew to Hungary in July 2018 for the Club Crew World Championships. This was an amazing experience for the team, competing against some of the biggest and fastest crews in the world, and the hard work paid off with our Women's Crew even achieving a third place.

The crew are looking forward to competing against the best Australia has to offer in Canberra!

Official merchandise

Welcome to the Online Store of AusDBF.

The store is operated by The Australian Dragon Boat Federation's (AUSDBF) Official Sponsors Team Elite.

Pre-orders are now open - closing date Wednesday 10th April.

All orders will be available for collection at the event in Canberra (sorry - no delivery), along with additional merchandise for sale.

<https://shop.teamelite.com.au/collections/australian-dragon-boat-championships-2019>

Below is a sample of the merchandise for order.





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