

Dragons Abreast Australia Policy

Policy Name	Supporter / Survivor Membership for DAA Member Groups		
Policy Number	P001	Version No.	2.0
Policy Category	Membership		
Approving Authority	Dragons Abreast Australia Board		
Date Approved	23 November 2017		
Date Last Reviewed	23 November 2017		
Responsible Officer	Chair DAA		
Designated Officer	Chair DAA		

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline supporter and survivor membership requirements for Dragons Abreast Australia (DAA) Member Groups.

Application

This policy applies to all member groups including individual supporter and survivor members.

Definitions

Survivor member

Survivor member refers to a person who is a breast cancer survivor who has been diagnosed and treated for breast cancer; OR undergone prophylactic mastectomy because of a medically identified predisposition to develop breast cancer.

Supporter member

Supporter member refers to a person who has not been diagnosed with breast cancer but has a genuine interest in the wellness and recovery of breast cancer survivors and is aligned with the DAA vision. Supporter members may join DAA to support a survivor who is close to them such as family member or friend, or they may support the group with their particular skills, expertise and/or professional links. Ideally the supporter member should have a direct link to a breast cancer survivor member.

Policy

Strategy

DAA is about encouraging wellness, fitness, fun and camaraderie for breast cancer survivors through the sport of dragon boating and promote breast cancer awareness in the community. Whilst most members are breast cancer survivors, many groups rely on their supporters to enable



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them to function effectively. In the public eye, the 'pink paddlers' signifies breast cancer and to most of the public, we are all survivors and it is assumed that all member groups espouse the same values for which DAA has become known.

Survivors Priority in a DAA Boat

Survivors always have priority in any DAA boat. Breast Cancer Survivors are prioritised as this is the true opportunity for breast cancer survivors to participate for fitness and peer aspects for their ongoing recovery. Supporters are always welcome, but also have opportunities to participate in other clubs which focus on the intense competitive level.

Wait Lists

As Dragons Abreast groups develop and survivor numbers grow, it may be necessary to restrict the number of new supporter members in a group through wait lists, encouraging supporters with less interest in breast cancer to join other local clubs, or by developing a second crew paddling under a different name to Dragons Abreast.

Member Group Guidelines

Member groups may establish their own guidelines for membership dependent on local conditions. A basic requirement for a group to maintain DAA membership is that:

- a. A majority of its committee are survivors; and
- b. The position of coordinator is held by a survivor.

Racing and Regattas

- 1) To ensure we keep faith with the public, sponsors and other financial supporters and do not leave the organisation vulnerable to accusations of false representation, DAA members competing at regattas in DAA teams need to identify their survivor and supporter paddling members.
- 2) Any crew racing as Dragons Abreast at Breast Cancer survivor category must consist of 100% survivor paddlers including the sweep and the drummer. If necessary, the sweep can come from the sweep pool.
- 3) Where there are more survivors present than can fit in one boat it may be possible for them to paddle in composite DA boats if regatta rules allow. DA supporter members may also be part of a supporter composite crew.
- 4) While paddling supporters are important, survivors must come first. DA will continue, where possible, to include paddling supporters at regattas by entering other categories of races. However, participation in those races identified as BCS will be limited to survivors only.



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Compliance

Monitoring

It is the responsibility of the Dragons Abreast Australia Board and the member groups to regularly refer to and ensure compliance with this policy in all activities.

Awareness of Policy

It is the responsibility of Dragons Abreast Australia Board to ensure that all groups, members and staff are aware of this policy.

Reporting and Review

Reporting

All members and staff may report breaches of this policy to the DAA Chair.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

