



Christmas newsletter

Thank you all for supporting the Aoraki Dragon Boat Association to continue your sport in Christchurch. With your help we, the ADBA, plan to make this sport one of the focal points in the Christchurch Sporting and Cultural Calendar in the years to come.

Our new training venue has had some interesting teething problems, which are smoothing out nicely. More thanks for your patience and co-operation with parking, boats, loading and other users of the small ramp. I would like to take this opportunity to go over some housekeeping.

1. Parking

Please use the gravel and grass area between the orange(ish) building and the Fenced compound. If teams park in a group behind each other then the limited space (esp on Tuesday night) can be utilized most efficiently.

The fenced compound is reserved for members of the outriggering clubs, and please leave the car park adjacent to the ramp free for surf lifesavers and other public users.

2. Times:

Please keep to your allocated 1 hour on the water. Next year there will be a whiteboard at the gate with your allocated boat for that night and what to do with it at the end of your session. I will also include parking areas

3. Care of Boats:

Even though this should be the last year of racing in the old 'tubs', please take care of them as we don't have any spares for race day. If you find any faults or damage please report it to any of the committee members

4. Sweep Oars

We have **five** new sweep oars - again please treat with care and respect.

5. Barbeques

Owles Terrace is a public area which can be used for bbq's and drinks after training. Please use common sense (following any bans or restrictions) and clean up afterwards.

6. Changing Rooms

We now have access to some rooms within the compound area for changing. There is limited toilets and some cold showers. This is CPC's club rooms so come and see an ADBA representative to let you in and out.



New Zealand Racing Calendar

After consulting the rowing clubs at Kerrs Reach, our race date has been brought forward **one** week to avoid clashing with rowers training on the river. They will be away at their own racing outside Christchurch.

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| Feb 9 | Chc Chinese New Year Regatta |
| Feb 16 | Akl Chinese New Year Regatta |
| March 1 | Chc Adult Race Day |
| March 2 | Chc Schools Race Day |
| March 15/16 | Wlg Festival |
| March 29/30 | Akl Nationals |

Wellington Update

As you maybe aware, Wellington have purchased, through a sizable grant, **ten** new dragon boats.

These have been built to Int'l Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) standards by a local boat builder. Those of you going to Wellington to race will be the first Cantabs to experience these new boats.

Auckland Update

Auckland are in the process of purchasing their own IDBF boats from China and are expecting some of them here for Nationals, if not the whole fleet. Remember that AKL Nationals are on Lake Pupuke (Takapuna) and being run to IDBF distances of 500m and possibly 250m.

Other Christchurch News

With the different venue it has also allowed us to race IDBF distance races of 250 and 500 metres.



We are working hard to gain funding to purchase new boats for next year, sorry not enough hours in the day to get them this year.



From the helm...

New Zealand Dragon Boat Ass'n

Macau, venue for 2010 World Club Crew Champs, has offered New Zealand teams free entry into their event in May/June 2008.

The only cost is getting to Macau; Tourism Macau is fronting all accom, food, transfers, and entry fees. This is open to MENS or WOMENS teams, not mixed as we race here, so maybe two teams could form together to compete in an exciting international event.

We currently have no IDBF race officials in NZ and the NZDBA would like to hear from anyone keen to travel to Penang in August 2008 to sit the exam.

Have a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year, put on lots of weight and we'll see you in the New Year

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