

# DRAGON BOAT INTERNATIONAL

The Newsletter of the International Dragon Boat Federation

*The World Governing Body of Dragon Boat Sport - Member of SportAccord*

Cover Photograph – Hong Kong International Airport welcomes the world's dragon boaters to Hong Kong

March 2012 – Spring Edition  
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**In this issue: Tampa Results: Congress and Members News: 2012 Calendar**



國際龍舟聯合會  
INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION



**A LOOK BACK AT 2011 – THE TAMPA WORLDS AND ALL THAT**



**Ready to Rock & Roll,  
Istanbul Golden Horn Festival**

**Stanley Races Hong Kong,  
the Winners Tail      Dragon Boats – Hawaii style**

## HEADLINE LOOK AT THIS ISSUE.....

### Editorial

Title Sponsor for Club Crew Worlds  
Introducing the IDBF Patrons Club  
New partnership arrangements for Equipment Providers

More on pages 4 and 5.

### Special Feature

Canada celebrates 25 years of dragon boating with the best year ever

Full story on page 40.

### News in brief

Royal pageant Queen's Jubilee  
Breast Cancer Survivors

More on pages 14, 28, 29

World Championship Results

The USA regain the Nations Cup in Tampa, Florida

Prem Grand Finals results on page 10

**Culture Corner** - the Year of the Water Dragon see page 8

IDBF Congress News

- Executive President's Report
- New IDBF appointments
- New members
- Championship venues
- Changes to regulations and bye-laws

Reports on pages 11, 12, 13.

News from the dragon boat world family

Reports on pages 17-27.

### Web/TV/Radio

IDBF launches live web TV coverage of dragon boating.

More on page 12.

### Know How

IDBF Capsize & Self Rescue Drills

Details on page 16.

Coaches corner – using the Outrigger.1

Article on page 15.

### The Calendar

Events and Festivals from Feb 2012 to

December 2012 See pages 31-36

**IDBF Boat & Paddle Manufacturers List**

See page 43.

LINK YOUR WEBSITE TO  
[www.idbf.org](http://www.idbf.org)

Email:

**DRAGONBOATNET.COM**

offers paddlers their own free  
Paddle Space Blog, see link at

<http://dragonboatnet.com/PaddleSpace/>

IDBF web site: [www.idbf.org](http://www.idbf.org)

### IDBF SECRETARIAT

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### DRAGON BOAT RACE INFO

For a list of Dragon Boat events  
world wide have a look at:-

[www.dragonboatcalendar.com](http://www.dragonboatcalendar.com)

and at

[www.dragonboatnet.com](http://www.dragonboatnet.com)

for articles, forum group, video  
clips, merchandize and more



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## A SPICY SPONSOR FOR THE 8<sup>th</sup> CLUB CREW WORLDS IN HONG KONG - LKK.

**EDITORIAL by Mike Haslam. WELCOME to Dragon Boat International, the IDBF in-house magazine.**

The Hong Kong Dragon Boat Association and the IDBF are pleased to announce a title sponsor for this year's 8<sup>th</sup> Club Crew World Championships in Hong Kong, the staging of which from 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> July 2012, marks the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the IDBF's foundation in Hong Kong in 1991.

The sponsor is Lee Kum Kee (LKK) a very reputable sauce manufacturer headquartered in Hong Kong with products distributed on a global basis. LKK had a long history of supporting dragon boat racing not only in Hong Kong but in a number of major cities, like Tokyo, Osaka, Guangzhou, Toronto, New York.

Lee Kum Kee was established in 1888 when its founder Mr Lee Kum Sheung invented oyster sauce in the Guangdong Province of China. With a manufacturing history of 123 years, Lee Kum Kee has become a household name as an ethnic Chinese enterprise as well as an international brand and a symbol of quality and trust.

The Corporate Support Centre of Lee Kum Kee is set up in Hong Kong and has 5 production bases in Xinhui, Huangpu, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Los Angeles. Lee Kum Kee Group has become a globally renowned ethnic Chinese enterprise spanning three centuries. It provides over 220 choices of sauces and condiments to over 100 countries and regions across the five continents. We believe LKK can be a very good strategic partner for not only the 8th CCWC but also IDBF's events in future.

For more information on LKK, visit their web site: <http://hk-kitchen.lkk.com/en/hk/Enterprise/AboutLKK/OverView>

## PATRONS' and PARTNERS' – PEOPLE & BUSINESSES SUPPORTING OUR SPORT

The IDBF Patrons' Club is open to people who wish to support Dragon Boating, through the IDBF, by raising money specifically to help new and developing Countries enter the Sport and take part in IDBF competitions.

All surplus funds from Membership or sponsors, after the deduction of IDBF running costs, will go to the IDBF Development Fund specifically for the provision of Dragon Boats and Equipment.

The annual individual membership fee for the IDBF Patrons Club is just USD 25.00 per person (Euro 20 or £15.00 Sterling) and this year Patrons' Club Members are helping to pay the shipping costs of Development Boats destined for Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda.

### IDBF PARTNERSHIPS FOR EQUIPMENT PROVIDERS

Last year the IDBF invited all its Licensed Dragon Boat and Paddle Manufacturers' to become IDBF Partners and be involved in the Sport's development in a more direct and positive way, through increased financial support and the donation equipment to the IDBF Development Pool.

All IDBF Registered Equipment Providers are required to pay their Annual Licence Fees and mark their boats and paddles with the appropriate Boat Licence Plate (Models 1222 or 912) and Paddle Mark (202a) but to be an IDBF Partner, means a much bigger commitment to the Sport.

There are four tiers of IDBF Partnership, **Bronze, Silver, Gold** and the top tier of partnership **the Platinum Partner**. Partners' receive PR benefits and promotion for their products to acknowledge their commitment to the Sport.

Equipment Providers interested in becoming an IDBF Partner should contact the IDBF Executive President – email [mikehaslam@aol.com](mailto:mikehaslam@aol.com)

### - THE IDBF PATRONS CLUB -

Being an IDBF Patron makes you a Very Important Person in helping to develop Dragon Boating in new countries and helping their paddlers to take part in IDBF Championships.

Members receive multiple worthwhile benefits including:

- A hard copy of each IDBF-Newsletter published each year.

- Free accreditation (IDBF Registration) at IDBF World Championships

- VIP Status & treatment at World Championships

- A Certificate of Patronage

### JOIN NOW, SUPPORT YOUR SPORT

Further detail and Membership Application form can be obtained from the IDBF Finance Manager: **Mr David Cogswell**,  
13 The Prebend, North End, Southam,  
CV47 2TR, England. UK

Email: [DACogswell@aol.com](mailto:DACogswell@aol.com)

Fax: + 44 1295 770734 or online from:

<http://www.idbf.org/patronsclub.php>



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NEWS ON THE 8<sup>th</sup> CLUB CREW WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS HONG KONG – 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2012



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## HONG KONG 2012 – THINGS LOOK SET FOR THE BIGGEST CLUB CHAMPS YET !



Over 300 Crews, giving a total figure of over 4500 participants have provisionally entered the 8<sup>th</sup> Club Crew Worlds scheduled for Hong Kong from 4-8<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

The competitors come from 23 Countries, namely, Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ghana, Gt Britain, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iran, Korea, Malaysia, Macau, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, the UAE, and USA. Entries are also expected or are possible from Brunei, China, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Japan and Thailand.

**With just three months to go, now is the time for Clubs to confirm their entries and book their accommodation.**

Racing will take place on the famous Victoria Harbour Racing Course, East Tsim Sha Tsui, where the modern era of Dragon Boat Sport began in 1976 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Hong Kong International Races, so Hong Kong 2012 will be celebrating the 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the HK International Races, by staging special Invitational Races on the 2 July 2012

Hong Kong was also where the IDBF was founded in 1991 and the 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the IDBF will be marked by holding the 8<sup>th</sup> Club Crew Worlds from 4-8<sup>th</sup> July 2012. A double celebration for Hong Kong and a feast of Dragon Boat Racing by the best Club Crews in the World !

Both Standard and Small Boat Championship Races will be held in the CCWC with the Small Boat Races primarily for new Clubs but also for older Clubs with only a small number of paddlers available for a particular Racing Class. Racing will be held over 200m, 500m and 2000m but the 2000m races will only be held for the Standard Boat competitions.

Each IDBF Member Country or Territory may sanction up to 5 crews (one crew per Club), per Competition class, in the Standard and Small Boat Championships.

There will also be races for Breast Cancer Survivor Crews (BCS), All Cancer Survivors (ACS) both Women and Men and for the Para Dragons, Adaptive Paddlers (AP) who will race within their own Division, with their own competitions. BCS/ACS/AP crews will not count against the 5 crews allowed per IDBF Member.

All entries to the 2012 CCWC must be sanctioned by the IDBF member organization to which a Club Crew belongs, where one exists. Crews from countries or territories where there is not an IDBF member may compete, subject to the agreement of the IDBF - email [ccwcentry@idbf.org](mailto:ccwcentry@idbf.org)

A Crew can be entered in the Standard or Small Boat Championships or both in all Racing Classes **but for a Club to enter both a Standard and Small Boat crew in the same Divisional Racing Class** or competition, the paddlers in the Small Boat Crew must be **different paddlers** from those used in the Standard Boat crew.

**In summary, competitors can race in a Standard Boat or Small Boat competition but not in both. The exceptions are:**

**a. Paddlers listed on an Open or Women's Small Boat Crew List, including reserves, can be used to crew a Mixed Standard Boat.**

**b. Open Standard Boat paddlers can enter a Mixed Small Boat Race if there are less than 8 female paddlers from their Club on their Team List. (The same would apply to a Club entering a Women's Crew but with less than 8 male paddlers on their Club Team List).**

These regulations are intended to prevent Clubs from racing their best athletes in both the Standard and Small Boats in the same Competition Class or from putting just their best paddlers in the Small Boats Championships`.

**In all cases the double rostering of paddlers between Divisions is discouraged.** Helms and Drummers may be used across the Divisions (subject to the rules for Juniors, Seniors & 18-23s) but in the case of 'back to back races' the Officials will NOT delay races for the transfer of Helms or Drummers.

**BCS Crews. The International Breast Cancer Paddlers' Commission (IBCPC) is the IDBF Commission** that is responsible for confirming that all breast cancer Racers competing in the 2012 CCWC have been diagnosed with breast cancer. BCS crews are designated as Open Crews and may, therefore have a BCS Helm of either gender. For the purposes of this CCWC and for safety reasons the requirement for Helms (Steerers) to be a breast cancer survivor will be relaxed.

**For further information on registering with the IBCPC for confirmation purposes, BCS crews should visit the IBCPC website at [www.ib\\_cpc.com](http://www.ib_cpc.com) .**

**Crew training sessions will be available at the race venue in Victoria Harbour, on Sunday 1st July 2012 and Tuesday 3rd July 2012 with limited availability on Monday 2 July 12.**

The allocation of training sessions, each of one hours duration inclusive of embarkation time, will be subject to final allocation and co-ordination by the HK Org Com.

**In the interest of Crew Safety the number of paddlers allowed in a Standard Boat will be restricted** to a maximum of 18 to give a crew total of 20 Racers. The Small Boat crew numbers are unaffected remaining at 12 Racers (10 paddlers).

**Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) are to be worn by all competitors when training on Victoria Harbour and by will be made available all Junior, BCS /ACS/APC crews when Racing.** Crews may wear their own PFDs but PFDs will be made available by the HK Organising Committee.

**For crews booking the Official Accommodation at the Regal Hotels** or the Students accommodation on offer, the Organizing Committee will arrange free transportation from the Hong Kong International Airport to the Regal Hotels International and designated university dormitories and return at the conclusion of the event.

**In order to take advantage of this service, it will be necessary for all (or a majority) of crew members and their guests to arrive and depart at the same time and stay at one of the official event hotels.**

The Organizing Committee has also made available transportation for crews and their registered guests to and from the Official Hotels / university dormitories and the race site each practice day and on race days, and to and from designated locations to the Celebration Dinner Party on Sun 8<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

## CULTURE CORNER - 2012 THE YEAR OF THE 'WATER DRAGON'

The Dragon is a creature of myth and legend. A symbol of good fortune and sign of intense power, the Oriental Dragon is regarded as a divine beast. China's celestial dragon symbolizes potent and benevolent power. Dragons are ancient, majestic, wise, and intelligent.

**THE WATER DRAGON YEAR.** Whilst a Dragon Year comes around once every 12 years, each of the five Dragons - Wood Dragon, Fire Dragon, Earth Dragon, Metal Dragon and Water Dragon, only arrives every 60 years and each presents different challenges.

All Dragon Years are considered exceedingly powerful. But, as you might guess, a Fire Dragon Year brings different aspect impacts than a Water Dragon Year.

The Energy of this 2012 Water Dragon Year will favour optimum expansion and growth, being less imperious and power-hungry than the other Dragons. While Fire Dragons Years can be fiercely unforgiving and Metal Dragon Years may present as combative and intractable, the power of the Water Dragon Year is all about flowing over or around obstacles.

At the same time, the Water element energy nourishes new beginnings, innovation and successful growth and is heralded for its serene, visionary intelligence.

Because Water bestows a more peaceful disposition, this Dragon will act wisely and unlike his fellow Dragons, is willing to set aside his ego for the good of all.

**ORIGIN OF THE CHINESE DRAGON.** The origin of the Chinese dragon is not certain. The presence of the dragon in Chinese culture goes back several thousands of years to the discovery in 1987 of a dragon statue dating back to the fifth millennium BC from the Yangshao culture in Henan and jade badges of rank in coiled form have been excavated from the Hongshan culture circa 4700-2900 BC.

In Chinese mythology, the dragon has nine sons and each of them had a strong personality. Their images could always be found on the eaves, ridges, balustrades, and terrace bases of ancient Chinese buildings and ancient Chinese weapons and vessels. There are different versions about their names,

**BA XIA.** He likes water, so is always found on the holes of bridges.

Ba Xia is the 6th son of the dragon. As he is very fond of water, he always lives in lakes and pools. It is believed that he is the king in the water domain and controls floods and other kinds of water disasters. Therefore, his figure can be easily found on dykes, piers and bridges.

People also believe that it can bring auspicious luck to water. So placing his likeness near the water feature will be a good way to activate the wealth luck and ensure the safety for the water feature and the surrounding environments.

What influence might the Water Dragon, which rules from Jan 23, 2012 to Feb 9, 2013, have on us all, particularly as Dragon years are considered particularly auspicious for new businesses, marriage and children. Dragon years also tend to boost individual fortunes and the world economy.

If you subscribe to the dawn-of-a-new-era theory of 2012, then it's easy to see how the influence of the Water Dragon will increase the likelihood of success for progressive movements gaining momentum all across the globe.

Energy conservation and green energy-producing technologies, curtailing Global Warming, challenges to multinational corporations, attention to world hunger and the renewed health of the oceans and sea creatures will all likely fare well. However, if you are of a less sunny disposition then your expectations might tend more toward disaster and you might expect tsunamis, hurricanes, monsoons and other weather extremes to be in the headlines.

But of all the Dragon years, the 2012 Water Dragon is most likely to bestow the Chinese Five Blessings of harmony, virtue, riches, fulfilment and longevity, adding even more weight to the growing belief that 2012 will be about breakthroughs, not disasters.



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Inscriptions avant le 30 Avril 2012  
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## 10<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS – 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> JULY 2012

*National Water Sports Centre, Regatta Course, Nottingham, England*



Entries have been received for the 10<sup>th</sup> European Nations Championships from the Czech Republic, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and the Ukraine. Entries are also expected or possible from Austria, Belgium, France, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland. The total number of participants notified is over 1200, so now is the time for EDBF Members to confirm their entries.

Racing will take place at the Holme Pierrepont National Water Sports Centre (NWSC) Nottingham, the venue of the 1999 World Dragon Boat Racing Championships.

The European Championships will comply with the IDBF Competition Regulations and will be conducted under the IDBF Rules of Racing.

**Nations intending to participate are asked to submit their Confirmed Entry by the 30th APRIL 2012.**

Both Standard and Small Boat Races are on offer with the Small Boat Races mainly for new Countries in the EDBF but also EDBF Members with only a small number of paddlers available for a particular Racing Class or Classes.

**Supported by the Nottinghamshire County Council**, racing distances will be over 200m, 500m and 2000m in Standard IDBF Spec Boats and 200m and 500m in IDBF Spec Small Boats. All Boats will be provided by Champion Boats, Dalian, China. Only IDBF Spec 202a Racing paddles will be permitted in the ENC.



**2012 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS BOATS FOR SALE.** The Champion Boats (Standard and Small) used at the European Championships are available for purchase before the event, at discounted prices, for collection (or delivery) immediately after the event on 29 July 2012. For full details of the boats available, the costs and terms of supply, contact the UK agent, Daniel WINDSOR by email at [info@championdragonboats.org.uk](mailto:info@championdragonboats.org.uk) or call + 44 845 293 0897 / + 44 7729 447347



## 1<sup>st</sup> NOTTINGHAMSHIRE INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT REGATTA

*NWSC Nottingham – 28/29<sup>th</sup> July 2012.*

Held in conjunction with the 10<sup>th</sup> European Nations Championships, Club and BCS Crews from around the world are invited to compete in the 1<sup>st</sup> Nottingham International Dragon Boat Regatta (NIDBR) on the 28 and 29<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at the NWSC, Nottingham (the weekend that the 2012 Olympic Games start in London). The NIDBR racing distances will be over 200m, 500m in both IDBF Spec Standard Boats and Small Boats, for Open, Women's and Mixed crews of any age group.

**Entries from BCS and Club Crews for the NIDBR should be submitted by 6<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to [suemenzies@hotmail.com](mailto:suemenzies@hotmail.com).**

**Package costs for the European Championships and the Nottinghamshire Clubs Regatta.** A 5 Day package at the University of Nottingham, for example, will only cost £320.00 per person (or Euro 384.00 at a rate £1 = Euro.1.20) and covers return trip Airport Transfers from East Midlands Airport (arrival at another airport will be at additional cost), Bed & Breakfast (5), Lunches (4) Dinners (3), transport to and from the regatta course (4 days) and an BDA Admin Fee.

### International Airports – Distances to Nottingham & Coach Costs per Single Journey

12 miles: (20 kms)	East Midlands	(EMA)	£200.00
36 miles: (60 kms)	Robin Hood Doncaster/Sheffield	(DSA)	£375.00 *
43 miles: (70 kms)	Birmingham	(BHX)	£375.00
53 miles: (90 kms)	Manchester	(MAN)	£425.00
54 miles: (90 kms)	Humberside	(HUY)	£450.00 *
65 miles: (110 kms)	Leeds Bradford	(LBA)	£475.00 *
74 miles: (120 kms)	Liverpool John Lennon	(LPL)	£475.00 *
82 miles: (140 kms)	London Luton	(LTN)	£495.00
95 miles: (160 kms)	London Stansted	(STN)	£495.00
120 miles: (200 kms)	London Heathrow	(LHR)	£575.00
150 miles: (280 kms)	London Gatwick	(LGW)	£625.00

\* Cost subject to confirmation.

**Main Airlines operating from all or some of the above airports** – BMI Baby, East Jet, Jet 2, FlyBE, Ryan Air, Thomas Cook, Thompson, Wizz Air, Air Berlin, German Wings, KLM, BA,



**TAMPA 2011 – 10<sup>TH</sup> WORLD DRAGON BOAT RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**TEAM USA REGAIN THE 'NATIONS CUP'**



Who would win the 'Nations Cup', the premier trophy in the Dragon Boat World was the big question on the final day. Well the answer went down to the wire in Tampa with the final race of the Championships, the Premier Open 500m, deciding if three times winners Canada or holders China or two times winners the USA, would earn the title of the 2011 World Champion Nation.

**With just one point separating the big three**, both China and Canada needed to edge out the United States for a chance to win but in a superb 500m race, Germany stole the show, with a pulsating burst of power over the last 50 metres to win the Gold Medal, over the USA and China. Canada finished in fourth place and so Team USA's Silver Medal gave them enough points to regain the Nations Cup with 68 points, over China (65) and Canada (63).

Germany 58 points, Great Britain (38) and Australia (33) made up the top six Nations for 2011. Russia, Hungary, Macau and Japan completed the top ten. **In the Premier Women's Championships, Canada took the top spot trophy**, pushing China the 2009 winners into second place, with the USA third, followed by Australia, Great Britain, Germany and Macau.

**The Premier Medals Table was topped by Canada** with 5 Gold and 3 Silver, followed by the USA with 3 Gold, 5 Silver and a Bronze and China placed third with 3 Gold a Silver and 2 Bronze. Germany fourth took 1 Gold, 3 Silver and 2 Bronze medals.

**In the Senior's Championship**, Russia were dominant in the Open Class, winning all three Gold Medals but without a Women's Crew to back them up, they left Canada to take all but one Gold Medal in the Women's and Mixed Championships to retain the Senior Trophy, with Germany second and the USA third. Russia were placed fourth, then Australia, Great Britain and Japan.

**In the Junior Championships Germany**, despite not racing in the Junior Women's event, took the Junior Trophy winning 5 Gold Medals in the Open and Mixed races (39) points, with Canada second (33) and Singapore in third position, followed by the USA, Trinidad & Tobago and Great Britain.

### TAMPA 2011 - PREMIER DIVISION, STANDARD BOATS, GRAND FINALS RESULTS

<b>Prem Open 200m</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Prem Women 200m Times</b>	<b>Prem Mxd 200m</b>	<b>Times</b>
1.  China	0.44.269	1.  China	1.  China	0.44.692
2.  Germany	0.44.891	2.  Canada	2.  Canada	0.46.137
3.  Great Britain	0.45.742	3.  Australia	3.  Great Britain	0.46.331
4.  Russia	0.46.200	4.  United States	4.  Germany	0.46.900
5.  Canada	0.46.293	5.  Germany	5.  Russia	0.47.250
6.  United States	0.46.591	6.  United States	6.  United States	0.47.727
<b>Prem Open 500m</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Prem Women 500m Times</b>	<b>Prem Mixed 500m</b>	<b>Times</b>
1.  Germany	1:53.962	1.  Canada	1.  United States	1:56.515
2.  United States	1:54.198	2.  China	2.  Canada	1:58.166
3.  China	1:54.622	3.  United States	3.  Germany	1:58.617
4.  Great Britain	1:56.708	4.  Australia	4.  Australia	1:59.947
5.  Canada	1:56.730	5.  Great Britain	5.  China	2:01.556
6.  Hungary	1:58.714		6.  Great Britain	2:01.744
<b>Prem Open 1000m</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Prem Women 1000m Times</b>	<b>Prem Mixed 1000m</b>	<b>Times</b>
1.  United States	3:44.843	1.  Canada	1.  United States	4:01.208
2.  Germany	3:48.016	2.  United States	2.  Germany	4:04.326
3.  Hungary	3:48.375	3.  Australia	3.  Russia	4:04.924
4.  Russia	3:48.520	4.  China	4.  Canada	4:06.917
5.  China	3:51.967		5.  Great Britain	4:06.993
6.  Australia	3:59.041		6.  China	4:09.340
<b>Prem Open 2000m</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Prem Women 2000m Times</b>	<b>Prem Mxd 2000m</b>	<b>Times</b>
1.  Hungary	09:26.551	1.  Canada	1.  Canada	09:32.950
2.  United States	09:29.282	2.  United States	2.  United States	09:33.884
3.  Russia	09:36.531	3.  China	3.  Germany	09:35.469
4.  Canada	09:41.029	4.  Australia	4.  Great Britain	09:48.324
5.  Great Britain	09:43.603	5.  Great Britain	5.  China	09:49.574
6.  China	09:45.231	6.  Germany	6.  Macau	10:10.770
7.  Germany	09:47.887	7.  Macau	7.  Australia	10:12.868
8.  Australia	10:01.475		8.  Russia	10:27.089
9.  Macau	10:02.079		9.  Hong Kong	10:52.245
			10.  Italy	11:02.989

Full Results [http://www.dragonboat.pl/bigevents/2011\\_tampa\\_bay/results.php](http://www.dragonboat.pl/bigevents/2011_tampa_bay/results.php)



## NEWS FROM THE 13<sup>th</sup> IDBF CONGRESS - TAMPA FLORIDA, USA – 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2011

### CONGRESS CONFIRMS NEW IDBF BASIC & FULL MEMBERS.

The 13th IDBF Members Congress, held in Tampa, Florida on the 8<sup>th</sup> August 2011, confirmed as new IDBF Basic Members, Armenia, Brunei, Belarus, Ghana, Lithuania, Mauritius, Nigeria and Puerto Rico. Congress also approved Full Membership for India, Iran, Slovakia, Guam, Trinidad & Tobago and Turkey

**COMP REGS – NO MORE WRIST STRAPS TO PADDLES.** The Members Congress ratified a proposal from the Competition & Technical Commission (C&TC) that any kind of strap or strapping that attaches a paddle to the wrist of the paddler using it will no longer be permitted in a Dragon Boat.

The C&TC proposal was made on safety grounds, that is, in the event of a boat capsize or swamping a paddle attached to a paddler's wrist, could be a hazard to that paddler or to other paddlers, when trying to exit from a capsized or swamped boat.

The Competition Regulations now clarify the requirements for Seat Pads and define what IDBF Sanctioned and Approved events are. The composition of University & College Crews, Breast Cancer Survivors and All Cancer Survivors Crews as well as Adaptive Paddlers are also clarified, together with regulations covering competitions for these various crews.

**Further clarification on Small Boat crews** is given in the revised regulations, as are the definitions of permanent and temporary residency for the purposes of representation at International and World Championship levels.

### NEW IDBF TREASURER AND NEW CHAIR FOR THE MARKETING COMMISSION

**At the 2011 Congress the Executive President, the Secretary-General, the Treasurer and the Commission Chair holders, were all up for election.** Normally the elections are the shortest part of the Congress but this time it took a little longer, as there were 3 candidates for the Treasurer's position.

The 'old faces' nominated for re-election were **Mike Haslam**, Great Britain (Executive President), **Hu Jianguo**, China (Secretary-General), **David Cogswell**, Great Britain, (Treasurer).



**Mike Thomas**, was re-elected as Chairman of the Competition & Tech Commission and **Bob McNamara** as the Chairman of Medical & Sports Medici. **Angelina Ong**, was elected as the Chairwoman of Marketing & Media Commission, replacing Canada's Sharifa Khan.

**The election of the Treasurer involved a secret ballot**, which saw **Alan Van Caubergh** emerge as the successful candidate with a clear majority vote in his favour over retiring Treasurer, David Cogswell and new candidate Lorretta Lewis.



**In recognising his service over the past 20 years, to the IDBF and the Sport, the Congress granted Honorary Membership to Mr David Cogswell, who celebrated his 82<sup>nd</sup> Birthday During the 2011 World Championships in Tampa.**

In addition the Congress accepted the proposal from the EP, that **Loretta Lewis** and **David Cogswell** should be appointed as IDBF Deputy Treasurers' to assist the new Treasurer in carrying out his duties.



**The Congress endorsed** the Council's appointments of **Peter Tang** from Macau and **Yu Hanqiao** from China, as joint IDBF Deputy Secretary-Generals', to assist Secretary-General, Hu Jianguo, with his duties.

**DRAGON VIEWS ON YOUTUBE – check these links out for Dragon Views from Canada and Singapore**

<http://www.globalnews.ca/video/dragon+boating/video.html?v=2154821520#video> GGD story with BMO advert first

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXV71RtdFQ> Jason's Singapore promo clip

## STATUTES & BYE LAWS CHANGE – ONLY ONE IDBF PRESIDENT FROM 2014

A proposal from the Chinese Dragon Boat Association (CDBA), supported by the IDBF Council, that the IDBF should revert to only having one Presidential appointment, instead of the present two, was accepted and passed by the 2011 Members Congress.

The Congress Delegates agreed that following the 2013 Members Congress at which Madam Xiao Min, the present IDBF President would retire, that the revised IDBF Statutes and Bye Laws passed by the 2011 Congress concerning the President's office, would come into effect from 1 Jan 2014.

**This change will bring the IDBF into line with other Sport Accord, International Federations and returns the IDBF to the original Statutes passed in 1991 when the IDBF was formed.**

There will be very little change in the way that the IDBF practically operates, as the present role of the Executive President will become that of the IDBF President post 2013, with the word 'Executive' being dropped from the title.

**To rebalance the representation of China on the IDBF Executive & Council, a 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President's post will be introduced for election at the 2013 Congress, with the nomination being made by the CDBA.**

In recognition of the Chinese cultural roots and history of Dragon Boating, from 2013 China will also be entitled to nominate a President of Honour for the IDBF, if they so chose.

**The role of any future President of Honour, will be to assist the IDBF President in matters of protocol and to represent the IDBF with the Chinese Sports authorities and National Olympic Committee.**

**A number of other revisions to the IDBF Statutes and Bye-Laws were ratified by the 2011 Members Congress and these have been circulated to all IDBF Members. The revised Statutes and Bye-Laws came into effect on 1 January 2012.**

### WEB BASED DRAGON BOAT TV LAUNCHED - WATCH US ON WWW.IDBFDAGONBOAT.TV

Through sponsorship from **KAREL COMMUNICATIONS** of Turkey and **360 VISION** in the UK, the IDBF now has the cameras and equipment to go live with its own web based TV programme and live coverage of Dragon Boat events.



The 2011 Tampa World Nations, the European Club Champs in Kiev, the Macau Small Boat Autumn Races and the British Championships, in Nottingham, were the testing ground for trying out the equipment and live streaming coverage to the worldwide web.

**You can watch the play back videos on line** from the test events at [www.idbfdragonboat.tv](http://www.idbfdragonboat.tv) and then scroll down to the Latest Videos and/or the Library Section and click on the appropriate icon. **In 2012** the equipment will be upgraded to full HD and used to screen a regular IDBF web based TV programme

### SZEGED REPLACES TEHRAN IN 2013 !

**The delegates at the IDBF Members Congress had the difficult job of deciding whether or not to confirm Tehran as the host City for the 2013 World Dragon Boat Racing Championships – the World Nations Champs.**

Earlier in 2011 the Iran Sports Federation transferred responsibility for Dragon Boat Sport from the Iran Canoeing, Rowing & Sailing Federation to the Iran Dragon Boat Federation (IrndBA) giving Dragon Boating autonomy as an independent Sport.

As the officials now running the IrndBA had not been involved in the earlier discussions with the IDBF about hosting the 2013 World Championships in Tehran, they could not confirm to the Congress that funding and hosting would be available to the levels previously discussed with the IDBF Comp & Tech Com.

**The IDBF Council therefore recommended to the Congress, that the 2013 World Championships be re-allocated.**

The Hungarian Dragon Boat Federation (HDBF) who were bidding for the 2015 Championships, indicated that they were equally ready to organise a World Championships in 2013. After watching a presentation from the HDBF the Congress awarded the **2013 World Nations Champs to Szeged, in Hungary.**

### RAVENNA TAKES THE 2014 CLUB WORLDS'

**Following a presentation from the Italian Dragon Boat Federation (FIDB) Ravenna, Italy** was awarded the rights to host the **2014 Club Crew Worlds** and Dragon Boat Canada

### AND WELLAND WINS 2015 WORLD 'NATIONS'

(DBC), after making a bid presentation to the Congress were awarded the right to host the 2015 World Nations Championships in **Welland, Niagara.**

on the Sport, featuring interviews with people in the sport, news and views on International Dragon Boating and DVD coverage of Dragon Boat events from the IDBF Members.

In a separate development talks have been held with **YouTube**, with a view to starting a dedicated **YouTube IDBF Dragon Boat Channel – so watch this space for more details.**

As another exciting way of promoting the Sport, the IDBF recently established a link with **Belief Radio**, a web based global broadcaster in the UK that attracts over 200,000 listeners to its weekly magazine programme.

**In an interview on Belief Radio, Phil Keeler and Richard Smith spoke to IDBF Executive President, Mike Haslam**, about his role as the President of the British Dragon Boat Racing Association (BDA) and heard all about his background in the Sport, his international roles in Dragon Boating and his thoughts and aspirations for the Sport.

**You can listen to the full radio interview on Belief Radio at [www.beliefradio.com](http://www.beliefradio.com)** – then click onto - Prince William, dragonboating, Mike Haslam IDBF.



## IDBF EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT SETS THE SCENE FOR THE YEARS TO COME

**In giving his 2011 report to the Members Congress**, the IDBF Executive President, Mike Haslam, summarised the achievements of the IDBF since its foundation in Hong Kong in 1991, with just twelve Founding Members, to the present time and gave his views on the tasks facing the IDBF and the Sport in the years to come.

**The EP paid tribute to the enthusiasm and vision of the Founding Members**, who had taken the Sport far beyond the IDBF's first goal of organising World Championships for its Member Dragon Boat enthusiasts.

**He summarised that in the past 20 years, the IDBF had grown into a vibrant organisation with over 70 Countries and Territories** now in IDBF Membership.

**The IDBF had, in that time, developed a supporting industry** of nearly 50 boat and paddle manufacturers' making Boats and Paddles to IDBF Specifications and had over 40 Affiliated Dragon Boat Festivals and Event Organisers situated around the world, operating to IDBF Racing Rules and Safety guidelines.

Coaches and Race Officials Training Schemes for IDBF Members and IDBF web sites and magazines for the Sport had also been introduced and established and well organised World and Continental Championships had been held every year since 1995, with an ever increasing number of athletes and new racing classes being introduced and developed.

The EP observed that Dragon Boat Sport now embraced all ages and ability groups, including the very successful development of **Breast Cancer Survivors Crews** and the formation of the International Breast Cancer Paddlers Commission within the IDBF Dragon Boat family.

**On the sports political front** the EP said that in the 20 years of IDBF governance, Dragon Boating had moved from a traditional water based activity, taking place on an annual basis in China and South East Asia, to a world-wide Sport now practised by many, many millions of people around the globe.

In that time Dragon Boating had moved from sporting obscurity to the IDBF becoming a Full Member of Sport Accord, in 2007, with Dragon Boating now recognised as an independent Sport in its own right under the IDBF.

**The EP continued that with regard to the Olympic movement**, the Asian Dragon Boat Federation (ADBF) had been a recognised federation of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) since 2005 and Dragon Boating under IDBF Rules and Regulations, had been included since then in the East Asian Games, South East Asian Games, the Asian Beach Games and in 2010, the Asian Games for the first time.

**At the present time the IDBF Council is progressing the IDBF's application to the International Olympic Committee to become an Olympic Federation**, which is the big step towards applying for Dragon Boat Racing to become an Olympic Sport in the future.

**The EP stated that the road along the way to success had not always been a smooth one.**

**The IDBF has promoted the Sport at every opportunity, defending Dragon Boating as an independent Sport** and the IDBF's role in representing and serving all Dragon Boaters around the world.

**He pointed out that all of this development work and the governance of the Sport, had been carried out by voluntary officials** at all levels within the IDBF family, from the IDBF Council, through the IDBF Members and their Dragon Boat Clubs and crews, to every paddler involved with the Sport.

**The EP observed that the dedication and enthusiasm of these volunteers who moved the Sport forward was apparent in abundance at the 2011 World Championships** in Tampa, where despite the current state of the world's economy and the high costs and security difficulties associated with competing in the United States, nearly 2000 participants from 17 Countries and Territories had taken part, **including for the first time athletes from Puerto Rico and Trinidad & Tobago.**

**Despite unwarranted sports political problems** at home, caused by their National Olympic Committee and the resulting withdrawal of funding by their Sports Authorities, a team from the Philippines (the Premier Open world record holders over 200m) competed in Tampa with distinction in the Small Boat Championships, where they were joined in a show of solidarity by the top Premier Crews in the Open All Comers Races.

**Turning to the future of the Sport**, the EP said that he believed that the IDBF Members had got to reach out to the younger generations in the Sport and encourage them to become more involved in the organisation and administration of Dragon Boating and the politics of Sport at both National level within their own areas and at international level with the IDBF.

**The EP concluded** that as a Sport, Dragon Boating needed to raise the finances necessary at all levels, to employ full time staff to take the Sport to the next stage in its development.

**In the next few years the founders of modern Dragon Boating and the IDBF, want to hand over the baton of development and responsibility to the next generation to carry on the work that they started and to maintain the philosophy of the IDBF that Dragon Boating is more than a Sport – it is a Tradition.**

### 2014 BCS WORLD PARTICIPATORY FESTIVAL.

**During the Member's Congress, Jane Frost - President of the International Breast Cancer Paddlers Commission**, announced that bids were now open for the **2014 BCS World Participatory Festival**, venue to be decided early in 2012 – see IBCPC report in this DBI. In supporting the development of formal competition for BCS crews, within IDBF Championships, the Executive President (Mike Haslam) confirmed that **a BCS Division** (and an All Cancer Survivors Division) **would be included in the 2012 CCWC in Hong Kong.**

## HONORARY IDBF MEMBERSHIP PROPOSED FOR THE DUKE & DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE

The 2011 Congress unanimously approved that Honorary Membership should be offered to Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge and Catherine the Duchess of Cambridge, in acknowledgement of their interest and participation in Dragon Boating, over the past years. This interest had been highlighted by the Dragon Boat Race requested by them during their 2011 Tour of Canada.

The Dragon Boat Race, organised by Dragon Boat Canada Member, Dragonboat East, Nova Scotia, and featuring paddlers from the Canadian National Team, was covered extensively by the world's media and featured many pictures of the Royal Couple racing in their Dragon Boats, thus promoting Dragon Boating in Canada, the Sport in general and the IDBF image, to a global audience.



### 3 JUNE 2012 - ANOTHER 'ROYAL' OCCASION FOR DRAGON BOATING

One of the events taking place in London in 2012, to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, is the Jubilee River Pageant, which will be held on the River Thames, London, on Sunday the 3rd June 2012. The Pageant is for boats of all shapes and sizes to enter, from all over the World, to form part of the Queen's Royal Flotilla making its way down the River Thames - much like the Thames Great River Race for those that have done it - but not an actual race !

Here is another chance for Dragon Boating to make its presence felt in front of the British Royal Family – Wills and Kate included and the world's media too, as fourteen Dragon Boat Crews from the UK and Canada and paddlers from Australia too will be taking part in this right Royal historic occasion !

Mike Thomas, Chairman of the IDBF Competition & Technical Commission, is involved with the waterside organisation of the Pageant and is helping to co-ord the logistic arrangements for the dragon boats.

As part of the requirement to see if Dragon Boats would be able to handle the conditions and stay in front of the Queens' Barge, without getting caught up, four boats had to take a rehearsal run down the course on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2012, pictured below at the finish. So in short the actual pageant is not going to be a slow or easy paddle, as there are motorised boats in the Pageant too and the River Thames will become very choppy - to say the least !!

Contact Mike Thomas by email: [mike.thomas@shadwell-basin.org.uk](mailto:mike.thomas@shadwell-basin.org.uk) for further information. The Pageant web site is at <http://www.thamesdiamondjubileepageant.org/index.htm>



Getting ready for the Queen's Jubilee Pageant.  
Abreast from the West, Vancouver- Canada



Through the Finish Line – Feb 2012 practice day.

## COACHES CORNER - TRAINING AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT USING THE O1

David Bangs - Director of Coaching, the British Dragon Boat Racing Association (BDA)

### TRAINING & PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

In many team sports it is common for coaches to find ways of isolating the individual athletes and focusing on their specific needs. The larger the team, the more difficult this becomes and the greater the need for way in which the athlete can be more involved in the construction and monitoring of their training programme.

The members of a rowing eight may well have access to individual sculls, pairs or fours. In our world of Dragon Boat Racing we have the individual outrigger. This may be a specifically designed OC1 or a modified K1 with an attached outrigger the O1.

**There are two main areas in which the O1 should be part of the training of the Dragon Boat paddler.**

- Measurement of their performance
- The management of their own training

### MEASUREMENT OF PERFORMANCE

**If a person is to get a sense of achievement in any sporting activity they will need to see development and progress in themselves.** In a team sport it is relatively easy to measure the performance changes in the team as a whole but it is difficult to assess the contribution made by the separate team members.

**The larger the team and the more specific the discipline the more difficult it is to separate the individual performances of the athletes.** Dragon Boat Racing with its large crew numbers and short sprint racing of as little as 40 seconds is therefore one of the hardest sports in which to carry out individual assessments.

The athletes that we are dealing with will therefore find it very hard to get real feedback on their own development if they only ever paddle in the Dragon Boat. The best they can hope for is a subjective viewpoint of what they look like when they are paddling.

**The problem that we face is the fact that it is almost impossible for us to measure the individual performance of our paddlers within the dragon boat at the present time, we simply do not have the technology available.**

It may be possible to do this in the future with strain gauges on the paddles and some form of data logging system but even then we would find it difficult to separate the individual from the psychological dynamics of the team.

**This would also be very difficult to do on a day to day basis in such a way as to make it available to the individual paddlers when they need it.**

It is true that in an ideal world we could have all the members of the crew out at each training session and do a series of regular seat racing exercises in which paddlers are substituted for each other in a systematic manner and the time of the crew recorded over full power runs of a fixed course with standard weather conditions. Again is unlikely for us to be able to achieve this.

**For an athlete to train effectively they will need to be able to measure their performance and learn to understand how their performance is changing in relation to the training that they are doing on a regular basis.**

Similarly if an athlete is not aware of their performance they cannot carry out any target setting exercises and these should be part of any effective training programme.

**For any effective target setting exercise, it is necessary to set SMART targets, these are:-**

- Specific
- Measurable
- Attainable
- Realistic
- Time related

Setting sensible SMART targets is fundamental to any athlete if they are to achieve success in any of their chosen fields.

**The single person Outrigger (O1) provides a solution, it is a relatively simple craft to use effectively, most paddler can learn to use one in about 3 to 5 hours of practice.**

The O1 can be used safely provided a relevant risk assessment has been done by a qualified Coach.

The O1 can be obtained from specialist manufacturers or it can be made by converting a marathon or sprint K1, by obtaining a float and attaching it to the back deck.

**Performance can easily be measured by setting a course on a consistent piece of water and carrying out timed runs.** Notes taken of the conditions and state of the athlete will allow a picture to be built up of the performance over time.

### THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR OWN TRAINING

**As with any sport the athletes in dragon boating will need to train to improve their performances.** In order to progress their performance effectively, it must be tailored to their needs and lifestyle.

**Most clubs will offer training sessions in Dragon Boats but this is usually only up to a max of three sessions a week.**

These will almost certainly be for a range of participants, with a range of abilities. Sessions will sometimes have complete novices in the boat while other times may have many experienced paddlers. The sessions will therefore be focused on developing a range of skills and may not be necessarily what each individual needs at that time.

Obviously some of the better coaches will be aware of this and may be able to focus their attention on specific athletes at certain times using video work etc, however this is difficult when the coaches may be having to deal with large numbers of paddlers.

**It is therefore essential for any athlete and coach to find a way in which they can address their own individual needs in their training.**

The O1 can provide a way in which the coach and the athlete can do some one to one training or small training groups can be set up where the skills of the group could be spread more easily.

If clubs can provide access to O1 training either with club boats or providing their members with access to water for using private boats it can allow the athletes the opportunity to develop more advanced training programmes such as those required by athletes training towards selection for their National Squad.

### IDBF WATER SAFETY PROCEDURES - THE CAPSIZE AND SELF RESCUE DRILL



Prepare to capsize – rock & roll the boat



The tipping point - take care, be aware



Over we go – then look for your Buddy



Double check your Buddy is there



Prepare to turn the boat back over



Lift up and push away from the Crew



Control the roll back up – final flip



Stabilize the boat and prepare to bail



Crew evenly on both sides – bail out



Bail out and boat lifts out of the water



Put Crew back in boat - one at a time



Stay with your Buddy and keep bailing



Helm returns – takes control



Remaining paddlers back in the Boat



Return to shore – 5 minute target max



## NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE WORLD DRAGON BOAT FAMILY

### 5th IRAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2011 - CLOSE RACING IN THE SNOW !!

**Mohammadreza Dorkhah, IT & Intl. Affairs, Iran Dragon Boat Association**

The 2011 Iran National Dragon Boat Championships, held in November, differed from previous year's competitions, with cold weather and unexpected snow falls in Tehran.

Different too in that this year the championships were organized for the first time under the guidance and authority of the newly independent Iran Dragon Boat Association.

**"This Championship was the best yet organised "** said Mr Fathinia, Coach of Guilan.

**A total of 617 athletes in 19 teams from 11 provinces took part in the championships,** in both Men and Women categories and over 500m and 2000m race distances.

**Crews from Guilan and Tehran were placed first and second overall in both the Men's and Women's Championships.** Kordestan were placed third in the Men's competitions, whilst in the Women's events Hormozgan and Isfahan tied for third place.



For the first time, at the Iran National Championships, a professional radio team complete with a very cold announcer with a great sense of humour, added a fun atmosphere to the event.

The radio team was a part of the very experienced exhibition group, Dyrin, who were responsible for the commercial side of the Championships.

Also on hand was a fully equipped medical team, plus life guards and divers, who came to the rescue

when the Hormozgan crew's boat capsized during their 2000m race !



**Mr Moshiri, Head of the Iran DBA Coaches Committee** said that "we hope to build a strong Iranian National Team from the crews that took part in these championships" and that "Iran will participate in the 2012 Asian Dragon Boat Championships in Bussan, South Korea". **Mr Kani, Iran DBA Secretary General,** added that "in Bussan we aim to show that compared with Guangzhou 2010, good progress has been made by the Iran National Team."

**These Championships were a big step forward in the progress of Dragon Boating in Iran** and the Iranian Dragon Boat paddlers showed their deep interest in Dragon Boat Sport. It is hoped that some of these clubs will compete in the IDBF Club Crew World Championships in Hong Kong, in July 2012. **For information on the Iran Dragon Boat Association and Dragon Boating in Iran, go to [www.iranbdba.ir](http://www.iranbdba.ir) or email [info@iranbdba](mailto:info@iranbdba).**



### REUNION ISLAND – RIDBA. MOVING TOWARDS THE 1<sup>st</sup> REUNION ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS



**The Reunion Island DBA, are planning to launch their first dragon boat championship series next year, over the three race distances of 200m, 500m and 2000m.** Presently there are three crews in training from the last DB Festival and the association is looking for more to move into the Sport Racing side of Dragon Boating, so as to make the 1<sup>st</sup> Reunion Island Championships 2013 viable

On the development side, the town of Saint Louis has approached the Association to launch DB activities on Etang du Gol (south west side of the island), where the intent is to organize races over 500 meters.

**An exhibition of DB activities** is planned there for May and depending on the success of this event, the City Council will help to promote Dragon Boating on that part of the Island.

Unfortunately, for financial reasons a Reunion Island crew will not be able to compete in the Hong Kong CCWC this year, but the Association is working on sending a crew to a regional destination like South Africa or Mauritius for their first international race.

**JC Kwong (pictured) Chairman Reunion Island DBA.**

Thanks go to JC and his crew for their demonstration of the IDBF Dragon Boat Capsize and Self-Rescue Drills, shown in pictorial form in the 'Coaching Corner' section of this edition of DBI. Even the Reunion Island waters can get a bit chilly, sometimes !?

**DBS MARINA DRAGON BOAT REGATTA, SINGAPORE – 4<sup>TH</sup> to 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2012**  
*The First International Dragon Boat Competition to be held in Singapore Since 2000*

**Dateline Singapore, – DBS Bank has announced the launch of the inaugural DBS Marina Regatta, a new international competition for the Asian sport of dragon boating, in partnership with the Singapore Dragon Boat Association (SDBA).**

The DBS Marina Regatta will be held annually in partnership with the Singapore Dragon Boat Association. The regatta is billed to be the biggest international water sports event in Singapore and its first international dragon boat competition since 2000.

The regatta will take place in the Marina Reservoir – against the backdrop of the new Marina Bay city skyline, on the doorstep of DBS' new headquarters and will bring this vibrant Asian sport to the heart of Singapore's new financial district.

**“As a bank born and bred in Asia, DBS believes in the importance of Asian culture. Dragon boating, with its long Asian heritage and pan-Asian appeal, is a key part of our culture. This is a great opportunity for DBS to play a part in the development of the international dragon boat sporting scene and broadening the spectator appeal of the sport,”** said Sim S. Lim, Country Head for Singapore, DBS.

“The DBS Marina Regatta will bring more life and excitement to the Marina Reservoir,” added Sim. As a traditional sport that has evolved with the times, dragon boating symbolises a new Asia that has similarly progressed over the years.

As the largest bank in Singapore and a leading bank in Asia, DBS has been synonymous with the region's growth and has played a key role in helping Asian businesses grow regionally.

**DBS recognises the importance of encouraging cross-border interactions between communities in Asia. Dragon boating has grown to become a pan-Asian sport with a unique ability to connect Asia.**

**The sport is now present in more than 70 countries** including DBS's six key markets in Singapore, Hong Kong, China, India, Indonesia and Taiwan. DBS will play a significant role in driving the further development of a truly pan-Asian sport in Singapore.

## **DRAGONS COME TO ANTWERP – BELGIUM DRAGON BOATERS ARE BACK !**

**The first Port of Antwerp Dragon Boat Festival took place on 10 Sep 2011, with 44 teams from local businesses, clubs, neighbourhood associations, cafes and schools. The weather was perfect at the Kattendijkdok, near to the centre of Antwerp, where the festival took place**

The festivities were opened by the **Hon Donald Tsang, the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.** Mr. Tsang reflected on the cultural and business ties between the two port cities and welcomed paddlers to come to Hong Kong where the IDBF World Club Crew Championship will be taking place in July 2012.

**Peter Joos, Chairman of the Rotary Club Antwerp-West, said this year's festival is just a small start to something big for Belgium and promised that the 2012 festival will have even more teams and activities.** But it wouldn't have been possible to stage such an event without plenty of sponsors and the hard work of the Rotary Club Antwerpen-West and Rotary Cofra, who organized the event, recruited teams, arranged facilities and publicity, and provided a wonderful crew of helpful, friendly volunteers to keep things running smoothly and safely. Proceeds from the festival went towards restoring the three-master ship the Belgica, which will eventually be berthed nearby.

**Belgium was one of the founding members of the EDBF back in 1990,** but has not been active in the sport for the past several years, so it was nice to welcome Belgium back to the world of dragon boat racing as the festival also signalled the re-birth of racing teams in Belgium, as Kookeeny (pronounced like coke-n-aa), a group of sports fanatics stemming from a management training business of the same name (and first place winner of the mixed team races) purchased a dragon boat and is now hard at work training for other European races. Hopefully we will see them on the European scene soon!

**For more information on the festival, visit their website: [www.antwerpdragons.com](http://www.antwerpdragons.com).**

**Singapore DBA will lend their expertise in organising the competition and encourage the participation of both international and local dragon boat teams.**

**Dr Lam Pin Min, President of the SDBA said, “This is SDBA's 25th year and we are excited to partner DBS to organise the DBS Marina Regatta.**

After a gap of more than 10 years, international dragon boat racing will return to Singapore waters in a very big way at the iconic venue of Marina Reservoir. DBS' strong support for this prestigious international event will definitely raise the profile of dragon boating both locally and internationally.”

DBS will oversee the non-competition aspects of the regatta, such as marketing and branding, and fringe activities at the competition venue for athletes and spectators. DBS is also providing S\$70,000 in cash prizes for the overall winners of the following races: DBS Premier Open (22 crew), DBS Premier Women (12 crew), DBS Premier Mixed (22 crew) and DBS Tertiary Mixed (22 crew).

The DBS Marina Regatta will be held from 4 to 6 May 2012, with racing divided into international and local categories.

The international category will feature the DBS Premier Open (22 crew), DBS Premier Women (12 crew) and DBS Premier Mixed (22 crew) races, while the local category will comprise DBS Tertiary Mixed (22 crew), Singapore Corporate Open (12 crew), Singapore International Community Open (12 crew) and Singapore Community Open (12 crew).

**For more information go to:-**  
<http://www.dbs.com/marinaregatta>.



**IRELAND – IreDBA****DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL REGATTA SETS THE SCENE FOR 2012**

**Report from Julie DOYLE, Chair the Irish Dragon Boat Association.**

The weekend of 10/11<sup>th</sup> September 2011 saw the Irish DBA in conjunction with Plurabelle Paddlers, Ireland's first Breast Cancer Survivors Crew, host its inaugural International Dragon Boat Regatta in Dublin.



**Six international crews took part in the event from four countries**

– France, Great Britain, the UAE and of course Ireland, with the remainder of the crews at the two day event made up from local crews who raced in the charity/novice side of the regatta.

**21 crews competed on Saturday**, in the 200m open races, giving a full event with the three boats the IrDBA currently has available. British crews took the first and second spots with Thames & Friends in 0.55.94, followed by Worcester Dragons in 0.56.97. Thusy & Friends from France took the third place with a fine 0.59.78.

Home Team BCS Plurabelle Paddlers (1.07.09) edged out BCS Pink Champagne (1.08.68) from the UK. to take fourth place, whilst Etihad Airlines (UAE) completed the Grand Final six. In the Charity & Novices final, Google, Round Tower Senior Footballers and Coworkinn.com, took the prizes.

**Sunday saw the 400m open race class for the international crew's whilst the 14 new charity/novice crews** for the day competed over the 200m race distance. The international Grand Final was a repeat of Saturday's result and the Charity & Novices races were won by Barrow Line Bandits, with Ely Trilogy and Team Chameleon finishing second and third.

Both days ran like clockwork with a support team of IDBF Race Officials from the UK, Netherlands and Ireland.

Fortunately the race course at Grand Canal Dock, Dublin proved to be a successful location for the regatta. Although the dock is only 500m in length it is wide and deep and the organisers were able to run 200m and 400m racing.

**The course is ideally located close to Dublin's City Centre**, with an array of cafes, restaurants and supermarkets around the dock, plus it is in easy walking distance to a large number of hotels and Dublin tourist attractions.



Rumour has it the Event Party was certainly one not to be missed with all the crews encouraged to participate in the traditional Irish dancing. **The IDBA look forward to welcoming more crews for this year's event, scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> September 2012. Contact Julie Doyle by email at [info@acaunsolutions.com](mailto:info@acaunsolutions.com) for more information and entry details.**

**SCHOOLS DRAGON BOAT PROJECT AND PINK PADDLERS.**

In another first for Dragon Boating in Ireland, the BCS Crew Plurabelle Paddlers, were recently awarded a €10,000 grant from the Health Service to run a pilot schools programme.

Basically the crew will be taking transition year pupils (age group 16 - 18), 40 each from 10 schools (400 in total) and giving them 5 sessions each in the dragon boat.

**At the end of it they will then race at the International Regatta in Dublin in September.**

Julie Doyle (Chair of the Irish DBA) will write a 5 week participation schedule which will include some information on eating habits plus the participants in the programme will be given a fitness manual.

**The pilot Dragon Boat Schools Project is an excellent opportunity to engage teenagers in a fun team sport led by members of the Plurabelle Paddlers.**

**Training the children in the dynamic team water sport of Dragon Boating, which is accessible to participants of all levels of fitness, provides an excellent opportunity to promote a positive attitude to physical activity.**

A significant element of the current Cancer Awareness Programme in Ireland explores healthy lifestyle choices and the promotion of physical activity. The programme also considers the improving survival rates of people who have completed treatment for cancer.

**The Plurabelle Paddlers, by engaging with the children through the pilot Dragon Boat Schools Project will help eliminate some of the myths and fears that still surround the perception of cancer** and validate the message that physical activity is beneficial at all stages of life. 10 Secondary schools will be involved in this pilot project.

**FRANCE - DBF.****DRAGONS IN THE CASTLE GARDENS – FRENCH FUN STYLE !**

**With the support from the Domaine de Chantilly, the 1st International Dragon Boat Festival proudly presents a new concept, "The French Gardens Regattas" and promises a fun-filled day that will bring sport and team spirit to the French Gardens of the Chantilly Castle on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2012, just 15 kilometers north of Paris.**

**Organized by Nautiques Evénements**, an IDBF Affiliated Event Organizer, "The Fun Races" as they will be known, invite international teams to compete for the Chantilly Dragon Boat Cup. Corporate Crews from Hôtels & Resorts and Company teams will compete for the Prince of Chantilly Cup. **Further information from [www.thefunraces.com](http://www.thefunraces.com).**

**CHINA – CDBA. CHINESE DRAGON BOAT ASSOCIATION – FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE IDBF.**

The Chinese Dragon Boat Association, a national non-governmental organization based in Beijing, was established in Yichang, Central China's Hubei Province, in June 1985. The is a member of the All-China Sports Federation and a Founder Member of both the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) and the Asian Dragon Boat Federation (ADBF).

The tasks of the association are to increase popularity of dragon boat sport activities; to approve competition regulation and judging rules; to organize national competitions and training for athletes, judges and coaches; to approve national judges; to organize international competitions and to assist Chinese teams' participation in international competitions.

Under the Association there are the Representatives' Congress of Chinese Dragon Boat Association, the Standing Committee, the Equipment Committee, the Regulations Committee, the Judges Committee, the Technical Committee and the Document Committee.

For more information on Dragon Boating in China:- Tel: 86-10-6712 8832 Fax: 86-10-6713 3577.

**DRAGON SLALOM – CHINESE STYLE – CHECK THIS OUT !!** [香港人看看國內的龍舟比賽吧再看看你們自己的龍舟賽](#)

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9x29IWbFjdc&feature=Blast\\_TV](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9x29IWbFjdc&feature=Blast_TV)

睇到電視到播的香港龍舟比賽，有時真的想嘔，這「垃圾」的比賽香港人都中意，真系無奈。且不論香港的所謂標準龍沒有我們的傳統龍好睇，就那技術觀賞性，都唔得。就彎都無轉多個，離群眾又遠，無D好睇

**CZECH REPUBLIC – CZDBA. PLENTY OF RACING TO GO FOR IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC !**

Czech Dragon Boat Association would like to invite crews from around the world to participate in one or more of the Czech Dragon Boat Events this season! All races are open to international crews and you are more than welcome!

We are continuing with our Czech Dragon Boat Cup already in its 9th season. This series is for sport crews (open, women and mixed) and on every event we race on 200, 500 and 2000m. These events are organized at the same top level as you are already familiar with from the European Nations Championship 2006 in Prague or the World Championships 2009 in Racice near Prague.

All the top Czech and Slovak sport crews are participating in these events which gives you a very good opportunity for your crew to race on a high level in the company of world class world club crews !

Next to these races the Czech DBA will also organize the Dragon Boat Grand Prix series for fun, mixed and Corcom crews for the 5th season. There are 10 events in Bohemia and 10 events in Moravia, each over 200m and 1km distances. A very important part of these races is of course the Dragon Boat Party for all participants, after the racing !

New for the 2012 season is the Czech Dragon Boat Tour! This is a new series of 7 long-distance races varying from 2 kilometres to a real marathon - 42.195 kilometres! Now there is a challenge for you!

We hope that you will choose to join one of our races from the Czech Dragon Boat Menu 2012! We are looking forward to your teams here and wish you successful season in the Year of the Dragon! **Petr Klima, President, Czech Dragon Boat Association.**

Further event details can be found on the CzDBA website at [www.dragonboat.cz](http://www.dragonboat.cz) which will be soon be available in English too.

**ROMANIA IDBF HELPS BUCHAREST CORPORATE GAMES TO STAGE DRAGON BOATING**

Mr Mike Haslam the Executive President of the IDBF was a guest speaker at the British Ambassador's Residence reception in Bucharest, sponsored by Ancada, to promote the Bucharest Corporate Games, the first to be held in Romania.

Mike gave an excellent overview of Dragon Boat Racing to the assembled crowd, highlighting the historical significance of the activity, which is one of the oldest sports in the World, with over 100,000 Dragon Boat Racers in Europe alone.

Mike Haslam has been instrumental in helping the Bucharest Corporate Games introduce the sport to Romania. He has helped us bring the boats to Romania through the IDBF's development programme and they will be permanently based here in Bucharest.

We are in the process of creating the Dragon boat Federation of Romania and this will also help on the journey to enabling Olympic Sport status. Dragon boating is a great sport and is used in many countries around the world as part of their team building strategies. Many corporate companies sponsor Dragon Boating and many have their own teams.

Dragon boating will be seen on a regular basis on Herăstrău lake as we continue to build this sport in Romania... Come along and Race the Dragon during the Games period 24-27 May 2012 !!!! **Martin Verhagen, President Bucharest Corporate Games.**

For further information email Radu Radulescu CEO Bucharest Corporate Games [radu.radulescu@corporate-games.com](mailto:radu.radulescu@corporate-games.com)



## **HUNGARY – HDBF. COURT CONFIRMS HDBF AS THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY.**

*Peter Jarosi, the Hungarian Dragon Boat Federation, Secretary General, following a recent Court case over the governance of Dragon Boating, said that he was very pleased that the Pest Court had clearly clarified the legal status of both the HDBF and the Hungarian Canoe Federation (HCF). He was also happy to see that the Hungarian Courts' had again confirmed that the authorised governing body for Hungarian dragon boating was the HDBF and that the Court had ruled that the HDBF could take legal action under the Hungarian Sports Act, if the HDBF's governance rights over Dragon Boat sport were violated in the future.*

**But what was this case all about and how had it arisen.** In August 2008 the HDBF, founded in 1998 to develop the Sport, was entered by the Municipal Court of Budapest, into the Register of National Sport Federations and became the legally recognized governing body for Dragon Boating in Hungary.

**According to the Hungarian Sports Act, only one specific federation per Sport can operate as a national governing body and under this act in 2001, the HCF was only registered as the national sports federation for kayaking and canoeing.**

Each registered federation has certain rights granted to it under the Sports Act, such as the right to hold National Championships and select Hungarian National Teams for their specific sport..

**Around 2009, the Hungarian Canoe Fed (HCF) started to organise some festival type** Dragon Boating having from 2005, held 'selection' races for ICF Championships. This was despite the fact that they were aware that the then General Association of International Sports Federations, had ruled in 2005, that Dragon Boating and Canoeing were two different sports.

**The HDBF were not happy but felt that anyone involved in Dragon Boating could help to promote the Sport,** so to avoid any confrontation they tried to form a relationship with the HCF.

**Rather than work with the HDBF, the HCF claimed that** as a Member of the International Canoe Federation (ICF) they were the existing Hungarian national governing body for Dragon Boating because since 2005 it was a discipline of ICF canoeing.

**This stance by the HCF was taken despite knowing that Dragon Boating had been recognized, at that time, as an independent sport under the jurisdiction of the IDBF,** by international sports organizations, such as Sportaccord. **This meant that Dragon Boating could not simply be claimed as a Canoeing discipline.**

**After the HDBF became the National Federation for Dragon Boating, the HCF started to hold what it called the Hungarian National Dragon Boat Championships, a right under the Hungarian Sports Act given to the HDBF.**

**in late 2010, following the actions by the HCF, the HDBF in order to protect its rights under the Sports Act,** felt that it had no option but to petition the Pest Central District Court concerning its status and for the Court to establish which federation was entitled to govern Hungarian Dragon Boat Sport.

**In response and unknown to the HDBF at the time, the HCF requested the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office to cancel the registration of the HDBF as the specific National Governing Body for Dragon Boating in Hungary..**

**The Prosecutor firmly refused this unprecedented request saying it had no legal foundation** and pointed out that the Budapest Municipal Court, when registering the HDBF, had confirmed that there was no other Hungarian federation for sport registered as the national body for Dragon Boating.

**A year later, in the Pest Central District Court,** the Judge in his rulings made it quite clear that according to the Register maintained by the court, the HDBF was the specific federation for Dragon Boating and the HCF the specific federation for Kayak-Canoe and that according to the Hungarian Sport Act, there can be only one national sports federation per sport, specifically and exclusively for each sport. **For Dragon Boating that clearly was the HDBF.**

**As the HDBF had not asked the Court to exclude the HCF from practicing Dragon Boating** and had not proceeded with a claim for a violation of its rights, the Judge closed the case but confirmed that the HDBF was still entitled to take court action as the legal national sports federation for Hungarian Dragon Boating, for any violation of its rights under the Sports Act.

**The status of the HDBF was fully justified in the Court's detailed judgement and the mandate of the HDBF as the sole National Governing Body for Dragon Boating was confirmed.**

**For the HDBF the confirmation of their status as the National Governing Body for Dragon Boating, was the most important thing** and the reasoning which formed part of the Court's ruling, is now the reference for any future case concerning Dragon Boat Sport in Hungary.

### **OPINION OF THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT.**

**One of the documents produced to the Hungarian Court showed that in 2008, the ICF requested a Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Opinion on various issues concerning the governance of Dragon Boating,** The CAS Arbitrator advised the ICF in the CAS Opinion, of the following regarding the IDBF's standing and the IDBF's proprietary equipment:-

*'For each sport the GAISF recognizes only one federation governing its sport on a world level. So by becoming a member of the GAISF the IDBF was recognised to be the only federation governing its sport on a world level.'*

*'Since 1994 the standard for the boats used for racing follow specifications made by the IDBF. The boat and paddle specifications proposed by the IDBF are followed internationally and can be found on the IDBF's home page, the ICF follows these definitions in its Dragon Boat Racing Competition Rules.'*

It follows from this CAS Opinion, that when an International Sports Federation (ISF) like the IDBF, is recognised internationally as the specific international federation governing its sport on a world level, that the Members' of that ISF are the legitimate governing bodies for their sport at 'National' level.

This sporting reality has now been confirmed by the Civil Courts' rulings in Hungary in the case of the HDBF.

**The CAS opinion and Pest Court rulings set an extremely important precedent for all IDBF Members but especially those in the European Union and those who have issues with their Canoe Federations concerning Dragon Boating.**

**JAPAN – JDBA. A BIG ‘HELLO’ FROM OSAKA, JAPAN.**

Like, perhaps, most dragon boat organizations in the world, the Osaka Dragon Boat Association (ODBA), one of the key groups in the Japan Dragon Boat Association (JDBA), is actively pursuing various aspects of dragon boating. One of these is a semi-annual race dubbed “Hokko Sprint” featuring 200-meter races. It takes place in the Hokko (north port) Yacht Harbour in Osaka City. This originally started as a very local race to forge friendships amongst Osaka-based teams. For that purpose the barbecue party is as important as races!

**Regardless of the race results, whether a trophy is awarded or races are lost, every paddler and their friends mingle together over yummy barbecue at the end of the day.**

Although this original concept of the races is still maintained, the 2011 “Hokko Sprint” - held in the late fall, was a bit different from past races. Recognizing how devoted ODBA has been to promoting Dragon Boating, the Osaka Amateur Sports Association, the Osaka area branch of the Japan Sports Association, officially admitted ODBA as its full member representing DB organizations in the Osaka region. ODBA’s “Hokko Sprint” is now an official sporting event of the Osaka Amateur Sports Association.



**Whilst racing is a key activity, efforts to get more people interested in Dragon Boating are just as important.** The ages of the ODBA member crews range from paddlers in their 20’s to those in their 70’s but we all get older and therefore the next generation of paddlers must be found and introduced to our Sport.

**With that in mind, school children are always invited to paddle in Hokko Sprint as part of ODBA’s grass-roots activities. ODBA is hoping that these kids will come back to join us in competition and that some of them will be racing in international arenas in the future.**

I plan to tell you more about what is happening in Osaka as well as elsewhere in Japan in future DBI issues. Until then, keep paddling, folks! **NAT KAWAKITA.** JDBA and ODBA, Osaka, Japan

A future international.



Safety first, BBQ after



Show me how to paddle



Are you ready or NOT ?

**ISRAEL - DBI COUNTDOWN IS ON TO THE INAUGURAL DRAGON BOAT ISRAEL FESTIVAL.**

**Barbara Goldberg, Toronto, Ontario, Canada**



**Two months to go and Dragon Boat Israel Team registration is sold out!**

**Thirty nine teams will experience Israel in a unique and exciting way as they paddle into history together on the beautiful and historic Sea of Galilee on May 17&18, 2012.**

Half the participating teams will be from Canada and the other from Israel. The sport is not known in Israel but that didn’t stop teams from registering!

**We are thrilled to have eight breast cancer teams competing for the first time in this our inaugural event; six teams from Canada and two new teams from Israel.**

There will be a breast cancer race and ceremony with specially created medals being awarded. There are still some teams looking for paddlers so if you are an individual interested in participating in Dragon Boat Israel, please **contact Frances Halperin, at fhalperin@rogers.com** and we will match you up with a team.

One of the exciting aspects of Dragon Boat Israel (DBI), a Canada Israel initiative, is not just the Festival itself, but the introduction of the sport of dragon boating to Israel. Creating cross-cultural connections through dragon boating is part of DBI’s vision and we are delighted at the response we have had in our inaugural year.

In addition to participating in the Festival, paddlers will have the opportunity to tour the country as tour packages are available to appeal to all tastes and budgets. The Festival will raise funds for Youth Futures and Net@, two organizations that work with disadvantaged youth in northern Israel. **For more information visit [www.dragonboatisrael.com](http://www.dragonboatisrael.com)**



**THE PHILIPPINES – PDBF.****PDBF PRESIDENT SENDS GREETINGS.**

To all our media friends and sponsors, PDBF clubs their team leaders and their paddlers, the PDBF Board members and officers and all IDBF Members a very big 'thank you' to you all for your support and understanding during 2011 of the situation in the Philippines.

The show of solidarity you gave to our National Team at the Tampa World Championships enabled our Team to compete and win. I look forward to your continuing support for the PDBF in 2012, the year of the Water Dragon - **Marcia Cristobal, PDBF President.**

The Philippine National Squad, Paddlers from the Pinoy Dragon Warriors Club

**GREAT BRITAIN – BDA.****NEWS FROM THE BDA MEMBERS CONGRESS****SEMINAR WORKSHOP ON CLUB MANAGEMENT.**

The 2011 BDA Congress was hosted by Crusaders Dragon Boat Club in November at the Crosby Water Sports Centre. **Lisa Hayes**, BDA Chair and Coach of Exe-Calibre Dragon Boat Club facilitated a workshop focussed on the effective management of dragon boat clubs. A case study of Exe-Calibre Dragon Boat Club was presented, which had grown from about 25 members in 3 years to just under 100 members.

This had required careful consideration of the management structure of the club, from an executive committee of 4 with about 7 club officers (equipment, social etc.) to a much larger executive committee of 10, representing the membership better and with a much wider range of roles, including 01 maintenance, dragon boat maintenance, social, race co-ordinator, PR & Publicity, Welfare Officer, Safety Officer, a Head Coach and coaching team and a finance team including treasurer, grants officer, sponsorship officer and fundraising officer. This structure had been put in place to enable more volunteers to step forward and become involved in running their club. **To find out more about club management and development, contact Lisa Hayes at [Lisa.Hayes@dragonboat.org.uk](mailto:Lisa.Hayes@dragonboat.org.uk)**

**SEMINAR WORKSHOP ON ADVANCED HELMING.**

**Dave Bangs**, Director of Coaching for the BDA and coach at Amathus Dragon Boat Club led a workshop session focused on advanced helming.

There was discussion about how paddlers in the boat could be utilised effectively to assist the helm with manoeuvring. It was suggested that off-season training sessions be used to give everyone a go at helming, so that they were aware of how difficult it was. Also, to use training sessions to practice difficult starts e.g. crosswinds etc. It was advised that there should be clear communication between the person running the session and the helm so that there was no confusion.

The winter season is an ideal time for helms to practice. Having a go at helming ensures that people who want to be coaches understand the boat from a helms perspective as well as a paddler. Paddlers should be used to fine tune the positioning of the boat. Various ways of turning were discussed (carve turns and spin turns).

It was suggested that for improved safety when bringing the boat in, the helm should come in slowly towards the jetty and stop about 1m away and use paddlers to draw the boat in to the side. It was suggested that paddlers should help other paddlers out of the boat to avoid injury and slipping.



The Pink Piranha Breast Cancer Supporters and Survivors Group was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2012. Tim Smith says "we are based at the Wraysbury Skiff & Punting Club, Runnymede, Surrey but aim to serve the whole of the Thames Valley. We will complement the existing BC groups and hope to work closely with them in future. The initial concept is "Breast Cancer- inclusive" so we will never turn anybody who wants to paddle away."

"We are not primarily a racing team so will gladly train paddlers and pass them on to their local BDA clubs if they wish to race. How the group develops will ultimately be determined by the members and I believe the potential is massive. If you wish to get involved in any way you are very welcome. If you know anybody who might benefit or be interested, please feel free to pass the info on. **Contact Tim Smith - [runnymedereeds@gmail.com](mailto:runnymedereeds@gmail.com)**

**SOUTH AFRICA - SADBA.****SADBA CHAIRMAN, ABDUL EDROSS REPORTS.**

The South African Dragon Boat Association (SADBA) has committed itself to developing the sport at youth level and I think it realistic to expect to reap the rewards of the Youth Programme with the next 5 years.

Dragon Boating in general in South Africa, is expanding at a rate at which SADBA are struggling to manage with the available resources so if any IDBF Member has boats and equipment to spare, then we would be delighted if you would send them to SADBA !

Presently, we are starting up dragon boating in three new locations names below and we are negotiating for permanent venues to accommodate boats and equipment for them. The towns are:- West Coast approximately 146 km North West of Cape Town.

Port Elizabeth approximately 776 km East of Cape Town in the Eastern Cape Province. Knysna approximately 416 km East of Cape Town, in the South Western District of the Western Cape. Western Cape DBA, is spearheading and facilitating training for paddlers from these towns and WCDBA have also relocated their four wooden Taiwanese boats to two of the towns and have made arrangements to send the only two small fibre glass boats the Association has to Knysna. **For more info on SADBA – Email Sadba at:- [sadba.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:sadba.secretary@gmail.com) Website: [www.dragonboat.org.za](http://www.dragonboat.org.za)**



**Racing in Cape Town Harbour** during the 2004 IDBF Club Crew World Champs, with a cloudy Table Top Mountain in the background.

Dragon Boating was introduced to South Africa in 1992 when the two beautiful flag-catching dragon boats as above, were presented to Cape Town by Sister City I'lan County, Taiwan.

In 2003 the Western Cape Dragon Boat Association(WCDBA) was given custodianship of the City's two wooden flag-catchers and in 2006 took custodianship of two more, generously donated by the Taiwanese community in Cape Town.

**INDONESIA - PODSI**

The Padang International Dragon Boat Festival, Padang West Sumatra Indonesia will take place on 12-15 July 2012. Organised by the Government of Padang City and supported technically by the Indonesian Canoe and Rowing Association (PODSI) the festival is also affiliated to the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF).

Crews from around the world are invited to come and race in Padang and all international crews will be hosted for up to 3 days with free accommodation and breakfast, airport transfer and transportation to venue and back as well as packed lunches and dinner.

Also on the IDBF Calendar and an IDBF Affiliate Festival is the Celebes International Dragon Boat Festival Races in Makassar South Sulawesi, Indonesia scheduled to take place from Aug 31 to 02 Sept 2012.

So plan your trip to Indonesia for one or even both of these great races and enjoy a lower airfare by making your flight booking in advance, right now.

**Further info from Syafri Marja:- Tel +62 8137 4440 445 or E-Mail: [yonif133yspdg@gmail.com](mailto:yonif133yspdg@gmail.com)**

**INDIA – DBFInd.****KERLA WIN 2011 NATIONAL CHAMPS – NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED**

The Dragon Boat Federation of India held its 3<sup>rd</sup> National DB Championships from 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Over 400 paddlers took part representing 15 out of the 16 Affiliates in the Federation.

**Racing in Small Boats (12 Racers) over 250 and 500 meters, in the Premier, Senior and Youth classes, Kerala emerged as the Overall Winners** with 7 Gold, 5 Silver and 4 Bronze Medals, followed by Madhya Pradesh (7-4-5) and Rajasthan.

The Championship concluded with the Federation's Annual General Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2011, **where Ms Yashodra Rajesh Schindia, was elected as the new President.**





## AUSTRALIA – AUSDBF. *from Kel Watt President.*

The AusDBF has a new website. It has been revamped with a view to becoming more user friendly and a better source of information for all paddlers - be they a state board member, a representative paddler, a club leader, or one of over 17,000 paddlers spread throughout Australia.

The site will see ongoing improvements as more information is transferred from the old page, but for now it will focus on the 2012 Australian National DB Championship being held in Melbourne from 31 March to 5 April 2012 at the spectacular and specially built course at Docklands Harbour alongside the central business district.

**Our flagship event is on track to be our largest ever, with over 2500 competitors from around 80 clubs from Australia and New Zealand already lodging interest in entering.**

It is the first time the event will be held over five days, with the incredible exposure for our sport something we could have only previously dreamed of.

**From the official Opening Ceremony on Saturday 31 March, to the huge After Party inside Etihad Stadium on 5 April 12,** this year's Championship is promising to build further on the great success of recent years.

In addition to the state representative title being hard fought, the Trevor Huggard Trophy for the Club Championship will be closer than ever.



**We will also present the Jon Taylor Award for outstanding contribution to the development and growth of the sport.**

A quick glance back and a look forward in the international arena will be had, with a special presentation to the record breaking 2011 Auroras who secured our best ever finish in the World Championships at Tampa Bay last August, and we will introduce the 2012 Australian Auroras who will be contesting the Asian Championships in South Korea in September.

**Keep your eyes on the website,** as well as our Facebook page and Twitter feed for the latest information. And in the meantime, keep your suggestions on how we can make this YOUR homepage coming. **Kel Watt AusDBF President.**

## CANADA – DBC. CANADIAN UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE DB RACING LEAGUE – SET TO GO !

**This year again, Dragon Boat Canada will endorse the organization of the Canadian University Racing League.**

Based on consultations with paddlers and feedback from teams at the grassroots level, DBC wants to help enhance the University racing experience in Canada.

As Dragon Boat Racing is a late entry sport, the creation of the 18-23s division was a way to start to lay the foundation for long term, high level Canadian teams.

However, this division lacks the feeling of inter-university competition that promotes healthy competition and the feeling of a university team identity.

The CURL is an answer to that problem. Teams from University, College and CEGEP, can register in the league and, can earn points by racing at specific events.

By doing this, each crew can then race against other student teams, and established a Regional ranking, without the need to travel to every event.

**To register in the League a crew must be registered as a Club crew with DBC and must be affiliated with a Canadian university, college or CEGEP**

With the exception of the Drummer OR Helm, all racers must be registered students for the fall 2011, winter 2012 or Summer 2012 term of the 2011-2012 academic year of the academic institution that the racer's crew is representing. (An attestation from the registrar is required for eligibility before the first league eligible race).

A special rate is available to the crews that will enlist in the National Championship and there will be no additional charge for entering the main draw of the National Championships.

**Our vision is to promote the development of the University and student division across Canada.** Having crews participate at this year's CURL and even more, the National Championships would be a major win for the growth of University-level racing in Canada.

**Further details from:- Nicolas Lambert, 2012 CURL Coordinator [www.dragonboat.ca](http://www.dragonboat.ca)**

## 1<sup>ST</sup> DBC INDOOR DB ERGO PADDLING CHAMPIONSHIPS, Toronto, Ontario Pictures by Jeff Holubeshen.



**HONG KONG SAR, CHINA - HKDBA.**

**HONG KONG DB TEAM – SELECTION PROCESS.**



The Hong Kong Dragon Boat Team consists of the Committee, the Athletes Pool and the HK Competition Team. The Committee is responsible for overseeing the selection and management of the Team including recruitment and Team training .

The Athletes Pool is made up of experienced paddlers committed to competitive Dragon Boat Racing and who meet the basic selection criteria. To join the Pool, paddlers must pass a skill test on the water and a fitness test and be able to swim 200 metres while wearing sports gear. Prospective members are then interviewed by the Committee. Pool Members normally take part in at least one land and two water training sessions per week.

The Competition Team is chosen from members of the Pool. The selection is based on fitness, paddling skills and attitude. Once selected team members undergo intensive training of at least one land and three water sessions per week.

For more information about the Hong Kong Team or joining the HKDBA, Tel + 852 2504 833 or email: [hkdba@hkolympic.org](mailto:hkdba@hkolympic.org)



**HKDBA recently played host to an IDBF Coaches Course** attended by 16 keen and enthusiastic DB Coaches from the HKDBA. All qualified for their IDBF Coach Level 2 (Participation) Award after 2 days of classroom theory and practical testing on the water. The 16 are seen here (left) receiving their certificates, whilst pictured right is Mike Thomas, Chair of the IDBF C&TC, who delivered the course, assisted by Mike Haslam, the IDBF EP (seated).



**HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT CREWS SET GUINNESS BOOK WORLD RECORD**

Eighteen Dragon Boat crew from the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Association entered a new record in the Guinness Book of World Records, when they undertook a 24 hour long Dragon Boat Relay paddle, in Hong Kong, through New Year's Eve 2011 to New Year Day evening 2012 .

In total the crews paddle 227 km during the 24 hours and raised around HK\$ 600,000 (US\$77,000.00) along the way. The Hong Kong Police crew raised the most money and all the funds go towards school building projects and education grants to children in rural China



**Photos:** Guinness officials with Org Committee  
**Left:** U-Hearts a beneficiary (lady) with the title Sponsor Pompei (on right of picture).  
**Far Left:** The Hong Kong Police Team, highest fund raising crew.



## **NEW ZEALAND - NZDBA. UPDATE ON THE KIWI SCENE FROM NOEL ANDERTON.**

**Changes at the Top Table.** Shane Petley recently stood down NZDBA Chairman due to high pressure work and a young family commitments but thankfully he has stayed on NZDBA Board. Consequently, Noel Anderton was elected as Chairman, having been the NZDBA Treasurer and then Secretary. Other key positions on the NZDBA Board include Natalie Fowlie (Auckland) as Secretary and Dr Tery Hardwicke (Putaruru, Waikato) as Treasurer.

**The 2012 Nationals.** The key event for Kiwi Dragon Boaters is of course the National Championships which take place on Saturday 31-March-2012, on South Island's Lake Hood, just out of Ashburton, about 90 km south of Christchurch.

At previous Nationals Adult racing was held on the Saturday with the Schools racing on the Sunday but this year the two will be combined as, unfortunately, schools are not travelling as much as they have in the past.

But the young and the old will be racing alongside each other this year, which actually makes for much more interesting racing and creates a great atmosphere !

**Expansion.** Anybody watching the IDBF World Champs in Tampa, last year will have seen that the 'Small Boat' has burst onto the Dragon Boat scene.

These 10- paddler boats offer a new dimension to the sport, and Auckland DBA have been quick to pick up on the concept.



**Shirley High at the end of an arduous 2000m. 2009 IDBF World Nations Champs, Prague.**

A new team now operates out of Taupo (Wairakei Dragons) thanks to support from Shane-O in Hamilton and a new team has started up in Nelson, with help and guidance from Aoraki Dragons.

Wairarapa Cancer Society Team and the Blenheim team (Simply the Breast) have both purchased boats so these are great signs that Dragon Boating continues to develop in New Zealand. NZDBA is keen to get behind expansion of the sport in the central region and Paddlers in New Zealand are starting to have a range of events and venues that we have dreamed of for years.

**For the major events on the NZDBA calendar visit their website <http://www.nzdba.co.nz/calendar.html>**

## **GERMANY – DDV. WORKING TOWARDS A UNIFIED NATIONAL DB CHAMPS**

**DDV and DKV continue talks on a Joint 2012 German Dragon Boat Championships.**



**The President and Vice President of the German Dragon Boat Association (DDV) and the German Canoe Federation (DKV) and the Head of the dragon boat canoe DKV met in Schwerin on 1st November 2011, to a further discuss the framework and conditions for implementing a unified German National Dragon Boat Championships in September 2012.**

The nearly four-hour long meeting focused on clarifying the specific requirements and conditions for general co-operation, the preliminary technical and logistical details and the responsibilities and liabilities of each organisation.

Both sides were very satisfied with the outcome of the meeting and the current state of discussions and negotiations. The two Presidents stated "We have raised great expectations among our members, we want to do everything possible to ensure that the interest of dragon boat athletes in Germany are put first." **U. Becker. DDV**

## INTERNATIONAL BREAST CANCER PADDLERS' COMMISSION

The primary goal of the International Breast Cancer Paddlers' Commission (IBCPC) is to ensure that International Breast Cancer Survivor (BCS) participation festivals and international competitive events are raising awareness about life after a diagnosis of and treatment for breast cancer.

### IT'S SARASOTA, FLORIDA, USA! - Site of the 2014 Festival

The IBCPC is pleased to announce the teams of Pink Dragon Ladies (PDL) from Tampa Bay and Save Our Sisters (SOS) from Miami are the successful joint-bidders for the next IBCPC festival. PDL will be marking their tenth anniversary in 2014; let's join them in the celebrations! **Survivorship and Sisterhood in the Sunshine State.**

The charming city of Sarasota, located in west central Florida, on the Gulf of Mexico, with its sunshine, warm temperatures and friendly ambiance, will be an outstanding location for our celebrations.

The international panel of judges for the event is most appreciative of the calibre of submissions and wish to thank those who worked so hard to prepare their proposals.

Sarasota has small-town appeal, and at the same time, it will provide lots of opportunities for you to paint the town whatever colour you like. After a tough day of paddling, try some "retail-therapy" -- outlet malls, designer boutiques and restaurants galore await you. If you need to re-gather your forces, wander through the Zen-inspired Selby Botanical Gardens. For culture buffs, take in the Ringling

Museum of Art and its important collection of Ruben's paintings. And why not check out the Ringling Museum of the American Circus where you'll find amazing memorabilia from "under the Big Top" of one of the world's biggest circus impresarios.

And if beaches are your thing, get ready to be bedazzled by Sarasota's own Siesta Key, a sun-kissed beach which has been named the number one beach in the USA, its powdered white sand likened to fine sugar. Ah, yes...!

Best of all, the waterways around Sarasota have become one of the premier rowing destinations in North America. Sarasota itself is the home of Nathan Benderson Park, a world-class rowing venue, now readying itself to welcome thousands of breast cancer survivor dragon boaters from around the world in 2014. Sarasota, be warned!!

**Mark your calendars for Friday October 24, 2014 to Sunday October 26, 2014.**

### THE NEW REALITY OF BREAST CANCER: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

On March 29, 2012 Jane Frost, President of the International Breast Cancer Paddlers' Commission and Dr. Don McKenzie, coach of the world's first breast cancer dragon boat team will present *The New Reality of Breast Cancer: What You Need to Know*. The event is sponsored by the *Professional Women's Network (PWN) Vancouver Chapter*.

Jane and Don will share their stories as part of the inaugural team, **Abreast In A Boat**, now part of a global community. Don will discuss his ground breaking medical research on the benefits of exercise in the prevention and treatment of breast cancer.

### DEAR DR. DON: GETTING YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Dr. Don Dr. Don McKenzie, founder and coach of the first breast cancer dragon boat team, Abreast In A Boat, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (1996) has agreed to do a regular column for the IBCPC newsletter. Please submit any questions by visiting the IBCPC website: [www.ibcpc.com](http://www.ibcpc.com) and click on to the newsletter.

#### 1. How do you anticipate the results of your study on Exercise Through Chemotherapy will be applied to the care of breast cancer patients in the future?

I am optimistic that the real value of exercise before, during and after treatment for breast cancer will be understood and accepted by the medical profession and breast cancer patients.

Prescriptive exercise programs represent the 'standard of care' and are as important as chemotherapy or radiation to the breast cancer patient.

Acceptance of this will take time but we are heading in that direction; look at cardiac rehabilitation and how it has been integrated into the treatment of the patient with heart disease.

They were 25 years ahead of cancer rehabilitation but we are catching up!

#### 2. Is there a chance in the risk of heart damage caused by chemotherapy drugs when a patient exercises to her maximum potential while undergoing chemotherapy treatment?

There are risks of heart damage with several of the drugs used to treat breast cancer and that is true whether women exercise or not. Tests that monitor cardiac function are used to determine if damage is occurring and the treatment is modified accordingly.

The heart is a muscle and will respond to exercise in a predictable fashion. Regular exercise is important to maintain or improve cardiovascular function and training has a measurable effect on reducing cardiac disease.

**Exercising to maximum, while receiving chemotherapy, carries an additional risk and is never part of any training programme.** If we need to do maximal exercise testing that is always done under medical supervision.



## “WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE”

### JANE FROST, IBCPC PRESIDENT, REVIEWS 2011 AND SETS GOALS FOR 2012.

**Procrastination can often be an effective ally.** Let me explain. In July 2011, the editorial staff of the IBCPC newsletter was getting ready “to put it to be”, as they say in the industry, when the editor turned to me and said: “Jane, you will have been President of IBCPC for a year when our November edition is published.

You need to write a retrospective and visionary article for the membership.” “Are you on it?” she would inquire at appropriate moments, and I would groan. It seemed like such a daunting task.

**My phone rang late one October day** -- a call which gave this message its focus. It was a friend of a friend who wondered if I could help.

She has a friend who is a doctor in Serbia. It turns out it has only been in the last ten years that the Serbian medical community has been able to treat people diagnosed with breast cancer. And now they have survivors!

My friend’s friend’s friend’s doctor friend wanted to know how to start a support group for Serbians who are now living with breast cancer.

As IBCPC President, I have met many health care professionals worldwide among them Dr. Adriana Bonifacino in Rome last summer. Dr. Bonifacino sits on a European Union committee of medical professionals who deal with all aspects of breast cancer. I was able to put the two doctors in touch.

This is what we are all about! Connecting with each other! From Serbia to Vancouver to Rome and back to Serbia. We are making a difference in the world of breast cancer awareness.

**The IBCPC Steering Committee set three goals** for our first year, and we have made good progress as we have doubled our membership from fifty to over a hundred teams in eleven countries and established effective communication channels by:

1. Updating and maintaining our website
2. Producing four editions of our Newsletter
3. Setting up a database
4. Networking with teams around the world

**We would like you more Dragon Boaters to get involved too.** Please encourage women you might know with Breast Cancer and their families and friends to subscribe to our newsletter, visit our website and consider volunteering some of your their and talent to us – yours too !.

The IBCPC Steering Committee is committed to building, managing and representing the International Breast Cancer Paddlers’ Commission, an organization whose mission is to support and promote the participatory and inclusiveness of breast cancer dragon boat paddling.

**We thank all of you in every BCS Dragon Boat Crew for being brave, for picking up a paddle, and for being a vibrant symbol of the benefits of exercise while living with breast cancer.**

## AFFILIATED FESTIVALS NEWS

### 2012 MACAU INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT RACES

16th, 17th and 23rd June 2012, Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre, Macau.

The Macau International Dragon Boat Races are jointly organised by the Sport Development Board and the Macau China Dragon Boat Association.

While dragon boating is a widely popular festive activity in Macao during the Dragon Boat Festival, the Macau International Dragon Boat Races have grown to become an important sports event in the territory. Year by year, the event has become larger in scale and attracts an increasing number of participants.

Thousands of skilled athletes from home and abroad gather annually in Macau to participate in this significant event in Macau’s international sporting calendar.

For more details visit the website of the Macau Sport Development Board: <http://www.sport.gov.mo>



## MALAYSIA – PENANG

### 33rd PENANG INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL - 30TH JUNE & 1ST JULY 2012



**Great news! We have received tremendous response from near and far for this festival.** We have crews coming all the way from South Africa, USA, Dubai, Australia, Thailand and Singapore; and not forgetting other states of Malaysia. Racing for Premier, Senior and Junior U23s crews, over 200 & 500 meters on a straight course. Open, Women’s and Mixed Racing Classes in IDBF Standard and Small Boats, racing under IDBF Rules and Regulations.

The Organizing Committee have arranged a very good ground package in a 3-star beach hotel. The hotel is located within 30 minutes from the regatta site by car or bus. The package deal is **US\$50 per person per night (twin-sharing basis)** and includes all transport to and from the course, bed & breakfast and lunches at the competition site. Celebration Party will be an extra US\$ 17, per person. **Don’t miss the boat, submit your entry right away.**

More details from:- [secretary@penangdragonboat.gov.my](mailto:secretary@penangdragonboat.gov.my)

## OUR DRAGON BOAT STORY – Liisa Reimann & Gisela Veve, Burlington, VT, USA

In 2006, an inaugural community dragon boat festival, billed as a fundraiser for cancer, caught the attention of the City of Burlington, Vermont. The fire department was one of the first to put in a team but they had a significant problem.

With only one female fire-fighter in the entire 86-person department, they would need to do a little recruiting to meet the 8-woman minimum.

I'm always looking for new things to try and since I was dating one of the fire-fighters at the time, didn't need much convincing. We were offered one practice and the head coach of the fledgling club, Dragonheart Vermont, took our boat out. "Whoa," he said tapping me on the shoulder the end of our practice, "you're a natural, we'd love to have you join our club."

Well, flattery gets me every time – I signed up right then and there and reserved a spot at the coming spring training camp.

I met Gisela the following summer. She'd seen the boats practicing on Burlington Bay one day as she was walking along the waterfront and happened to mention it to a friend. One thing led to another and soon she found herself invited to come and try it out. An avid kayaker who's paddled with whales in remote oceans, Gisela also didn't need to be asked twice.

As two of the youngest women (she was 36 and I was 38) in a group of paddlers whose average age was around 65, we were quickly drawn to one another.

Although we come from very different backgrounds and experiences, our personalities are very complementary – she is a crazy Latina and I a crazy European – and we soon became fast friends.

That same summer, 2007, we competed for the first time - in Montreal, Quebec – and were blown away by the entire scene. We'd never seen or experienced anything like it. We were in love!

From that moment on we hungrily ate up anything to do with dragon boating. I attended camp in Florida. Gisela went to Australia to make up the numbers for a supporter boat in the Abreast in Australia Dragon Boat Regatta.

We attended other competitions just to watch and learn. I started steering and took coaching certification classes through Dragon Boat Canada. We analyzed different paddling techniques and dreamed of joining an elite team some day. Our paddling in Vermont was great, but the club was more recreational than competitive. And we had a serious fire burning.



We started showing up to so many events in Montreal that soon we found ourselves being invited to join boats as extras, then an actual team! We were in heaven and started travelling to Montreal weekly in January 2009.

We moved from a community team to a sport team and then it happened. We were invited to join the Montreal Senior Women! We were in total shock – this was an elite team. Dreams don't usually come true that quick do they?

We are now in our second year of training with the MSW, still travelling up to Montreal from Burlington (a 4-hour round-trip) twice a week, year round, for practice. Three days a week we train together at home, one day a week we train on our own. And on the seventh day we rest.

We spend more time with one another than seems proper, but our families are behind us every step of the way. (G is married with three grown kids; I'm a single mom of two teenagers).

The fireman and I have long since split but I am now happily engaged (to our first Montreal coach, how cool is that?! We've been blogging ([hungrydragons.blogspot.com](http://hungrydragons.blogspot.com)) about our often-humorous gym exploits and border crossings (we are well known on both sides now) and are still loving every minute of this journey.

And, this winter it all paid off: we BOTH made the roster for the 2012 CCWCs in Hong Kong! We can barely contain our excitement and are training even harder now to be the strongest, leanest, toughest competitors we can be.

Liisa - [liisa.reimann@gmail.com](mailto:liisa.reimann@gmail.com)

## IS THIS THE WAY TO SAN JOSE ?



My Dragon Boat Team is a recreation/competitive one based in Long Beach, California, USA, who, on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012, accomplished quite an unusual feat when a crew of 6 female and 8 male paddlers, plus a steerer paddled a dragon boat for 54 km in the open water of the mighty Pacific Ocean.

They started 6:00am in Catalina Island, 34 km off the California coast and after 5.5 hours of gruesome paddling, they reached their destination in Long Beach, California.

Along the way, they were greeted by thousands of seabirds, dolphins and even a blue whale.

Edward Sun, Head Coach AeroDragon



## IDBF CALENDAR OF MEMBERS DATES AND AFFILIATED FESTIVALS



February 2012 - December 2012

[www.idbf.org](http://www.idbf.org)

	<b>Championships - International &amp; National</b>	All Races shown use IDBF Racing Rules or rules adapted from them. Championships shown are held under IDBF Competition Regs.
	<b>IDBF Members Regattas</b>	
	<b>IDBF Affiliates Festival Races</b>	
	<b>National Dragon Boat Regattas/Courses</b>	
	<b>Multi Sports Games &amp; Boating Events</b>	

**All events and dates shown are as notified on 26 February 2012 - (P) = Provisional. TBN = To Be Notified**

Date	Regatta Details	Race Venue	Country	Contact Details
10-12 Feb 2012	3 <sup>rd</sup> Masbate Dragon Boat Festival	Masbate	Philippines	<a href="http://www.pdbf.com">www.pdbf.com</a>
11 Feb 2012	NZ Masters Games DB Races	Dunedin Harbour	New Zealand	<a href="http://www.nzdba.co.nz">www.nzdba.co.nz</a>
24 Feb 2012	DBNSW 2k Twilight Paddle	Blackwattle Bay	Australia	<a href="http://www.dbnsw.org.au">www.dbnsw.org.au</a>
26 Feb 2012	Aoraki Open Early Bird Races	Lake Pegasus	New Zealand	<a href="http://www.nzdba.co.nz">www.nzdba.co.nz</a>
03 Mar 2012	Shellharbour City Festival DB Challenge	Shellharbour, NSW	Australia	<a href="http://www.dbnsw.org.au">www.dbnsw.org.au</a>
03 Mar 2012	Indoor Dragon Boat Cup Series	Heibroan	Germany	<a href="http://www.drachenboot.liga.de">www.drachenboot.liga.de</a>
10 Mar 2012	South Island Champs - Lake Hood	Aoraki	New Zealand	<a href="http://www.nzdba.co.nz">www.nzdba.co.nz</a>
11 Mar 2012	NSW State Champs - Penrith SIRC,	Penrith, Sydney	Australia	<a href="http://www.dbnsw.org.au">www.dbnsw.org.au</a>
11 Mar 2012	Manila Broadcasting Co Seasports Fest	Manila	Philippines	<a href="http://www.pdbf.com">www.pdbf.com</a>
17 Mar 2012	Indoor Dragon Boat Cup Series	Dessau	Germany	<a href="http://www.drachenboot.liga.de">www.drachenboot.liga.de</a>
18 or 25 Mar 2012	1 <sup>st</sup> Leg Cobra PDBF National Series	Manila	Philippines	<a href="http://www.pdbf.com">www.pdbf.com</a>
18 Mar 2012	NSW Corporate Games DB Races	Sydney, NSW	Australia	<a href="http://www.corporate-games.com">www.corporate-games.com</a>
24 -25 Mar 2012	Auckland Regionals -Lake Pupuke	Auckland	New Zealand	<a href="http://www.nzdba.co.nz">www.nzdba.co.nz</a>
24-25 Mar 2012	SAVA - MR500	Jurong Lake Park	Singapore	<a href="http://www.sava.com.sg">www.sava.com.sg</a>
24 -25 Mar 2012	South Australia DBA State Champs	Aquatic SA	Australia	<a href="http://www.dbsa.com">www.dbsa.com</a>
25-27 Mar 2012	Philippines Corporate Games DB Races	Manila	Philippines	<a href="http://www.corporate-games.com">www.corporate-games.com</a>
31 Mar 2012	New Zealand National Champs - Rotorua	Lake Hood	New Zealand	<a href="http://www.nzdba.co.nz">www.nzdba.co.nz</a>
31 Mar 2012	Arizona Dragon Boat Festival	Tempe, AZ	Usa	<a href="http://www.azdba.com">www.azdba.com</a>
01 Apr 2012	Bank of China 55 <sup>th</sup> Festival of Sport	Hong Kong	China SAR	EM: <a href="mailto:hkdba@hkolympic.org">hkdba@hkolympic.org</a>
01 - 05 Apr 2012	Australian National Championships	Melbourne	Australia	<a href="http://www.ausdbf.com.au">www.ausdbf.com.au</a>
06 - 07 Apr 2012	Dubai Festival City DB Festival	Festival Marina	UAE	<a href="http://www.dubaidragonboat.com">www.dubaidragonboat.com</a>
13 Apr 2012	Central Florida Dragon Boat Festival	Tavares, FL	Usa	<a href="http://www.cfdragonboat.org">www.cfdragonboat.org</a>
14 Apr 2012	Berlin Dragon Boat Half-Marathon Race	Berlin	Germany	<a href="http://www.drachenboot.liga.de">www.drachenboot.liga.de</a>
14-15 Apr 2012	Subic International DB Festival	Subic	Philippines	<a href="http://www.pdbf.com">www.pdbf.com</a>
21 Apr 2012	British National League – Race 1	Caldecott, MK	England	<a href="http://www.dragonboat.org.uk">www.dragonboat.org.uk</a>
21 Apr 2012	4 <sup>th</sup> Heart of the Dragon Festival	Macon, GA	Usa	<a href="http://www.racedragonboats.com">www.racedragonboats.com</a>
21-22 Apr 2012	Laguna Dragon Boat Festival	Laguna	Philippines	<a href="http://www.pdbf.com">www.pdbf.com</a>
22 Apr 2012	3 <sup>rd</sup> Inter Schools DB Championships	Hong Kong	China SAR	EM: <a href="mailto:hkdba@hkolympic.org">hkdba@hkolympic.org</a>
28 Apr 2012	DM Long Distance Dragon Boat Race	Rostock	Germany	<a href="http://www.drachenboot.liga.de">www.drachenboot.liga.de</a>
28 Apr 2012	9 <sup>th</sup> Tampa Bay International DB Races	Tampa, Florida	Usa	<a href="http://www.tampabaydragonboats.com">www.tampabaydragonboats.com</a>
28-29 Apr 2012	Antalya'dan start Alacak DB Festival	Alacak	Turkey	<a href="http://www.dragonfestivali.com">www.dragonfestivali.com</a>
04-06 May 2012	DBS Marina Regatta 2012	Marina Reservoir	Singapore	<a href="http://www.sdba.org.sg">www.sdba.org.sg</a>
05 May 2012	Charleston Dragon Boat Festival	Charleston, SC	Usa	<a href="http://www.dragonboatcharleston.org">www.dragonboatcharleston.org</a>
05 May 2012	12 <sup>th</sup> Houston Dragon Boat Festival	Houston, Texas	Usa	<a href="http://www.texasdragonboat.com">www.texasdragonboat.com</a>

05 May 2012	Charlotte Dragon Boat Festival	Charlotte, NC	Usa	www.charlottedragonboat.com
05-06 May 2012	Adana Dragon Boat Festival	Adana	Turkey	www.dragonfestivali.com
06 May 2012	German Dragon Boat Cup Series	Wesel	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
06 May 2012	British National League – Race 2.	Liverpool	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
06 May 2012	North Point Spring Sprint DB Races	Osaka	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com
11-13 May 2012	Hafen DB Cup Races – inland port	R.Elbe, Hamburg	Germany	www.hafencup.com
12 May 2012	Warsaw Dragon Boat Sport Races	Ragon Boat	Poland	www.dragonboat.pl
12 May 2012	Zoetermeer Int Open Races	Zoetermeer	Netherlands	www.edbf.org
12 May 2012	Greater New Orleans DB Festival	Madisonville, LA	Usa	www.gwndragonboat.com
12 May 2012	Rainier Dragon Boat Festival	Tacoma, WA	Usa	www.washingtondragonboat.org
12-13 May 2012	Palava Open Dragon Boat Races	Pasohlavky	Czech Rep	EM: klimbera@dragonboat.cz
12-13 May 2012	Izmir Dragon Boat Festival	Izmir	Turkey	www.dragonfestivali.com
13 May 2012	Tokyo Dragon Boat Festival	Tokyo	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com EM: lilyshobu@gmail.com
16-17 May 2012	Bursar Dragon Boat Festival	Bursa	Turkey	www.dragonboatfestivali.com
17-18 May 2012	Sea of Galilee Festival Races	Lake Kinneret	Israel	www.dragonboatisrael.com
19 May 2012	6 <sup>th</sup> Children's Hospital DB Festival	Chattanooga, TN	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
19 May 2012	11 <sup>th</sup> Washington DC Dragon Boat Fest	Washington DC	Usa	www.dragonboatdc.com
19-20 May 2012	1st Banyoles Dragon Boat Festival	Banyoles	Spain	EM:info@sportsandelements.com
19- 20 May 2012	9th Gyor International DB Festival	Gyor	Hungary	EM: office@dragonboat.hu.
20 May 2012	British National League – Race 3	Bristol, Avon RC	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
20 May 2012	German Dragon Boat Cup Series	Borken	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
23 May 2012	Const Ind DB Challenge – Salford Quays	Manchester	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
24-27 May 2012	Bucharest Corporate Games DB Races	Bucharest	Romania	radu.radulescu@corporate-games.com
26 May 2012	Gdansk Dragon Boat Regatta	Gdansk	Poland	www.dragonboat.pl
26-27 May 2012	5th Istanbul Int DB Fest - Golden Horn	Istanbul	Turkey	www.dragonboatfestivali.com
27 May 2012	International Dragon Boat Festival Cup	Chantilly	France	www.thefunraces.com
27 May 2012	East Anglian Festival – Oulton Broad	Lowestoff	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
02 Jun 2012	German Dragon Boat Cup Series	Itzehoer	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
02 Jun 2012	Independence Dragon Boat Regatta	Philadelphia, PA	Usa	w. independencedragonboat.com
02 Jun 2012	2nd Cape Fear Dragon Boat Festival	Wilmington, NC	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
02-03 Jun 2012	Golden Four Trebon Festival Races	South Bohemia	Czech Rep	EM: klimbera@dragonboat.cz
02-03 Jun 2012	16th Pickering Dragon Boat Festival	Pickering, Ont	Canada	www.pdbc.ca
03 Jun 2012	Queen's Jubilee Flotilla inc 16 x DBs	River Thames	London	www.dragonboat.org.ok
03 Jun 2012	Alkmaar Race the Dragon	Alkmaar	Netherlands	www.edbf.org
03 Jun 2012	2nd Leg Cobra PDBF National Series	Venue TBN	Philippines	www.pdbf.com
07-10 Jun 2012	Istanbul Corporate Games DB Races	Istanbul	Turkey	ist@corporate-games.com
09 Jun 2012	Boston Dragon Boat Festival	Boston, MA	Usa	www.bostondragonboat.org
09 June 2012	Dutch Dragons DB Race	Zoetermeer	Netherlands	www.the dutchdragons.nl
09 Jun 2012	German Dragon Boat Cup Series	Magdenburg	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
09 Jun 2012	Bell Boats Introductory Event - Yantai	Penghai City	China	EM: DavidWTrain@aol.com
09-10 Jun 2012	Haziran Dragon Boat Festival	Ankara	Turkey	www.dragonboatfestivali.com
09-10 Jun 2012	Mainz Dragon Boat Festival	Mainz	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
09-11 Jun 2012	DBSA Murray Marathon	Loxton-Morgan.SA	Australia	EM: johnholland@senet.com.au
14-17 Jun 2012	Cape Town Corporate Games DB Races	Cape Town	South Africa	capetown@corporate-games.com
15-17 Jun 2012	24th Rio Tinto Alcan DB Festival	Vancouver	Canada	www.dragonboatbc.ca
15-17 Jun 2012	Berlin City Dragon Boat Cup	Berlin	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de



16 Jun 2012	Peterborough DB Races – R.Neme	Peterborough	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
16 Jun 2012	2 <sup>nd</sup> Florence Dragon Boat Pink Meeting	Florence	Italy	www.edbf.org
16-17 Jun 2012	27th Sabah Dragon Boat Races	Sabah, Borneo	Malaysia	www.sabahthorisim.com
16-17 Jun 2012	15 <sup>th</sup> Berlin City DB Cup Races – Grunau	Berlin	Germany	www.berlin-citycup.de
16-18 Jun 2012	4 Cities DB Race Series. Race.1	Waizhou City	China	EM: chksardbf2012@gmail.com
17 Jun 2012	Senboku Sakai DB Tournament	Osaka	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com
17-19 Jun 2012	Asian Beach Games DB Races	Haiyang	China	adbfdragon@126.com
20-23 Jun 2012	4 Cities DB Race Series. Race.2	Nanning City	China	EM: chksardbf2012@gmail.com
22-24 Jun 2012	Tim Hortons Ottawa DB Festival	Ottawa	Canada	www.dragonboat.net
22-24 Jun 2012	Cologne Dragon Boat Festival	Koln	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
23 Jun 2012	Macau China International DB Races	Nam Van Lake	Macau, China	www.sport.gov.mo
23 Jun 2012	Stanley International DB Races	Stanley	Hong Kong	www.dragonboat.org.hk
23 Jun 2012	Swiss National Championships	R. Rhine, Eglisau	Switzerland	www.dragonboatcup.ch
23 Jun 2012	10th KARM Dragon Boat Festival	Knoxville, TN	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
23 Jun 2012	British National League – Race 4	Exeter Quay	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
23-24 Jun 2012	Polish National Championships	Ostroda	Poland	www.dragonboat.pl
23-24 Jun 2012	6th Budapest Dragon Boat Festival	Budapest	Hungary	EM: office@dragonboat.hu
23-24 Jun 2012	24 <sup>th</sup> Tim Horton Toronto Int DB Festival	Toronto	Canada	www.dragonboats.com
23-24 Jun 2012	21 <sup>st</sup> Eglisau Dragon Boat Cup	R. Rhine, Eglisau	Switzerland	www.dragonboatcup.ch
23-24 Jun 2012	Dresden Dragon Boat Festival	Dresden	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
24 Jun 2012	Milton Keynes DB Races – Willen Lake	Milton Keynes	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
24-27 Jun 2012	4 Cities DB Race Series. Race.3	Chongzuo City	China	EM: chksardbf2012@gmail.com
29 Jun 2012	12th National School's Champs - 500m	Bedok Reservoir	Singapore	www.sdba.org.sg
30 Jun/ 1 Jul 2012	Singapore Dragon Boat Festival - 800m	Bedok Reservoir	Singapore	www.sdba.org.sg
30 Jun/ 1 Jul 2012	33rd Penang International DB Festival	Penang	Malaysia	www.penangdragonboat.gov.my
30 Jun/ 1 Jul 2012	4 Cities DB Race Series. Race.4	Guangzhou City	China	EM: chksardbf2012@gmail.com
04-08 July 2012	8 <sup>th</sup> Club Crew World Championships	Hong Kong SAR	China	www.idbfworldchamps.com
05 Jul 2012	Const Ind DB Challenge – West Resvoir	London	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
07-08 Jul 2012	Hamburg 4th Taiwan Cup - Allermohe	Hamburg	Germany	info@hamburger-taiwan-cup.de
12-15 Jul 2012	Preston Corporate Games DB Races	Preston	England	uk@corporate-games.com
13-15 Jul 2012	10th Padang Int Dragon Boat Festival	West Sumatra	Indonesia	yonif133yspdg@gmail.com
14 Jul 2012	Fingerlakes Int Dragon Boat Festival	Ithaca, NY	Usa	www.fingerlakesdragonboat.org
14-15 Jul 2012	Warnemunde Dragon Boat Festival	Warnemunde	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
15 Jul 2012	Stanley Short Course Races	Stanley	Hong Kong	www.dragonboat.org.hk
15 Jul 2012	Japanese National Open Championships	Osaka	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com
21 Jul 2012	GWN Sport Regatta, Marilyn Bell Park	Toronto	Canada	www.gwndragonboat.com
21 Jul 2012	Colorado Dragon Boat Festival	Denver, Co	Usa	www.cdbf.org
26-29 Jul 2012	10th European Nations Championships	NWSC Nottingham	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
27-29 Jul 2012	Nottinghamshire International Regatta	NWSC Nottingham	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
27-29 Jul 2012	Canadian National Championships	Montreal	Canada	www.dragonboat.ca
27-29 Jul 2012	Magdeburg Dragon Boat Festival	Magdenburg	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
27-29 Jul 2012	Bostalsee Dragon Boat Regatta	Bostelsee	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
28 Jul 2012	Chicago Int Dragon Boat Festival	Chicago	Usa	www.gwndragonboat.com
28-29 Jul 2012	Long Beach DB Fest – Marine Stadium	Long Beach, CA	Usa	lbdragonboat.com
02 Aug 2012	Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival	Bemidji, MN	Usa	www.bemidjdragonboat.com
04 Aug 2012	British National League – Race 5	Stockton-on-Tees	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk

04-05 Aug 2012	21st New York Hong Kong DB Festival	New York	Usa	www.hkdbf-ny.org
05 Aug 2012	Japanese Schools & Seniors Champs	Otsu, Shiga	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com
05 Aug 2012	Nottingham Riverside Festival – R.Trent	Nottingham	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
11 Aug 2012	Laubegart Dragon Boat Regatta	Laubegart	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
11 Aug 2012	Łódź Smoczyk Regatta - Dominik 2012	Gdansk	Poland	www.dragonboat.pl
11 Aug 2012	6th Gateway Dragon Boat Festival	St Louis	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
11-12 Aug 2012	Moravian Dragon Boat Championships	Uherske Hradiste	Czech Rep	EM: klimbera@dragonboat.cz
11 -12 Aug 2012	Banff National Park DB Festival	Alberta	Canada	www.dragonboat.ca
12 Aug 2012	British National League – Race 6	Mansfield	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
18-19 Aug 2012	12 <sup>th</sup> Riverfront DB Festival	Hartford CT	Usa	www.dragonboathartford.com
24 Aug 2012	Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival	Superior, WI	Usa	www.lakesuperiordragons.com
24-25 Aug 2012	10th Barrie Dragon Boat Festival	Barrie, Ont	Canada	www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca
25 Aug 2012	SDBA AusCham 10k DB Challenge	Marina Reservoir	Singapore	www.sdba.org.sg
26 Aug 2012	British National League – Race 7	Worcester	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
26 Aug 2012	Philippines DB Federation - Regatta 3	Venue - TBN	Philippines	www.pdbf.com
26 Aug 2012	KIX International Dragon Boat Festival	Kansai Int Airport	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com
31 Aug-02 Sep 12	Celebes International DB Festival	Makassar	Indonesia	yonif133yspdg@gmail.com
01 Sep 2012 (P)	EHDC Dragon Boat Races - Bosbaan	Amsterdam	Netherlands	www.ehdc.nl
01-02 Sep 2012	6 <sup>th</sup> Szeged Int Dragon Boat Festival	Szeged	Hungary	EM: office@dragonboat.hu
01-02 Sep 2012	Singapore National Games DBR - 300m	Bedok Reservoir	Singapore	www.sdba.org.sg
02 Sep 2012	British National League – Race 8. RAD	London	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
07-09 Sep 2012	10 <sup>th</sup> Asian Dragon Boat Championships	Busan	Korea	EM: adbfdragon@126.com
07-09 Sep 2012	German National Championships	Hamburg	Germany	www.drachenboot.de
08 Sep 2012	3 <sup>rd</sup> Kentucky Dragon Boat Festival	Alexandra, KY	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
08 Sep 2012	Atlanta Dragon Boat Festival	Atlanta, GA	Usa	www.dragonboatatlanta.com
08 Sep 2012	Cambridge DB Festival – River Cam	Cambridge	England	www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk
08 Sep 2012	Schoneweide DB Cup Race	Berlin	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
08-09 Sep 2012	GWN DB Challenge, Marilyn Bell Park	Toronto	Canada	www.gwndragonboat.com
09 Sep 2012	Portland Dragon Boat Races	Portland, Oregon	Usa	www.portlanddragonboats.com
09 Sep 2012	7 <sup>th</sup> Biwako 1000m DB Championship	Lake Biwa	Japan	www.jdba-dragonboat.com
15 Sep 2012	6 <sup>th</sup> Cleveland Dragon Boat Festival	Cleveland	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
15 Sep 2012	Mercer County Dragon Boat Festival	West Windsor, NJ	Usa	www.gwndragonboat.com
15 Sep 2012	San Francisco Int Dragon Boat Festival	San Francisco, CA	Usa	www.sfdragonboat.com
15 Sep 2012	Great River Race – inc Dragon Boats	London	England	www.greatriverrace.co.uk
15-16 Sep 2012	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dublin Int Dragon Boat Regatta	Dublin	Ireland	EM: info@acaunsolutions.com
15-16 Sep 2012	2 <sup>nd</sup> Rome Int 200m Dragon Boat Regatta	Rome, EUR Lake	Italy	www.dragonboat.it
15-16 Sep 2012	24 <sup>th</sup> Thailand Int Swan Boat Races	TBN	Thailand	www.tourismthailand.org
15-16 Sep 2012	Bremer Dragon Boat Cup Races	Bremer	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
15-16 Sep 12 (P)	SAVA Sprints International	Venue - TBN	Singapore	www.sava.com.sg
21-22 Sep 12 (P)	Shanghai Dragon Boat Races	Qingpu, Shanghai	China	www.shdba.org
21-23 Sep 2012	Czech Rep National Championships	Racice	Czech Rep	EM: klimbera@dragonboat.cz
22 Sep 2012	2 <sup>nd</sup> Duncan-Williams DB Races	Tennessee	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
22 –23 Sep 2012	British National Championships NWSC	Nottingham	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
29 Sep 2012	6 <sup>th</sup> Nashville Dragon Boat Festival	Nashville, TN	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
29 Sep 2012	Polish Open Long Distance Champs	Olsztyn	Poland	www.dragonboat.pl
29 Sep 2012	Saarbrücken Quarter DB Marathon Race	Saarbrücken	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de

29-30 Sep 2012	National 5 Crew DB Challenge – 300m	Jurong Lake	Singapore	www.sdba.org.sg
06 Oct 2012	10 <sup>th</sup> Philadelphia Int DB Festival	Philadelphia, Pen	Usa	www.philadragonboatfestival.com
06 Oct 2012	Rocketts Landing Dragon Boat Festival	Richmond, VA	Usa	www.gwndragonboat.com
07 Oct 2012	3rd Leg Cobra PDBF National Series	Venue TBN	Philippines	www.pdbf.com
12-14 Oct 2012	3rd Camsur International DB Festival	Camsur	Philippines	www.pdbf.com
13 Oct 2012	Kettwiger Dragon Boat Regatta	Kettwiger	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
13-14 Oct 12 (P)	Cyprus International DB Races	Limassol	Cyprus	EM: cg3551@gmail.com
20 Oct 2012	Berlin Dragon Boat Marathon	Saarbruken	Germany	www.drachenboot.liga.de
20 Oct 2012	Orlando International DB Festival	Orlando, Fld	Usa	www.gwndragonboat.com
20 Oct 2012	1 <sup>st</sup> Bloomington Dragon Boat Festival	Bloomington	Usa	www.racedragonboats.com
20-21 Oct 2012	9 <sup>th</sup> Gulf Coast Int DB Regatta	Sugar Land, Texas	Usa	www.texasdragonboat.com
20 -21 Oct 12 (P)	Malaysia International DB Festival	Putrajaya	Malaysia	www.putrajayadragonboat.com
28 Oct 2012	3 <sup>rd</sup> HK Long Distance DB Champs	Hong Kong	China SAR	EM: hkdba@hkolympic.org
01-04 Nov 2012	World & DB Caribbean Cup Races	Quadeloupe	West Indies	EM: gt3h-direction@orange.fr
03-04 Nov 2012	Singapore River Regatta	Singapore River	Singapore	www.sdba.org.sg
09-10 Nov 2012	Pan Pacific Masters Games DB Races	Gold Coast	Australia	events@goldcoastdragons.com.au
18 Nov 2012	2nd HK Indoor DB Championships	Hong Kong	China SAR	EM: hkdba@hkolympic.org
21-24 Nov 2012	Abu Dhabi Corporate Games DB Races	Cityort City	Uae	uae@corporate-games.com
24-25 Nov 2012	2 <sup>nd</sup> Zambales Dragon Boat Festival	Zambales	Philippines	www.pdbf.com
02 Dec 2012	1st HK DB Tug-of-War Championships	Hong Kong	China SAR	EM: hkdba@hkolympic.org
09 Dec 2012	Philippines National Championships	Venue TBN	Philippines	www.pdbf.com

## DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012-2015

### 2012

17-19 Jun 2012	3 <sup>rd</sup> Asian Beach Games DB Races		China	EM: adbfdragon@126.com
04-08 Jul 2012	8th Club Crew World Championships	Tsim Sha Tsui	Hong Kong	www.idbf.org
26-29 Jul 2012	10th European Nations Championships	NWSC Nottingham	England	www.dragonboat.org.uk
07-09 Sep 2012	10th Asian Dragon Boat Championships	Busan	Korea	EM: adbfdragon@126.com

### 2013

TBN	East Asian Games DB Races	Tainjin	China	EM: adbfdragon@126.com
TBN	1 <sup>st</sup> Asian Club Crew Championships	TBN	Singapore	Em; adbfdragon@126.com
24-28 Jul 2013	11th World Nations Championships	Szeged	Hungary	www.idbf.org
23-25 Aug 2013	10th European Club Crews Champs	Hamburg	Germany	www.drachenboot.de

### 2014

TBN	11th Asian Dragon Boat Championships	TBN	TBN	EM: adbfdragon@126.com
Aug 2014 (P)	9th Club Crew World Championships	Ravena	Italy	www.idbf.org
Aug 2014 (P)	11th European Nations Championships	TBN	Hungary	www.edbf.org
Oct 2014	IBCPC Breast Cancer Survivors Festival	Sarasota, Fld	Usa	EM: committee@ibcpc.com

### 2015

Aug 2015	12th World Nations Championships	Welland, Niagara	Canada	www.idbf.org
TBN	11th European Club Crews Champs	TBN	TBN	www.edbf.org

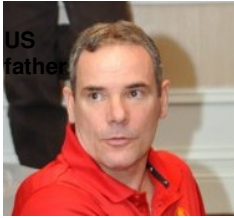
**IDBF AFFILIATES – JANUARY 2012****(Dragon Boat Festivals and Event Organisers)****FESTIVALS:**

Alcan Dragon Boat Festival	Can	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboat.ca">www.dragonboat.ca</a>
Auckland Dragon Boat Festival	Nzl	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboat.ca">www.dragonboat.ca</a>
Banyoles International Dragon Boat Festival	Spn	email: <a href="mailto:info@sportsandelements.com">info@sportsandelements.com</a>
Celebes International Dragon Boat Festival	Ina	email: <a href="mailto:lic.makassar@yahoo.com">lic.makassar@yahoo.com</a>
Dragon Boat Israel	Isr	email: <a href="mailto:info@dragonboatisrael.com">info@dragonboatisrael.com</a>
Győr International Dragon Boat Festival	Hun	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboat.hu">www.dragonboat.hu</a>
Hong Kong International Races	Hkg	website: <a href="http://www.hkdba.com">www.hkdba.com</a>
Istanbul Dragon Festival	Trk	website: <a href="http://www.dragonfestivali.com">www.dragonfestivali.com</a>
Labuan International Sea Challenge I	Mal	email: <a href="mailto:psong@lautanbiru.com.my">psong@lautanbiru.com.my</a>
Limmasol International Dragon Boat Races	Cyp	email: <a href="mailto:aermogenous@hotmail.com">aermogenous@hotmail.com</a>
Macau International Festival Races	Mac	website: <a href="http://www.sport@gov.mo">www.sport@gov.mo</a>
Miami Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival	Usa	website: <a href="http://www.miamidragon.com">www.miamidragon.com</a>
Nantes Atlantique Dragon Boat Festival	Fra	website: <a href="http://www.nack.nates.free.fr">www.nack.nates.free.fr</a>
New York Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival	Usa	website: <a href="http://www.hkdbf-ny.org">www.hkdbf-ny.org</a>
Padang International Dragon Boat Festival	Ina	website: <a href="http://www.padangtourism.com">www.padangtourism.com</a>
Penang International Dragon Boat Festival	Mal	website: <a href="http://www.penangdragonboat.gov.my">www.penangdragonboat.gov.my</a>
Prague International Dragon Boat Races	Cze	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboat.cz">www.dragonboat.cz</a>
Putrajaya Int Dragon Boat Festival	Mal	website: <a href="http://www.putrajayadragonboat.com">www.putrajayadragonboat.com</a>
Rouen AFCDB Dragon Boat Festival	Fra	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboat.fr">www.dragonboat.fr</a>
Sabah International Dragon Boat Races	Mal	website: <a href="http://www.sabahtourism.com">www.sabahtourism.com</a>
Stanley International Festival Races	Hkg	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboat.org.hk">www.dragonboat.org.hk</a>
Tampa Bay International Dragon Boat Festival	Usa	website: <a href="http://www.TampaBayDragonBoats.com">www.TampaBayDragonBoats.com</a>
Thailand International Swan Boat Races	Thl	email: <a href="mailto:tangentt@gmail.com">tangentt@gmail.com</a>
Tim Horton's Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival	Can	www: <a href="http://dragonboat.net">dragonboat.net</a>
Toronto International Festival Races	Can	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboats.com">www.dragonboats.com</a>
Trinidad Dragon Boat Festival	T&T	website: <a href="http://www.chinesearrivalt.org">www.chinesearrivalt.org</a>
Vladivostok Governor of Primorye Int Cup	Rus	email: <a href="mailto:tigersvld@mail.ru">tigersvld@mail.ru</a>

**EVENT ORGANISERS:**

AP Conclusion	Ger	email: <a href="mailto:w.faust@ap-conclusion.de">w.faust@ap-conclusion.de</a>
China Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festivals	Hkg	email: <a href="mailto:chksardbf97@gmail.com">chksardbf97@gmail.com</a>
Dragon Boat Events Suisse.	Swi	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboatevents.ch">www.dragonboatevents.ch</a>
Dragon Boats Barcelona	Spn	website: <a href="http://www.barcelona-dragonboats.com">www.barcelona-dragonboats.com</a>
Dragon Boats Turkey	Tur	email: <a href="mailto:info@doiadventure.com">info@doiadventure.com</a>
Dragon Boats Thailand	Thl	email: <a href="mailto:handleyb@havering.gov.uk">handleyb@havering.gov.uk</a>
Gable Events UK	Gbr	website: <a href="http://www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk">www.dragonboatfestivals.co.uk</a>
Groupe T3H	Gud	email: <a href="mailto:gt3h-direction@orange.fr">gt3h-direction@orange.fr</a>
GWN Dragon Boat	Can	Website: <a href="http://www.gwndragonboat.com">www.gwndragonboat.com</a>
HSB Sport Turkey	Tur	website: <a href="http://www.dragonfestivali.com">www.dragonfestivali.com</a>
Made in Cote d'Azur	Fra	email: <a href="mailto:alain@madeincotedazur.com">alain@madeincotedazur.com</a>
Nautiques Evenements	Fra	website : <a href="http://www.nautiquesevenements.com">www.nautiquesevenements.com</a>
SAVA Singapore	Sng	website: <a href="http://www.sava.com.sg">www.sava.com.sg</a>
Sail in Asia, Thailand	Thl	website: <a href="http://www.sailinasia.com">www.sailinasia.com</a>
Sport Award SRL	Rom	email: <a href="mailto:radu.radulescu@corporate-games.com">radu.radulescu@corporate-games.com</a>
USA Dragon Boating	Usa	website: <a href="http://www.usadragonboating.com">www.usadragonboating.com</a>

## A CHANGE OF HEART – UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL IN THE ROYAL DRAGON BOAT DASH!



**This story begins with my father, who passed away almost 15 years ago. He was a Commander in the Navy who served in World War II in the Pacific and as a proud US Marine in combat in Korea. He intensely respected the chain of command. It had kept him alive through two wars.**

After the war my father graduated from Cornell University with his Doctorate in Educational Psychology. He was an international expert in literacy. In short, my father was a soldier who respected the chain of command, and a phenomenally gifted reader who loved to teach, learn and read. His background and skills led him to revere the English Monarchy. He used his formidable reading ability to learn everything he could about English history, the Tudor period being his particular specialty.

He believed that the Royal Family, inherited in equal measure privilege and an immense responsibility to serve the people – to use the power for good. That is why he believed that monarchy was important. Good monarchs served from a platform most people cannot imagine and could change the world.

**This is the prism through which I experienced the Royal Visit in Dalvey by the Sea in Prince Edward Island, Canada, and not in the way you might think. I was bored by the monarchy.** Like most children, the endless hours my father talked about the military and the monarchy went in one ear and out the other. I was very close to my father, but when he droned on about the monarchy and Tudor history I tuned out.

**And then, one day in May, many years later, the phone rang. The government in PEI was requesting two dragon boats for something secret.** After signing a confidentiality agreement, they informed us (myself and Steve Gallant, my business partner at Dragon Boat East), that the boats were for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge to use in a special event at Dalvey.

**The logistics went pretty fast.** Steve and I went to look at the site and talked to PEI government officials about what they needed. It quickly became clear that this was going to be unlike any event we had ever done. We heard the phrases, “we have no idea” and “we have no control over that”, a lot.

Our basic instructions were to show up at Dalvey, a beautiful location in Stanhope National Park, near Cavendish, load two boats with sixteen good dragon boaters, sixteen invited athletes from PEI, the Duke and Duchess, the Premier of PEI and his wife, and four security personnel. Steve and I were to helm the boats in a 200m race, the Prince against the Princess. There was a lot of protocol and a fancy reception to go with it.

**I saw this as just another boat rental, until I talked to my son, Jack.** Since this was all happening on a workday, Steve and I had thought it would be difficult to get 16 Dragon Beasts to take time off work and drive to PEI for two days at their own expense. **And the royals were just another two people to me, at this point.**

But early on I confidentially told Jack about the secret mission. Jack, who, carefully selects his commitments, immediately and enthusiastically said, “I’m in.” A fire-fighter, he went straight to the phone and traded shifts so he could attend. He then speculated on what the Duke and Duchess would do, whether they would talk to anyone, where they would sit in the boat.

**When I expressed surprise at his enthusiasm, he said, “are you kidding me. I have a chance to paddle with the two most famous people in the World right now.”**

**And that’s the moment, for me that the magnitude of our assignment hit home.** Steve and I went from, “how can we get all these people”, to, “how are we going to decide who gets to go!”

There were 16 paddlers in our club going to the Worlds last August in Tampa, so we decided that was a logical cut off.

We proposed that to the organizers, they loved the idea. Once I was given permission, I sent out the initial email to the paddlers with details for the proposed weekend with royalty.

**I have sent out many, many emails over the years** to this veteran and jaded group. Half respond, some never read them, some respond with prompting, over time. This was the first time ever, that every single person, virtually immediately, responded with “I’m in”. **16 out of 16 within 24 hours.**

**There were many details to look after.** Steve handled all the media, and there were a lot of interviews and requests. We had to send in personal information for security purposes. Every person had to have background checks and be credentialed. We had to look after accommodations and uniforms, paddles, lifejackets.

**Chloe Greenhalgh, the Exec Director of Dragon Boat Canada,** phoned immediately and was an amazing support. Chloe arranged with Chris Cookson from Regatta Sport to get us our National Team uniforms for the event, 3 weeks ahead of schedule, even making extra shirts for the Royal couple, with special tags inside.

**Henry Kim from Apex paddles** was also a big help, providing 10 paddles at the last minute so everyone would have carbon fibre paddles. Mike English from Adidas helped out with our “party” attire making special sporty golf shirts with our club crest on them. We all quickly learned what “smart casual” was, via google.

**The day before the race Steve, Tim Schaus and I went to Dalvey to set up the course** and work with the Prince Edward Island athletes, who would comprise half of the paddlers, included Adam MacQuade, a Stanley Cup winner with the Boston Bruins, and Jared Connaughton, a Canadian track Olympian. But none of them had paddled before. They learned very quickly, my only concern being that 4 or 5 athletes were not able to attend the session and would be paddling for the first time, the next day.

**At this point no one had any idea what role the Duke and Duchess would take in the boat.** The press releases said they were to steer, and there were YouTube videos showing the Duchess steering, but Steve and I were concerned about them steering a race, especially given the huge number of credentialed press and the potential for disaster if the boats collided.

**Steve and I were to arrive on site early to prepare and dress the boats; we arrived on site at 10am. It was rainy with blustery winds and the organisers said “It looks like because of the winds they are cancelling the dragon boat races.”**

**As I’m processing the impact of the cancellation,** a very nice woman came up to me and asked where the best place to watch the dragon boat races were. I looked at the shore and saw people positioning their lawn chairs by the lake, 3 hours ahead of the race, in the rain. **I went to find Steve. 3 hours till race time – or not.**

**Meanwhile, the rest of the dragon boat paddlers** were travelling to the site. Having just received the news of the likely cancellation, I then received a text saying that three of our people were missing and the bus was waiting! **What next?**

**As I’m walking down to find Steve, an official looking gentlemen in a golf cart,** who I recognized from previous meetings and seemed like “the man in charge”, drove up to me. He asked, “in this wind, what is the percentage chance of some kind of incident?” I replied, “if Steve and I are steering, zero.”

**He smiled and said, “that’s the right answer” and drove away.** A couple minutes later Allison our main contact person, called me on my cell and said, “we’re on”. I asked what role the Duke and Duchess would play and she said that we won’t know until the last minute and that the Royal Guard will let us know when we are waiting to embark on the other side of the lake !.

A couple of seconds after Allison’s call, Brian Melanson, who knows that I hate uncertainty, texted me and said, “no worries, everyone’s on the bus, it’s going to be a great day”.

There were two groups of paddlers, the 16 Dragon Beasts and the 16 honoured athletes, none of whom had ever paddled, with the exception of the training session that 12 of them attended.

The other 8 seats were to be filled by either Steve and I or the Duke and Duchess, depending on their wishes, the Premier, Robert Ghiz and his wife, Dr. Kate Ellis, and security personnel (2 seats per boat), making in all, 44 people on the water.

**This was the first time I actually believed that this event was going to happen.** I met up with Steve and Dave and Megan Kress, who was looking after our equipment throughout the day. We changed into our “smart casual” gear – our Adidas shirts and khaki pants – we looked very sharp and sat down to a late breakfast. Then the rest of the Beasts arrived.

**For the next hour we hung out at the luxurious Dalvey by the Sea Lodge, eating brunch with our fellow “dignitaries”, while Steve and I fielded interview requests - there were over 150 credentialed media in attendance.**

Steve did several, the Toronto Star wanted a couple of athletes to talk to and Mike Haslam the IDBF Executive President talked to many people and did a television interview that was being shown on National TV back in his native England.

**Steve and I lined up our teams in a group, like for a photo they take in Grade school, and we waited for 10 minutes or so. It was still raining lightly but not cold. It was still windy, but nothing that we don’t practice in at times.**

**And then we heard someone say, “HERE THEY COME ”**

**The Duke and Duchess appeared suddenly walking with a military guard and various dignitaries** down the road about 100 meters from where we were lined up. It was a very surreal moment. Prince William broke away from the entourage, walked up to me and shook my hand. I said, “it is an honour to meet you, your Royal Highness.”

**He looked at the crew and asked, “are you the winning side?”.** The crew answered that we were. He said he understood there were several World gold medallists in the crew and he expected victory. I also introduced the honorary captain, Olympic sprinter Jared Connaghton. Steve and I presented the Duke and Duchess with the special Canadian Team racing shirts that many of us would be wearing at the 2011 Worlds.

**I asked the Duke if he had any concerns steering in the wind.** The ensuing exchange has been reported by various sources, including the IDBF magazine, but the full conversation went like this:-

“Your Royal highness, do you have any concerns about steering in this wind?”

**“Well, I’ve never steered before, but I’ll give it a go.”**

“Well, you can also lead us from the drummer’s seat or by paddling with us, whatever you would like.”

**“I will paddle or steer, but I am not sitting out in the drummer’s seat (said with a bit of a grin)”**

“Your Royal Highness, it is fantastic you are willing to paddle with us, our crew will be very excited to race with you in the boat.”

**“Excellent, well let’s meet the crew then.”**

**He then walked up to the crew and shook each person’s hand, looking them in the eye, engaging each person. It was unbelievable how he did it. He turned each exchange into something personal.**

**We posed for a team shot, and then started to load the boat.** I knew the Duke had paddled before, because Mike Haslam had briefed me and even sent me pictures of him racing a dragon boat at school.

So I just put him in the boat on a bench with Barry Ring, behind 2009 World Premier 500m Gold medallist, 6 foot 3 inch Sean Gibson, because I knew that Sean would give him lots of room.

**My son Jack was in the seat next to his basketball buddy Sean and ended up in many good pictures paddling with the Prince.**

**Mike was in Toronto the previous week conducting an IDBF International Officials course** (which Steve was participating in – he passed his exam!) and Mike had approached Steve for us to consider him to officiate the race, acting as starter and judge.

We were delighted to accept and he was a big help. Allison got him security clearance at the last minute and Mike travelled to Halifax, and eventually Dalvey, with Steve and he was on site assisting us throughout the event.

While Steve was in the media tent doing interviews, I had a rare team meeting. I told everyone exactly what I knew, and what I didn’t know. I told them about the near cancellation and that we still didn’t know what role the Duke and Duchess would play, and I told young Andrew and Luke Gallant (who were there to drum) that should the Duke and Duchess end up drumming, that they were absolutely going to be in the boat and would paddle.

**With everyone together we assigned boat positions** etc, got into our racing gear, got our paddles and life jackets and boarded the bus. The bus ride was much longer than expected, we took a strange route, but we chatted and everyone was relaxed. When we got off the bus, Allison told us that the Royal Guard wanted Steve and I to “mentor” the Duke and Duchess.

First they would be introduced to the crews and we were to look after them and determine their participation wishes, they would pose for a picture, we would load the boats and race, and then dock on the other side of the lake at the main compound, where media and legions of fans were waiting. Steve was to mentor the Duchess and I was to mentor the Duke.

**I asked Allison, “how do I address him”.** In case you bump into the Duke on the street sometime, she replied. “you address him as Your Royal Highness the first several times, and after that you can address him as Sir or Your Royal Highness.





**We pushed off the dock and the Duke was right in stroke and had no problem at all, he was a pretty good paddler.** I wanted to kill some time plus with all the new paddlers in the boat I wanted to see how the boat would run, so we did a practice start.

The boat leaned a lot to the right, as I suspected, and the Duke was sitting a couple inches too far toward the middle of the boat (he was in seat 5 on the left), but I didn't know how to say anything to him so I just told Beasts Sue Slimming, Jan Oakley and Sean Gibson to get way up on the left, and Dave Gallant, Jack and Barry to get off the side. It was better in the race.

**Steve Gallant's boat was now loaded and the Duchess was steering.** She looked really relaxed steering up to the line, Steve was in seat 10 just in case. The starting line was in the windiest part of the lake, and when it came time to turn the Duchess had some trouble, understandably so.

**She asked to switch with Steve,** a manoeuvre not easily done on the water at the best of times, never mind on a very windy day on National television, when you cannot touch the person. Normally, when you move in the boat, you will put your hands on the shoulders or back of the person you are switching with, there is very little room.

**Somehow Steve made the switch and kept everyone dry,** but I have seen the exchange on television and he looks like he is playing twister with the Duchess. The Duke seemed to really like the fact that the Duchess was now paddling against him, he was very animated and talking to her.

**Mike Haslam lined the boats up and started the race.** My first thought was to find my race line and look at Steve's boat and be sure I had it correct.

A collision would not be good, and there was only a 3 buoy finish line and no intermediate buoys.

**Once I was sure of my line, my next thought was, we are too far ahead.** I called to the crew to relax, just reach it out, which my guys did, **but the Duke would have none of it. "go harder", he yelled, "they are gaining".** **Meanwhile, the Duchess, paddling in the 10 seat behind a person who had never been in a dragon boat before, was getting soaked with every stroke.**

**We were all really impressed that the Duchess would participate like that.** They both clearly enjoyed themselves. I remember thinking that this was probably the only activity they would do on this trip with people their own age.

**The Duke's crew won, by a couple of seats, and he basked in the victory, visibly pleased.** We went into the wharf, and the Duke and Duchess got out of the boats, and she grabbed him and jokingly went to throw him into the water, a movement the Duke turned into a hug.



**This rare display of affection by the royal couple became the iconic image of the Royal Visit.** Several Beasts are clearly visible in the picture, which was published in the Globe and Mail, People Magazine, numerous other magazines, and on the cover of the IDBF magazine - Dragon Boat International.

**And just like that, after a wave, they were gone,** off to accept champagne from Olympic Gold Medallist Heather Moyse, and then to taste lobsters, and greet people, and make speeches.

We went to the media tent, took some pictures, and then changed back into our dress clothes. We were cold, wet and happy. **Our mood, to a person, was, "did that really happen?"** We hung out for awhile, and then took the buses back to our cars.

**Later in August, at the after party at the IDBF Worlds in Tampa,** they had several IDBF magazines on every table and Bruce Chiasson, front and centre on the cover, felt like a celebrity as people kept staring at him in disbelief – such is the impact of being with the young Royals.

**The story ends with my mother. Three weeks after the event we are watching the CBC coverage on my DVR, pointing things out, laughing and answering her questions. I am telling her about the magic that is the Royals. I AM A CONVERT !**

**You can tell she is simply amazed - her son, grandson and daughter in law, along with many of my lifelong friends, paddling along-side the future King of England. She just shakes her head in astonishment.**

**"If only your father could see this."**

**Somehow, Mom, I bet he did.**

**ALBERT McDONALD**

**"This Story Began with my Father"**

## 25th Year of the Dragons - Best Ever for Canada

As if celebrating a quarter of a century of Dragon Boat Racing wasn't a big enough high in 2011, Canada's *long zhou* paddling community took great pride in seeing their sport boosted to world wide acclaim by two Dragon Boat superstars, Will & Kate, the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge.



### CANADA 1946 *Dragonboating & Vancouver's Diamond Jubilee*

*At the end of World War II, the Chinese Consul General presented a golden dragon to Vancouver to symbolize the intention to hold a Dragon Boat Festival outside of Asia for the first time. It was to celebrate the city's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

### CANADA 1986 *Vancouver Hosts Expo 86 Dragonboating Meets the World*

*But it took another 40 years before boats arrived from Hong Kong (thanks to Mason Hung & the HK Tourist Assn, now HKTB) and these boats made their debut to the world as part of Expo 86.*

### 1986 - 2011 A Quarter Century of Dragon Boating in Canada

**1946** – Vancouver's Diamond Jubilee or 60th Anniversary year; To help celebrate, a Consul General of China proposes to the city's mayor that a Dragon Boat Festival be established, similar to Mardi Gras in New Orleans

**1976** – Hong Kong starts international competitions – crews from Canada are amongst the first to race.

**1986** – Centennial Year for Vancouver; dragon boat racing introduced to the nations of the world assembled at Expo 86 on the shores of False Creek; North America's first authentic dragon boat festival; a men's crew from Vancouver becomes the 1st ever non-Asian crew to come 2nd at HK Int'l DB Race (HKIDBR) for club crews

**1996** – **10th Anniversary of Dragon Boat Racing in Canada;** 1st ever IDBF Club Crews World Championship held in Vancouver on False Creek; a mens crew from Toronto becomes the 1st ever non-Asian crew to take 1<sup>st</sup> place at HKIDBR for club crews; a Vancouver paddler publishes the 1st ever dragon boating book in English

**2006** – **20th Anniversary of DB racing in Canada:** 5th IDBF Club Crew World Championships held in Toronto

**2010** – Olympic torch burns its way across False Creek via Dragon Boat to the Opening Ceremony of the 2010 Winter Games, as part of the final leg of the world's farthest Olympic torch run to date

**2011** – **25th Anniversary of DB racing in Canada:** Canadians thrill to the racing and antics of the newest Royal Celebrities, the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge, at Prince Edward Island as part of their first official tour abroad.





## 'DRUM BEAT'

Where You Have You Say About Your Dragon Boat Sport

BY ROB WADKINS



### **IDBF OR ICF DRAGON BOAT WORLD CHAMPS ? - USDBF OR USACK DRAGON BOAT USA ?**

#### **WILL THE REAL DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION PLEASE STAND UP**

My introduction to the grand sport of Dragon Boating was an exciting one. Ten and twenty manned boats compete in 200, 500, 1000 and even 2000 meter races.

This is one of the fastest growing sports in the world! It has good spectator appeal. It is a colourful and traditional sport inviting people of all athletic abilities to participate, not just an elite few.

**I was impressed by the vast numbers of really nice people who simply love the festivals, the traditions, the team spirit and the great workout.**

**The downside is that the sport is split between two feuding factions. There are two organizations, two "World Championships" with both claiming to represent and administrate dragon boating.**

**The ICF (International Canoe Federation) controls canoe and kayaking flat-water and slalom events and just recently began holding their version of a 'Dragon Boat World Championships' in an apparent effort to overtake a sport organized internationally from 1991 by the IDBF, the International Dragon Boat Federation.**

**The truth is that the IDBF is recognized by SportAccord as the controlling organization for the sport of Dragon Boat.**

**SportAccord is the umbrella organization for all (Olympic and non-Olympic) international sports federations.**

Under SportAccord, the ICF controls canoe and kayak disciplines, so I wondered why the ICF has created its own "world dragon boat championships event"?

The ICF appears to want to capitalize on the growing popularity and vast profit potential of the sport.

I wonder how the ICF would react if the IDBF began organizing canoe and kayak world events and held their own 'world canoe championships'?

Assumptions aside, that fact is that recent ICF 'worlds' in the sport, especially in 2010 was significantly 'diluted' based on far less participation than it's much larger IDBF counterpart.

**The recent IDBF World Championships event in Tampa is evidence to that fact.** Compare the member nations competing at the 2011 IDBF Worlds event to the 2010 ICF event in Hungary.

**Notably missing from the ICF event in Hungary were the Dragon Boat powerhouses China, Philippines, Australia and Canada among others.**

**These nations were fully represented in the 2011 IDBF Worlds in Tampa.**

Significant also is the discrepancy in the selection processes used by the Members' of the two International Federations.

**The USDBF, United States Dragon Boat Federation under the IDBF, for example, uses 200 and 500 meter one man Outrigger Canoe (OC-1) time trials to select their team members.**

**The Dragonboat USA under the USACK (United States Canoe and Kayak) and ICF, uses a computer paddle that measures output in a 15-20 second test. There have been heated debates as to the validity of each testing method.**

**I don't get how 20 seconds on a paddle can determine your fitness for races that last two to ten minutes, but that is what they do in Dragonboat USA team testing. The one man boat racing seems fairer but the real test is who is winning at races.**

**I looked at the competitive results. The USDBF TEAM USA won the 'Nations Cup' at Worlds in Tampa in 2011, meaning they won the overall World title with the greatest medal count.**

They had multiple Gold medal wins among many other medal winning results against the best teams in the world. Team USA of the Dragonboat USA (ICF) garnered only a single bronze at their 'worlds' with far less competition, as the world's top teams did not attend and interestingly, do not recognize the ICF in the sport of dragon boat.

**From a standpoint of results, the testing method used by USDBF chooses the best teams.**

Significant as well is that the USDBF sponsors it's top athletes, while the (ICF) - Dragonboat USA expects all their athletes to fork up the three to four thousand dollars for an international trip.

You can conclude that the true best in the USA can represent the USDBF Team USA, while only those that can afford the trip will be on the ICF - Dragonboat USA team.

It seems sad that the ICF has made a corporate decision to intrude on a sport already established by the IDBF and split the sport up in a messy feud.

There does not appear to be any law against it both domestically or internationally. It would be like the sport of figure skating introducing it's own version of speed skating and then having a 'worlds' event.

I would conclude that if you want a vacation with some dragon boat competition thrown in the mix, by all means go with the Dragonboat USA team, but be prepared to spend a lot of money.

**If you wish to compete with the best in the world, the IDBF is host to a complete and fully participated Dragon Boat World Championships.**

**ROB WADKINS IS NOT AFFILIATED TO OR A MEMBER OF ANY ORGANIZATION NAMED ABOVE.**

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**typhoon**

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as at 01 January 2012

<b>BOAT BUILDER</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>	<b>Email or Fax Contact</b>
Bizzon Dragon Boats	1222	Czech Republic	krkzsk@yahoo.co.uk
Boat & Home	1222	Canada	boatandhome@hotmail.com
BuK Boats	1222/ 912	Germany	Buk-GmbH@t-online.de
Champion Boats	1222/ 912	China	cd@dragonboat.cn
Donoratico	1222	Italy	Fax + 39 056 577 4290
Flying Eagle	1222/912	China	denise@stellarkayaks.com
Gemini	1222	Poland	dragonboats@gemini.gda.pl
Get Together Services Ltd	912	New Zealand	get.together.services.limited@gmail.com
KTH Seagull Boats	1222	Singapore	sales@seagull.com.sg
Olym Elite Boats	1222/912	China	info@olymp-sports.com
Pei Sheng Boats	1222	China	psfrp@163.com
Plastex Composite	1222/912	Poland	plastexltd@interia.eu
Regata 2000	1222	Hungary	regata.bt@chello.hu
Simon River Sports	1222	Canada	lou@simonriversports.com
Swift International	1222/912	China	timyang@swiftinternational.biz
Tedi Sport	1222	Poland	tedisport@wp.pl

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Braca Sport	3061	Lithuania	braca-hu@bracasport.com
Burnwater	3011/ 12	Usa	arinchang@burnwater.com
Champion Paddles	3191 / 92	China	cd@dragonboat.cn
Chinook Paddles	3131 / 32	Canada	info@chinookpaddles.com
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ES Dragon Paddles	3101	Germany	Brigitte.Schmidt@beiersdorf.com
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