

DRAGON BOAT INTERNATIONAL

The Newsletter of the International Dragon Boat Federation

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國際龍舟聯合會
INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION

The World Governing Body for Dragon Boat Sport



OZ WELCOMES THE DRAGON BOAT WORLD IN SEPTEMBER 07

FIRST THE WORLD CHAMPS SYDNEY and THEN THE BCS CALOUNDRA REGATTA

GB Premier Women leaving the UK – next stop, Penrith Regatta Course, Sydney. See you all there !



Memories of 'Roma' but the Girls are Back in Town – at the BCS International Celebration Regatta, Caloundra, Queensland – 29/30 Sept 07. Be there too ! See details inside this DBI.



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The Newsletter of the International Dragon Boat Federation

'The World Governing Body of Dragon Boat Sport'

Member of the General Association of International Sports Federations



国际龙舟联合会

Visit our web site at - www.idbf.org - a Warm Welcome assured

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8th WORLD DRAGON BOAT RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS – SYDNEY IS READY AND WAITING

The countdown to Sydney 2007 has begun and National Teams are gearing up for the 8th World Championships scheduled for the 20-23 September 07, with a warm up festival regatta in Darling Harbour, on 16 September and a Coaching Work shop on the Championship week programme for Tuesday 18 September 2007.

With over 100 crews entered from around the globe, hot racing will be the order of the day on the Penrith Olympic Regatta Course, some 60 kilometres from down town Sydney. Russia will be looking to keep the Nations Cup as the best Premier Team overall but they can expect strong competition in the Premier Woman's Division from Canada and Great Britain and no doubt Team Australia will be all out to prove themselves tops on home waters too.

China, Macau and the Philippines – medal winners all, in previous World Championships, lead a strong Asian entry, which also includes dark horses Chinese Taipei, plus Japan and Hong Kong. Notably absentees are Singapore and Indonesia both Countries who have competed at IDBF Affiliated Festivals this year and Vietnam. New Zealand are making their first appearance at a WDBRC since Hong Kong in 1997, where they won Bronze and new boys Slovakia, who won Gold at the 2006 European Championships, are a Team to watch in the Premier Open Division, as are the Ukraine Team after their Clubs' recent showing in the European Club Crew Championships in St Petersburg.

South America will be represented for the first time, when Chile take to the water in the Premier Mixed Division. In the Senior Division 42 crews from 10 Countries will do battle for Championship Medals, including 12 Grand Dragons Crews (the over 50s) racing formally in a World Champs for the first time. In the Junior Division some 23 crews from 7 Countries will make the trip to Sydney, with the Junior Women racing in their own Division for the first time too.

As expected, without the government funding that is taken for granted by the Olympic Sports, the high cost of travelling across the globe has precluded many Teams from competing at the World Champs, South Africa and Trinidad and Tobago for example. Lack of funding has also struck the Europeans too, where the Czech Republic, Poland, Switzerland, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden, all regular participants in the World Championships, will be sadly missed. But despite this around 2000 of the best Dragon Boaters in the World will still be chasing the Medals in Sydney, in a feast of colour and muscle power, so why not come along and cheer them on to victory !

11th IDBF MEMBERS CONGRESS – PENRITH, SYDNEY, FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2007

“If you cannot be there make sure that you are represented by your IDBF Member”

The IDBF Members will meet in their bi-annual Congress on 21st September during the World Championships and with elections; revised regulations to be considered and a debate or two on the development of the sport, there will be plenty of sport political discussion going on. The 'dry debate' of Congress is not to everyone's taste but the Congress is where the IDBF Members get to have their say on the sport and elect the Council Members. Dry maybe but also important too for the future of Dragon Boat Sport that you are represented and have your say. Up for election this time is IDBF Executive President, Mike Haslam; Treasurer, David Cogswell and Commission Chair holders, Mike Thomas (C&TC), Bob McNamara (Med Com), Sharifa Khan (M&M) and Adrian Lee (PH&C).

EDITORIAL - by Mike Haslam. IDBF REACHES 60 + ! Dragon Boat Sport goes from strength to strength with latest Members Iran, Costa Rica and Turkey taking the IDBF Membership number to over 60 Countries or Territories. With a Brunei Crew competing at the Penang Festival Races again this year and both Laos and Thailand competing in the South East Asian Games Traditional Boat Races in Dragon Boats, this coming October, Dragon Boat Sport continues to attract new devotees. The number of IDBF Affiliate Festivals is on the increase too with Sabah (Malaysia and Toronto, Canada) being the latest and enquiries being received from Reunion Island, Mauritius and Turkey to affiliate to the world 'Dragon Boat Family' as well as join the IDBF.

See separate articles on these latest developments, plus reports on the European Club Crew Championships in St Petersburg and the upcoming BCS Regatta in Colundra near Brisbane. See also what the GAISF Members actually said in Beijing in an extract from the GAISF Minutes concerning IDBF Membership and the ICF.

On the political front the IDBF has asked the GAISF President to Chair meetings between the IDBF and ICF during the next few months. Actually, spare a thought for the ICF, with the news that the African Canoe Federation and the European Canoe Association cancelled their DB Championships, due to a lack of interest in one and a lack of entries for the other and that a similar fate appears to have affected the planned Asian Champs in Korea.

The much publicised ICF Club Championships in France too attracted less than 40 crews, most from Germany and France plus a few from Europe. When will the ICF President realize that most of the 140 ICF Members are just not interested in Dragon Boat Sport and those that are, prefer to do their racing with the IDBF. Are well, time will tell !

LEFT OR RIGHT SIDED PADDLING – IS IT JUST A BIT OF A FASHION FAD ?!

It seems that Dragon Boat Racing now has a fashion angle to it as a German company are offering special shirts for Dragon Boaters with a sleeveless arm for the side that you paddle on. An extract from their promo ad reads:-

"The waterside Sleeve must be as short as possible until it is sleeveless. You have to put the paddle under the arm of the Paddler in front and a longer Sleeve may cause you to catch a Paddle or water in the Sleeve may make it heavier. So the inner sleeve can be a short one and may be in another Colour."

Well, that started a flurry of emails on the Dragon boat Forum on whether or not crews were training as right or left sided paddlers – presumably thus needing right or left arm short sleeved shirts !!?

Doug Sinclair wrote:- "In Australia we train to paddle on either side equally. We do that to prevent injury from unbalanced development and also to ensure our paddlers are universally available. Single side paddlers make crew mix a bigger job for the coach.

Our coach knows on our performance they can seat us almost anywhere and on either side. So the shirt wouldn't work for us but it raises an interesting question How Many Countries Paddle Single Side Only vs. How Many Paddle Both Sides? "

So the debate changed direction a little and Cait from Vancouver, took up the theme, when he said "My team trains on both sides right up until a regatta, then concentrates on the seat you will fill come race time. We try to be as flexible as the seats and coach demand. **I agree with Doug that the shirts would not work** for us as we paddle left or right as needed. That said I imagine you could turn it inside out or front to back and get the same effect of one sleeve bare on covered, but why not bare both?

Anyway, may I rephrase his question and ask it as "how many teams train to paddle bilaterally vs single sided? My team trains on both sides right up until a regatta, then concentrates on the seat you will fill come race time. We try to be as flexible as the seats and coach demand.

Tom from Portland took up the theme by saying "The teams that I have paddled in train on both sides. We may have favourite side for races but for training we do both. A tight fitting short sleeve shirt or a tank top works fine."

Chuck from Los Angeles pitched in with "I agree with Doug about the shirt. Plus I'm not sure that having a different colour sleeve on the inside arm makes much of a difference in terms of timing. Everyone on our team paddles on both sides. If someone comes in having experience on only one side, we make them learn the other side too. It makes the practice and race logistics a lot simpler. A lot of us also cross train in outriggers, so paddling equally well on both sides is imperative."

Finally a comment from New York. Here in NYC, I found that my team discouraged paddling both sides, but I have been encouraged by my sports med MD to paddle both sides to keep my bad back from going out. Ironically, now my team can use me where they need me! Frequently I am asked to race on what used to be my (very) weak side. Better for flexibility, both team and body!

Well, from the email replies to Doug's question, I am not to sure that this shirt company has got its market research right ! Perhaps they think that Dragon Boaters are Canoe Racers ? Now they do generally paddle on one side and would probably love to have a paddling shirt with one short sleeve and the other one long and different colours too, all for USD 50.00, plus P&P.

A Russian Shtoorm hits the European Club Crew Championships.

The spirit of good sportsmanship has never been more in evidence than at the 12th European Club Crew Championships held in St Petersburg, Russia, over the weekend of 4-5th August 2007. When the Paddlers and Race Officials arrived on site earlier in the week, they were confronted with championship facilities that frankly were not up to the standards expected at an EDBF Championship. But with hard work by the IDBF Race Officials and lots of understanding from the crews the actual races were well organized and some great racing, especially from the Russian Crews, became the hallmark of the weekend.

At the Crew Managers Meeting in the afternoon, EDBF Chairman, Alan Van Caubergh and President Mike Haslam, briefed the crews on the organizational problems that were being faced and said that it was now up to the crews and officials together to make the Championship work; and over the next few days, this is exactly what everybody did bringing great credit to themselves and the sport.

It is the willingness of everyone in our sport to work together for the common good that makes our sport so different and attractive and this spirit of co-operation was never more keenly felt than throughout the weekend's racing.

So the scene was set for the first Championship Races on Friday evening, the Mixed 2000m races. As the crews started to load, there was some anxiety as the local organizer had provided six, 12 bench boats and four, 10 bench boats. Although the boats differed from each other in their interior finish, technically all the boat Hulls were the same and made to IDBF Spec.

The actual Races proved to be dramatic as well as exciting, when the Moravian Dragons (Cze) began to zigzag wildly across the lanes in the last 500m, causing a minor collision and a few near-misses

When Moravian finally made it back to the boat marshalling area, the cause of their erratic course became clear – the blade of the carbon steering oar had completely broken away from the shaft. The Helm of the boat, Martin Prchal, said it came off as he was taking the last turn, sending him flying into the water.

“The boat was so fast! I popped up and saw three boats bearing down on me, so I dived down into the water to keep from being hit. One of my paddlers jumped onto the back bench of our Boat and steered with her paddle. I swam to the nearest bank and our crew finished without me.”

Shtoorm (Rus) actually won the Prem Mixed 2000m, taking the first of their many Gold Medals of the weekend in 9.09.76 - Moravian finished in 9th place. Moscow Masters took Silver in 9.10.12 and Burevesinik (Rus) the Bronze, in 9.37.07. Kiev were placed fourth; St Petersburg fifth and Uckermark (Ger) sixth.

The Senior Mixed 2000m was won by Elb Meadow (Ger) in 9.54.78 followed by Pskov (Rus) in 10.01.05 and Raba Aqua (Hun) in 10.05.51. Victorya (Rus) took the Junior Gold (9.52.87); Malbork (Pol) the Silver (10.11.67) and Lighthouse (Ger) the Bronze (10.53.06)

For Saturday's 200m Championships most of the essential equipment and facilities were in place and most of the crews soon realized that the races were being run with matched sets of boats - four to a set

But in the only race with 5 boats - four of the crews in the older 12 bench boats and one in a 10 bench boat - which the crews had been certain were better and faster, it was the crew in the 10 bench boat that came over the finish lane last – nearly two full boat lengths behind the 12 benchers, which only goes to show that crews win races, not the boats they are in !

The 200m Mixed and Open Races were dominated by Russian crews, particularly Shtoorm who took the Gold Medals in the Premier Mixed Champs in 0.44.98, as well as the Premier Women's - 0.51.05 and the Prem Open in 0.44.09. Moscow Masters took the Silver Medal in both the Open (0.44.54) and the Premier Mixed Champs (0.46.41); Moravian (Cze) the Premier Bronze in 0.45.37, with Kiev DBC fourth in 0.46.09. In the Premier Mixed local crew St Petersburg took Bronze (0.46.91) and in the Premier Women's Champs, Wild of Prague took Silver (0.52.30); Tragedky (Rus) the Bronze in 0.53.02. and Burevestnik (Rus) were fourth placed in 0.53.94.

For the Juniors, both the Mixed and Open races were won by Victorya (Rus), with the Mixed Silver going to Malbork (Pol) and the Bronze to Lighthouse (Ger). Volga (Rus) took the Silver in the Open competition.

The Senior Medals were a little more spread out with Pskov (Rus) taking Gold in the Senior Mixed, followed by Elb Meadow (Ger) and Raba Aqua (Hun) taking Bronze. In the Senior Open 200m Moscow Dragons took the title in 0.46.29, with Oksmoki (Pol) winning Silver (0.47.33) and Master Chaykovskiy (Rus) the Bronze in 0.47.87.

Tight on the Turn – Open 2000m



After some great 200m racing on Saturday, came the Open and Women's 2000m races. Both the Junior and Senior Open 2000m went off without too many problems, as did the last race of the day the Premier Open 2000m, which with only 9 good boats available was run in two heats and the times then put into order.

The 2000m Premier women's race also went off without incident until the second to last turn, when crews ended up in a mixture that raised protests at the end of the race. At the last turn Shtoorm suddenly went out of control with a repeat of the broken steering oar problem of the night before and promptly blamed Kiev for causing the damage !

Video evidence and interviewing the Helms of the crews concerned confirmed that in the Premier Women's 2000m, Kiev were the innocent party and that in fact it was Shtoorm who had caused the 2nd turn collisions. Once time penalties and bonuses had been taken into account the results were posted. Despite everything Shtoorm were placed third (10.20.01) and Kiev in second place (10.19.24) with Wild of Prague taking the Gold Medal in a time of 10.16.65. / The

In the Junior 500m Mixed races Victorya made a clean sweep followed by Malbork and Lighthouse and in the Senior Mixed, Pckov, Elb Meadow and Raba Aqua again shared the medals. The Mixed Premier title went to Shtoorm in 1.58.08, with Uzho Ural (1.59.16) and Moscow Masters (1.59.17) completing the Russian Medals tally. Kiev were fourth in 2.00.07

The Open 500m races followed a familiar pattern with, Victorya completing their Gold Medal tally in the Junior event and Master Chaykovsky taking the Senior Gold in 2.02.04, followed by Moscow Dragons (2.02.05) and OK Smokie (Pol) in 02.07.15.

Just to make it clear who were "the Champions of Europe" Shtoorm took both the Premier Women's and Open 500m titles in 2.13.20 and 1.57.18 respectively.

In the Women's division, Kiev took the Silver with a 2.17.10; Wild of Prague the Bronze Medal in 2.17.19.

In the Open, Moscow Dragons added another Silver to their tally in 1.59.06. Moravian Dragons (Cze) completed their tally with a Bronze Medal in 2.01.13. Wann-sea Dragons (Ger) were placed 4th in 2.02.05.



Club Adventure cheering Spree Sisters & Tragedky after the Premier Women's 500m minor final. (Pictures from the EDBF website)



Race officials unwind after the championship with a friendly race, The "IDBF Allstars" in a relaxed mood on Sunday evening

The Open Premier 2000m was won by Moscow Masters in 9.03.73, with Shtoorm an extremely close second place in 9.03.93 and Moravian Dragons third, in 9.09.18, followed by Uzho-Ural University (Rus); Kiev (Ukr), Wann-see Dragons (Ger; Ukermark (Ger); St Petersburg (Rus) and Club Adventure (Pol). Moscow Dragons took Gold in the Senior Open in 9.22.56, followed by Oksmoki in 9.26.36 and Master Chaykovskiy in 9.26.64. Victorya won the Junior Open in 10.00.92, with Volga Dragons in second in 10.39.21.

Sunday the last Championship day, dawned bright and sunny, in spite of predictions for rain. The paddlers and officials settled into a polished rhythm, with the stake boats for the 500m starts finally in place, which was a good thing with the wind starting to play up.

For the 500m Championships close and exciting races were again the order of the day, despite an increasing head wind that reflected in the times. In the mornings Mixed Races, the Russian crews picked up from where they had left off in Saturday's 200m races, taking all the Mixed Gold Medals. /In the Junior

With the last Championship Medals handed out, and the sound of happy paddlers singing their crew songs, as photographs were taken, it was time to relax and to reflect on the Championships.

If there was an award for the most unique uniform of the weekend it would have to go to OK Smoki from Poland with their orange camouflage tops.

The Russian clubs were strong as usual and the clubs from the Czech Republic combined class with excellent racing quality. The folks from GB's Masters International were pure ladies and gentlemen but had it tough against strong teams from Germany and Poland.

Norway's Oslo Dragons were keen and friendly; the Italian clubs showed style and it was good to see the Germans fighting to re-gain their former supremacy.

Really impressive were the Juniors from Victoria and Volga Dragons in Friday's Mixed 2000m races. They started in the same race as the Senior Mixed crews but never let the Seniors gain on them. Don't look back – the future of dragon boat sport is ahead of us, in them.

12th EUROPEAN CLUB CREW CHAMPIONSHIPS, St PETERSBURG 2007, GRAND FINALS**Prem Open 200m – Grand Final**

1 Shtoom	00.44.09
2 Moscow Masters	00.44.84
3 Moravian Dragons	00.45.37
4 Kiev DBC	00.46.09

Prem Open 500m – Grand Final

1 Shtoom	01.57.18
2 Moscow Masters	01.59.06
3 Moravian Dragons	02.01.13
4 Wann Sea Dragons	02.02.05

Prem Open 2000m – first 6 crews

1 Moscow Masters	09.03.73
2 Shtoom	09.03.93
3 Moravian Dragons	09.09.18
4 Uzho Ural Univ	09.18.75
5 Kiev DBC	09.22.13
6 Wann Sea Dragons	09.41.88

Prem Women 200m – Grand Final

1 Shtoom	00.51.05
2 Wild of Prague	00.52.30
3 Tragedky	00.53.02
4 Burevesinik	00.53.94
5 Moravian Dragons	00.54.83

Prem Women 500m – Grand Final

1 Shtoom	02.13.20
2 Kiev DBC	02.17.10
3 Wild of Prague	02.17.19
4 Burevesinik	02.21.18

Prem Women 2000m – first 6 crews

1 Wild of Prague	10.16.65 TP +10
2 Kiev DBC	10.19.24
3 Shtoom	10.20.01TP+10/EF-10
4 Tragedky	10.24.63
5 Burevesinik	10.43.36
6. Moravian Dragons	10.52.53

Prem Mixed 200m – Grand Final

1 Shtoom	00.44.98
2 Moscow Masters	00.46.41
3 St Petersburg	00.46.91
4 Burevesinik	00.47.25

Prem Mixed 500m – Grand Final

1 Shtoom	01.58.08
2 Uzho Ural Univ	01.59.16
3 Moscow Masters	01.59.17
4 Kiev DBC	02.00.07

Premier Mixed 2000m – first 10 crews

1 Shtoom	09.09.76
2 Moscow Masters	09.10.12
3 Burevesinik	09.37.07
4 Kiev DBC	09.42.06
5 St Petersburg	09.45.51
6 Uckermark	09.47.60
7 Wiking	09.48.19
8 Pskov	09.57.39
9 Moravian Dragons	09.59.86
10 Int Masters	10.13.00

Senior Open 200m – Grand Final

1 Moscow Dragons	00.46.29
2 OK Smoki	00.47.33
3 Master Chaykovskiy	00.47.87

Senior Open 500m – Grand Final

1 Master Chaykovskiy	02.02.04
2 Moscow Dragons	02.02.05
3 OK Smoki	02.07.15

Senior Open 2000m – first 6 crews

1 Moscow Dragons	09.22.56
2 OK Smoki	09.26.36
3 Master Chaykovskiy	09.26.64
4 Volga Dragons	09.38.96
5 Pskov	09.51.78
6 Domefelsen	09.55.29

Senior Mixed 200m – Final Round

1 Pskov	00.51.26
2 Elb Meadow	00.51.72
3 Raba Aqua	00.51.80

Senior Mixed 500m – Final Round

1 Pskov	02.07.03
2 Elb Meadow	02.07.19
3 Raba Aqua	02.08.16

Senior Mixed 2000m - first 3 crews

1 Elb Meadow	09.54.78
2 Pskov	10.01.05
3 Raba Aqua	10.05.51

Junior Open 200m – Final Round

1 Victorya	00.50.00
2 Volga	00.54.18

Junior Open 500m – Final Round

1 Victorya	02.18.00
2 Volga	02.25.14

Junior Open 2000m

1 Victorya	10.00.92
2 Volga	10.39.21

Junior Mixed 200m – Grand Final

1 Victorya	00.48.82
2 Malbork	00.49.86
3 Lighthouse	00.50.23

Junior Mixed 500m – Grand Final

1 Victorya	02.05.18
2 Malbork	02.08.22
3 Lighthouse	02.12.22

Junior Mixed 2000m - first 3 crews

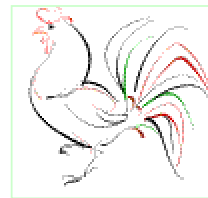
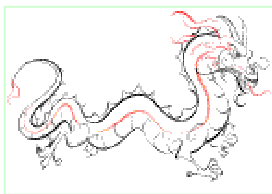
1 Victorya	09.52.87
2 Malbork	10.11.67
3 Lighthouse	10.53.06

WHY NOT DONATE YOUR OLD BOAT TO THE IDBF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

As we all know, you cannot start Dragon Boating without a boat ! With the ever increasing number of new Members joining the IDBF and seeking help to develop the sport, there is an urgent need for Dragon Boats old and new to help places like Moldova, Sennegal, Costa Rica, Chile, the Camerons and Uganda to start sport in their own Countries. So if you have an old boat that you don't really want and may need repair to bring it up to usable condition, then drop an email to mikehaslam@aol.com and he will arrange for the boat to go to a new 'dragons lair'

The Rooster Meets The Dragon

Will Dragon Boat Racing replace cycling as the French national sport?



With doping scandals continuing to plague the Tour de France prompting some television stations in Europe to drop live coverage of the legendary cycling spectacle, perhaps the French will need a new national pastime to fill their summers. Dragon boat racing is poised become a fast-growing sport among the French as recent activities in Rouen, Nantes and Annecy indicate

Under its recently launched National Coaches Awards Scheme, the IDBF, in the persons of Mike Haslam and John Handyside of the UK, were invited to France in the spring to give a helm and paddler training course at the Canoe Club Belbeuf near Rouen. Haslam was surprised to discover that most of the participants were teachers and students from the local colleges, keen to try out the sport. "We had two full boats worth of paddlers, some of whom were good and the people trying out for helms were very good," said Haslam. After a three hour session covering theory, history of the sport, safety procedures, technique, etc., based on the IDBF awards scheme, the aspiring dragon boaters then pushed off for a water training session on the swiftly flowing river.

The visit was arranged through Guillame Bestaux, the Deputy Mayor of Rouen who is in charge of youth development and sport and who has also affiliated the Rouen Dragon Boat Festival due to be held for the first time on 15 & 16 September, to the IDBF. Rouen wants to strengthen its ties with partner city Ningbo, China and the dragon boat festival presents a way to do this through a cultural and sporting event.



Rouen athletes take a 'dry land' bateau dragon paddling lesson from Mike Haslam.

The festival will be run in traditional-style boats from China which, according to Haslam, are a bit longer and heavier than the IDBF Spec Racing Boats used in official World Championships. The race on the Seine, through the centre of Rouen, will be run in accordance to IDBF rules and is open to all teams. "It would be good to get a few crews who aren't going to Sydney to support this festival," says Mike Haslam. The festival is being organized by the City of Rouen, the French Association for the Advancement of Dragon Boat Sport, The Norman Canoe Club, Canoe Club Belbeuf and the Euro-Chinese Association for Sport and Culture. For more information on the Rouen Festival go to their website at www.dragonboat.fr

Rouen is not the only French dragon boat action this summer whereby dragon boating is working together with canoe clubs to organize festival racing.

In May, the Nantes Atlantique Canoe Kayak Club (NACK) ran a festival race in Nantes together with the EDBF. In spite of winds exceeding 100km per hour that weekend, local teams racing on Saturday had an excellent day of racing under the guidance of Gregoire Donaint, according to Claude Dorhac, President of the French Dragon Boat Association. The festival will be held for the third time in May 2008



Racing in Nantes

Additional French news is that the Kayak Club of Annecy, near the border with Switzerland, have recently joined the French Dragon Boat Association in order that their members who dragon boat can participate in EDBF and IDBF dragon boat races. So before long, "Parlez vous dragon boat?" will be met with an enthusiastic "Oui!"

Kim Beckwith – EDBF Secretary General.

WHAT WAS REALLY SAID AT THE GAISF GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN BEIJING

IDBF publishes in full the Minute of the GAISF General Assembly in Beijing, concerning the IDBF Membership Application, to which the ICF strongly objected to. After the General Assembly when despite the ICF objection, the IDBF was admitted into GAISF Membership, the ICF President, Ulrich Feldhoff, was quick in telling the media and the ICF Members that the ICF intended to carry on with its Dragon Boat programme because he said that:-

“On explicit request by the delegates, Mr Hein Verbruggen, GAISF President, stated that by taking this decision, two International Federations exist representing dragon boating namely the International Dragon Boat Federation and the International Canoe Federation. Whether or not the IDBF is the world governing body for dragon boating, which they claim, was not the subject under discussion and not voted on. The ICF as GAISF founder member is on an equal footing with the IDBF in regards to dragon boating. There was no vote in favour of or against the ICF because this was not an item under discussion.”

Well, did the ICF President get it right or was he just being a little economical with the truth ? Judge for yourself as you read the full Minute concerning the ICF objection, the debate that followed, what the GAISF President and the GAISF Members actually said and the decision by the GAISF Members and what it really means.



Oh No ! Not that IDBF lot again !! The GAISF General Assembly in session – 27 April 2007, Beijing, China.

MINUTES OF THE GAISF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2007

Agenda Item 15: New Membership Applications

15.2 Candidate to Member Status

c) IDBF - International Dragon Boat Federation

The last application was from the International Dragon Boat Federation. Since this was the third year running that the IDBF candidature was being proposed to the General Assembly, the Council had decided that there was no need for another presentation of the sport since by now everybody was familiar with it. As the International Canoe Federation (ICF) objected to the application, the ICF would take the floor for 3 minutes to state its objections and then the IDBF would be granted 3 minutes to reply.

Mr Goetschy, Secretary General of the ICF, reminded the members that the objection had already been made clear at the last two General Assemblies, as could be read in the minutes of those meetings, and also in a letter sent by the ICF to all the GAISF members just a few weeks before the present Assembly. Mr Goetschy informed the delegates that communication had been restored with the IDBF after the 2006 General Assembly, but that although personal relations were much improved, an agreement had not been reached.

The ICF considered that there was still conflict and rivalry between the two organisations. The ICF was sceptical about the authenticity of the list of IDBF members recognised by the highest sports authority or NOC in several countries. Also, in 1999, GAISF had been informed that dragon boating was one of the disciplines controlled by the ICF and consequently the ICF believed that the ICF was the GAISF Member which organised dragon boat worldwide, even if it were not the only organisation to do so.

According to its statutes, the ICF was a multisport organisation consisting of all canoeing and paddling activities - and dragon boating was a paddling activity. (*Editors Note; The ICF Statutes actually say - The ICF is an international non-governmental non-profit world organisation for multidiscipline canoeing activities of unlimited duration. No mention of any other paddling activities or paddle sports there).*

Mr Goetschy also emphasised that within the ICF, dragon boating benefited from a network of 140 ICF members and 5 continental associations. (*But he failed to mention that less than 12 actually do any dragon boating*)

In conclusion, Mr Goetschy highlighted the fact that another GAISF member federation could easily experience the same kind of situation that the ICF was currently facing with regard to the IDBF. **On the basis of the ICF objection, he therefore requested that the General Assembly reject the application from the IDBF.**

Following this objection, Wei Jizhong, Honorary Secretary General of the Chinese Olympic Committee, took the floor to defend the IDBF application. Mr Wei firstly underlined the fact that dragon boating had its origins in China and that it had over 2,000 years of history. Secondly, the IDBF had been established in 1991, which was prior to the creation of any dragon boat committee within the ICF. Hence dragon boat was not separating from canoeing, since the two sports had never been together.

The IDBF repeated its willingness to co-operate with the ICF and hoped that under the umbrella of GAISF, it would be possible to work together, but as two separate International Federations.

The IDBF delegation was then requested to leave the room. The President (*of GAISF*) asked whether there were any questions (*from the GAISF Members present*).

Mr Espinos Ortueta, President of the WKF (Karate), wished to know whether, if the IDBF were accepted as a GAISF member, the ICF would be obliged to remove any reference to dragon boat in its statutes. The President replied that IDBF membership would not automatically mean that the ICF would have to cease its dragon boat activities. This was a difficult issue, and one that also concerned other federations in a similar situation, particularly within the martial arts.

Mr Dapeng, Vice-President of the IAAF (Athletics), supported the view that sports linked with tradition and culture, such as dragon boating, should be preserved and developed. As long as the IDBF fulfilled the conditions and criteria requested for membership, he felt that it would be more in the interest of the sport to be governed by this specific body, which would be more focussed on the dragon boat sport. He believed that in the future, there would need to be shared responsibility between the ICF and the IDBF for promoting the sport in such a way that each would benefit from the efforts of the other.

Mr van Campenhout, Treasurer of the IWUF (Wushu) agreed with the importance of cultural heritage in sport.

Ms van Breda Vriesman, President of the FIH (Hockey), asked whether the GAISF Council took a stance when there was an objection to a new application. The President explained that when the Council submitted a new application to the General Assembly, this automatically meant that the Council recommended the General Assembly to accept it.

Mr Portmann, President of the FAI (Air Sports), requested to know what arguments the Council had to offer for the acceptance of the IDBF since its having been rejected in Seoul the previous year. The President explained that the Council's role was to decide whether the candidate sport was a different and separate sport from one already controlled by a member federation or whether it was a discipline of the latter.

In the case of dragon boating, the Council had come to the conclusion, already several years before, that this deserved to be considered **and proposed as a different sport**. The General Assembly, which had the ultimate power of decision, had not agreed with the Council in 2005 and 2006, but it was now up to the General Assembly to vote again on this application.

Mr Franso, President of the IKF (Korfball), proposed that the delegates should take the Council's word and advice very seriously.

A question was raised from the floor concerning the fact that a candidate could apply several years running. The President informed the Assembly that this issue would be discussed at the next Council meeting and that a recommendation would no doubt be made at the next General Assembly as to the number of years a rejected candidate would have to wait before re-applying for GAISF membership. However, since there was currently nothing in the statutes on this subject, the IDBF was eligible to reapply.

The vote was then taken, with the result of 38 in favour, 33 against and 2 abstentions. The International Dragon Boat Federation was consequently accepted as a member of GAISF.

So Dear Reader, that is what was said and by whom and from the Minute you can get a flavour of the debate and atmosphere in the Assembly room at the time. But what does it all actually mean concerning the status and standing of the IDBF in the world of International Sports Federations? Was the ICF President right in his view that this was not a vote against the ICF and that the ICF could just continue with its opposition to the IDBF, as before?

Well, clearly the GAISF President did not state that there were now two federations existing within the GAISF representing dragon boating, neither did any Delegate ask such a question. Neither did the GAISF Members indicate in any way that the ICF could carry on with its Dragon Boat Programme but they did question whether or not they should or would be allowed to do so.

The Assembly did confirm and agree with the GAISF Council, that Canoeing and Dragon Boating are two different and separate sports and that the IDBF is the governing body (world organisation) for Dragon Boat Sport, in that Article 6.1 of the GAISF Statutes states that a GAISF Member is a sport organization (generally known as an International Federation) which groups together the majority of the National Federations (or organizations) throughout the world practicing its sport and regularly holding international competitions.

That GAISF Member is the IDBF, which brings us finally to the ICF President's statement that the GAISF decision was not a vote against the ICF. The ICF Secretary General in putting the ICF objection to the GAISF Members makes it very clear that the ICF considers that it is the GAISF Member (world organisation) with responsibility for Dragon Boating - as a discipline of Canoeing since 1999 and that therefore the IDBF could not become a GAISF Member. Surely, in voting for the IDBF, the GAISF Members rejected the ICF claims to governance of Dragon Boating - now that to any impartial observer of this saga, surely means a vote against the ICF? As they say in Court, "We rest our Case" and so should the ICF - by getting back to running Canoeing not Dragon Boating!



'DRUM BEAT'

Where You Have Your Say About Your Dragon Boat Sport

IDBF AS GAISF MEMBER WILL NOT CHANGE CANADA



DRUM BEAT this Edition gives a personal view from Mike Kerkmann on sport politics as it affects Canada

My first reaction when I received a call from IDBF Executive President Mike Haslam from Beijing, relaying the news that GAISF had voted 53% to admit IDBF into the GAISF family, was simply - good for him. After all, Mike and his closest friends in sport had been laying the groundwork for this day for over two decades. I'm sure at times it felt like his life's work.

The enormous amount of effort, including playing constant defence against a relentless ICF public relations campaign, had not been enough to convince the GAISF Members in two previous tries. This time around, things were quite different and the ICF did not see it coming.

With home field advantage the Chinese DBA, the Olympic Committee and the various Chinese Olympic Sport Federations made it very clear, in writing, to the Beijing delegation that dragon boat was a Chinese sport, not a canoe and that the IDBF was the international sport federation that represented their interests and had been doing so since the contemporary version evolved out of Hong Kong in the mid seventies. In true Olympic tradition, these points were reinforced with gifts from the Chinese to the GAISF delegates prior to the vote.

A quick step back to explain what GAISF is and what membership in this association will mean to the IDBF. GAISF stands for the General Association of International Sport Federations. When you strip away its outer shell GAISF is really just a private members club, created in 1967 and headquartered in Monaco, which groups together global sport-representative organizations to cooperatively promote and co-ordinate international sport. The "club" receives its legitimacy largely due to its patronage by, and financial support from the IOC.

The key aspect of GAISF membership for the IDBF is buried in the GAISF Statutes. In essence, GAISF ensures that it maintains the authority and the autonomy of its members. Specifically, IDBF and its members are now recognised as having exclusivity to: organize large regional, continental and world championship events; to oversee training and accreditation of all international officials; and to coordinate the flow of all national and international dragon boat activities through their member organizations.

The critical point to make here is that all this activity, already occurring largely through IDBF, should now go unchallenged and uninterrupted by the ICF, including the production of an Olympic Games competition, if that ever were to occur. *(However, the ICF President does not see it that way and now makes the unsubstantiated claim that GAISF have recognised two International Federations for Dragon Boat Sport, the IDBF and the ICF! - Ed.)*

The IDBF member in Canada is Dragon Boat Canada. Should we now stand, arms raised, fists clenched and let out a collective cheer? Sure, go ahead and give the IDBF Executive congratulatory applause. But what is there to celebrate on our own domestic playing field?

Not much I'm afraid. I don't mean this in a bad way.

The reality in Canada is that there is not much at stake either way from a recognition or funding perspective for non-Olympic sports. Sport Canada is a branch of the International and Intergovernmental Affairs and Sport Sector within the federal Department of Canadian Heritage. Again, strip away the outer layer and Sport Canada is simply a federal government funding agency to facilitate achievement of high performance excellence and the development of the Canadian sport system.

Here's the kicker... Sport Canada funds National Sport Organizations (NSO's) who govern Olympic sports. They do so in the most efficient way possible, rewarding those NSO's which achieve international success and recognition for Canada. Specifically, NSO's receive funding largely based on their athletes performance at Olympic Games and secondly in the international arena at World Championships, etc. For those with paddle in hand, that's currently Canoe-Kayak Canada.

The question now: should DBC ramp up efforts and expend resources in order to simply place its logo on the Sport Canada web site? In my view, this is not the time nor should it be the priority of the organization. The key to the survival and growth of any organization is money.

Let's all say it out loud... MONEY! MONEY! MONEY! Dollars recently granted by Ontario's Trillium foundation has allowed DBC to hire an energetic and effective Executive Director to drive growth and to regularize DBC in the context of what is expected of an NSO.

Prior to this staff addition, DBC's well intentioned, volunteer based, executive committee was on critical life support. But time and money runs out quickly and Trillium funding is available only with certain deliverables achieved and only until 2009. DBC's goal is to be a self sustaining, regularized NSO by that time, which requires its current efforts to be directed at two projects: an aggressive membership drive and a successful national championship event property to bring in MONEY!

CKC knows how important money is to the survival of an NSO. One, they get tons of it from Sport Canada, over a million tax dollars every year. Two, when Trillium announced its grant to DBC, **CKC called Trillium's grant office to "question" the legitimacy of DBC and why this funding was not funnelled to Canoe-Kayak /**

“IDBF INCLUSION IN GAISF WILL CHANGE OPTICS BUT NOT REALITY OF THE SPORT IN CANADA”

/ Prior to the involvement of “MONEY”, CKC did not even care to acknowledge the existence of DBC and openly declared that they provide Canada’s paddle sport governance regardless of whether it was a canoe or a dragon boat, or outrigger for that matter. **The arrogance of this statement** was noted even by Sport Canada.

Domestically, things will not change much due to the GAISF vote. When the IDBF begins to lobby the IOC as it will, for inclusion in the Olympic Games, then we can all get excited. There has been much fodder over this issue, largely dismissing the notion of dragons racing at the SOG’s. Trust me, all has changed in this regard.

There is not a single GAISF member who does not have the Olympic Games in its crosshairs. The IOC is all about marketing sport for MONEY and if dragon boat continues to grow its international marketing appeal, the IOC will take note, as they did with beach volleyball and snowboarding. ICF should be afraid... very afraid.

Here in Canada, DBC will continue to provide credible NSO governance regardless of Sport Canada affiliation. CKC’s efforts in this regard will be minimal. It’s just not worth their while other than to build an entry level membership through their club system. And they can do this without wading into governance.

The best case scenario would be the formation of a national paddle sport body which would incorporate canoe-kayak, dragon boat and outrigger disciplines as equal and autonomous national sport associations. It is in everyone’s best interest to do this since a significant number of each organization’s membership base is currently, or are destined to cross over at some point. DBC, CORA and CKC should meet sooner rather than later to coordinate and cooperate in the growth and governance of all paddle sport disciplines in Canada.

Mike Kerkmann is President of Great White North Communications Inc. and the North American Representative on the IDBF Council.

Steering the Boat – One Hand or Two ? ‘Drum Beat’ takes up a theme from the Dragon Boat Forum email group.

Linda of Mighty Women, Portland, with 8 years race experience as a Boat Helm. (I don’t paddle if I can help it, because there is no where I’d rather be than steering) started the theme after getting into a discussion about one hand vs two hands hold while steering.

Linda said she prefers one hand Steering, using the other for turning or in bad water conditions. It seemed to her, that it was the less experienced Helms (Steerers) who use a 2-hand hold. A coach overheard this and commented that the one-handed style was the weaker one and that she should only be training using both.

Ultimately Linda thinks it’s more a matter of preference, upper body strength or body style, but was curious to get others’ opinions on the matter, especially from Helms with various types of race experience around the world.

Will replied, “I use one hand most of the time. I don’t think there is a right way -- depends on conditions, your size, build and strength, etc. I think your best bet is try different things in practice and see what results you get.

Mike Haslam agreed and said “there is no ‘correct way’ of steering a boat but in my experience the best way is the one hand hold and standing up in the boat, simply because when a crew is paddling well and equally, then there is very little actual steering of the boat to be done.

If you watch a really good crew in action you will see that the Helm is hardly touching the water at all (keeping the steering oar in the water can create resistance and slow the boat down) and will hold the oar with one hand whilst bending forward keeping a low profile and shouting encouragement and directions to the crew.

Pure strength is really only needed with Novice Crews and in choppy water when the Helms job is much more difficult as they have to keep making corrections for the inexperience of the people paddling the boat.

Rodders pitched in with - The more efficient way is the one hand as the helm will then be looking forward and will find it much easier to control the boat and more comfortable. Using both hands puts extra strain on your posture and could cause pain in the neck as you will find it hard to look straight ahead.

The best way is using one hand and racing a straight race with the steering oar out of the water. This reduces resistance, allowing maximum boat speed for your Crew and thus a better chance to do well and when you win its a real big achievement, especially if it means winning a major competition, such as a league for instance.

PH Leung in Hong Kong, wrote - It nice to learn from all of you about steering a Dragon Boat. I’m a Boat Helm with over five years steering experience.

When I started to Helm and for the first few years, I used both hands and always left the steering oar deep in the water.

Then, as already mentioned, when the force from the left and right side paddlers in the Crew are in balance, I found that I could steer the boat easily with one hand and so I started to lift up the end of the oar from the water, in order to reduce the water resistance and the boat still keep going forward in a straight line.

So there it is, the majority view that Helming a boat with one hand on the steering oar, is the best way. (Ed)

BCS Dragon Boating

**Abreast in Australia – Caloundra,
Queensland, September 28th – 30th, 2007**

In September 2007, breast cancer survivors from around the world will meet in Caloundra on Queensland's Sunshine Coast for the event of a lifetime and the biggest dragon boat festival ever held in Australia.

The Abreast in Australia Dragon Boat Regatta, Friday 28th to Sunday 30th September 2007, gathers together breast cancer survivors from all over the world including those friends and family who have been touched by the disease. It is a weekend of celebration that gives a huge presence and public face to the breast cancer issue while serving to promote the message of being able to enjoy a wonderful and full life despite breast cancer.

Participation in this extraordinary event is strictly limited to survivors of breast cancer with every participant a winner just by taking part. Currently there are 60 teams and over 2000 entrants confirmed from all over the globe including from Australia, New Zealand, Italy, the US, Hong Kong, Singapore,, New Zealand and Canada.

Since 1996, the sport of Dragon Boat Racing has been used by Breast Cancer Survivors as a source of rehabilitative physical activity and show of support for others who have endured treatment and live to tell the tale. Staged for fun and participation more than for competition, Abreast in Australia will create heightened community awareness of the breast cancer issue and the need for early detection. More importantly it will serve to show that having breast cancer is not a life sentence.

The hospitality marquee will be hosted by the major sponsor of the event - EcoPoint Myall Shores Resort which is where the pink ladies go to relax with nature. Visit www.ecopoint.com.au for more details on this wonderful hideaway.

Getting There: Caloundra is about an hour from Brisbane International Airport and less than 30 minutes from Sunshine Coast Airport. Direct connecting flights to the Sunshine Coast are available from Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.

Location: Abreast in Australia is being held at Kawana Lake, Quad Park, near Caloundra, approximately 1 hour's drive north of Brisbane.

For further information:

www.dragonsabreast.com.au/Australia_2007/index.htm
www.caloundratourism.com.au

Programme of Events: The programme includes:

Meet the Troops Breakfast: Friday September 28th between 6 and 9 am – Media Partner Hot91.1FM invites listeners to come down and enjoy breakfast whilst watching the HOT team pit their strength in a dragon boat against other event sponsors!

Street Parade: Friday September 28th at 4 pm: A Street Parade through Caloundra will be held for all. Expect lots of colour especially pink, with team mascots and banners and the chance for all to fly the flag for breast cancer, their team, state and country.

Opening Ceremony: Friday Night, September 28th at 6 p.m The Opening Ceremony will be held on the Friday night at Kings Beach Park, Caloundra.

Workshops: Saturday September 29th – Sunday September 30th A variety of workshops will be available for supporters and survivors. These include fun stuff like belly dancing, Reiki, aromatherapy sessions, Australian culture and much, much more. There will also be add-on workshops dealing with specific subjects like lymphoedema.

The Field of Women: Saturday 29th at 10 a.m for the official launch – a display of 2,800 pink silhouettes representing the women diagnosed with breast cancer each year in Queensland. The Field will be open all weekend. www.bcna.com.au for further details

The Mini Expo Area: Saturday September 29th – Sunday September 30th The Dragon Walk of History will be the central piece of the Expo and highlights member groups, landmark events and be a fascinating trip through the years since Dragons Abreast was established. Covering a wide range of interests from a number of exhibitors, activities will include hands on experiences as well as a variety market stalls and 'fun' items to participate in including activities for children.

Party Night: Saturday September 29th On Saturday night, Aussie World has been booked out for the exclusive use of Abreast in Australia. This Oz themed party will include great food, bush bands and more!

Flowers on the Water: Sunday 30th September at lunchtime. This moving and special ceremony puts a face to the breast cancer statistics and serves to remind everyone that breast cancer strikes women (and men) of all shapes, sizes, ages and levels of fitness, in all walks of life. In Flowers on the Water dragon boats carry breast cancer survivors out onto the water and during a minute's silence, rose petals are sprinkled to remember those who have lost their battle with cancer.

Closing Ceremony: Sunday September 30th Just like other major international sporting events, the closing ceremony offers the chance to celebrate, reflect on the good times and say goodbye to new and old friends.

AUTUMN 2007 - IDBF AFFILIATE FESTIVALS and EUROPEAN LEAGUE RACES

07 - 09 Sep 07	Kiev, Ukraine	Golden Dragon International and European League Race 11	ukrdragonboat@mail.ru
15-16 Sep 07	Rouen, France	Rouen International Festival Races	guillaumc.bestaux@wanadoo.fr
15-16 Sep 07	SAVA Singapore	SAVA Sprints International	jason@sava.com.sg www.sava.com.sg
01-02 Oct 07	Tianjin, China	6th Tianjin International University Races	amandalike@yahoo.com
05 -06 Oct 07	Shenyang, China	Shenyang International University Races	amandalike@yahoo.com
13 – 14 Oct 07.	The Philippines	1st Subic Freeport Bay International Races	macristina.o@gmail.com
14 Oct 07	Port of Spain, Trinidad	Chinese Arrival International Festival Races	ttdbf@wow.net www.chinesearrivalt.org

IDBF AFFILIATE FESTIVALS – FIRST RACE DATES FOR 2008

RACE AT AN AFFILIATE EVENT – THEY USE THE IDBF RACING RULES

and undertake to operate to standards of safety and organisation as shown in the Affiliates Regulations.

15-16 Mar 08 (Provisional date)	Auckland, New Zealand	Auckland International Festival Races	info@aucklanddragonboats.co.nz www.aucklanddragonboats.co.nz
3 May 08	Tampa Bay, Florida, USA	Tampa Bay International Festival Races	info@tampabaydragons.com www.TampaBayDragonBoats.com
<p>Fun in the sun is what it's all about during the Tampa Bay International Dragon Boat Races. Join us for our 5th anniversary on the calm waters of Garrison Channel. Tampa Bay – making racing history!</p>			
31 May 08 – 1 & 8 Jun 08	Macau SAR, China	Macau International Festival Races	Dragon.mo@gmail.com www.sport.gov.mo
<p>The 2008 Macau International Dragon Boat Races will take place on May 31st (small dragon boats), June 1st (standard boats) and June 8th (international & university). The Macau International Races - A traditional sport event, held annually in the Tuen Ng Festival, attracts athletes to the pursuit of excitement and challenge. The thunderous sound of the drums, the glittering scene of the flying flags, and the enthusiasm of the cheering crowds.</p>			
15 June 08	Sabah, Malaysia	23 rd Sabah International Races	zachary@sabahtourism.com www.SabahTourism.com
21 – 22 June 08	Vancouver, Canada	Alcan International Festival Races	email: greglamb@telus.net website. www.adbf.com
28/29 Jun 08	Eglisau, Switzerland	Swiss Dragon Boat Cup 08	fige@dragonboatevents.ch www.drachenbootrennen.ch
<p>Eglisau is the oldest and most traditional Dragon Boat Race in Switzerland. The race is celebrating its 17th Birthday in 2008. There are yearly more than 50 festival crews racing there. The Dragon Boat Beach Party on Saturday Night is legendary for the crowd of more than 1500 participants. The Eglisau Dragon Boat Race has gone from a local festival to a international event with lots of national and international celebrity stars. Nevertheless the Race has never lost its charming character. Only a 20 minutes drive from Zürich Airport many festival crews from abroad come to this River-Race. Eglisau is part of the Swiss Dragon Boat Cup together with Rorschach (19/20 Jun), Zug (2/3 Aug) and Biel (16/17 Aug) for 2008: We love to be your Dragon Boat host city in 2008!</p>			

CALENDAR OF CHAMPIONSHIP DRAGON BOAT REGATTAS 2008 - 2011

2008 CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTAS

01-03 Aug 08	Penang, Malaysia	6 th Club Crew World Championships	ttgeh@yahoo.com www.penangdragonboat.com
01-03 Aug 08	Penang, Malaysia	8 th Asian Dragon Boat Championships	ttgeh@yahoo.com www.penangdragonboat.com
05 -07 Sep 08	Saubaudia, Italy	8 th European Nations Championships	clasche@tin.it www.dragonboat.it
18-26 Oct 08	Bali, Indonesia	1 st Asian Beach Games Dragon Boat Regatta	Budiman Setiwan podsi@indosat.net.id
To be set	To be agreed	2 nd Breast Cancer Survivors World Championships	hanton@ozemail.com.au

2009 CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTAS

July 09	Miami, Florida, USA	3 rd World Corporate and Community Championships	miamidragon@earthlink.net www.miamidragon.com
Aug 09	Moscow, Russia	9 th World Dragon Boat Racing Championships	info@rdbf.org
Aug 09	Budapest, Hungary	13 th European Club Crew Championships	info@sarkanyhajozas.hu www.dragonboat.hu
To be set	Hong Kong SAR, China	5 th East Asian Games Dragon Boat Regatta	

BIDS FOR 2010 and 2011 CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTAS

28-31 Jul 10	Macau SAR, China	7 th Club Crew World Championships	dragon.mo@gmail.com www.sport.gov.mo
Jul/Aug 11	Tampa Bay, Florida, USA	10 th World Dragon Boat Racing Championships	info@tampabaydragons.com www.TampaBayDragonBoats.com
Jul/Aug 11	Tampa Bay, Florida, USA	4 th World Corporate and Community Championships	info@tampabaydragons.com www.TampaBayDragonBoats.com



INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT NEWS

FROM THE MEMBERS & UPDATES

1ST SUBIC FREEPORT BAY, INT RACES, THE PHILIPPINES, 13-14 OCTOBER 2007.

Racing classes will be for Men's, Women's and Mixed Crews, over 500m. Trophies, medals and cash prizes awaits winners in all categories.

Organizers will arrange transport from Manila or Clark International Airport and a wide selection of hotels and packages. There will also be cheering competition Mr.&Ms Dragon Boat Bikini Open contest and a Group Dancing competition. **For more information email Iris at macristina.o@gmail.com or jernel_26@yahoo.com**

CYPRUS DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL RACES 18 – 19 October 2008, Limassol, Cyprus

The Limassol Dragon Boat Festival Races, planned for 20/21 October 2007 have had to be postponed due to the Dragon Boats for the event - which were due to be shipped from the UK to Cyprus, having been stolen from their storage compound in Cirencester, Gloucester.

The Gloucestershire Police have been unable to trace either the boats or trailer and say they are baffled as to why anyone would want to steal two 40' Dragon Boats and assumed that the thief's were after the trailer and that the boats would soon be found in a roadside ditch.

This has not happened and time has now precluded any other boats being shipped to Cyprus in time for the planned Races in October. **The races will now take place over the weekend of the 18/19 October 2008**

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS RACES

**Tianjin, 1– 2 October 2007, Tanggu River, Tianjin,
Shenyang, 5-6 October 2007, Hunhe River, Shenyang**

The Organizing Committee will make all arrangements for food, accommodation and local transportation for each crew (28 people for Standard Boat Races and 16 people for the Small Boat Races).

Arrival day in Tianjin is 29 Sept 07, with training in the afternoon and the whole day on 30 Sep 07. The 500m races for Open, Women and Mixed Racing Classes, will be in the morning 1 Oct 2007. 5000m Round Race will be in the morning of 2 October, with the celebration party on the evening of 2 October. Crews depart on 3 Oct 07.

Arrival day in Shenyang is 3 Oct 07, with training in the afternoon and the whole day on 4 Oct 07. The 500m races for Open, Women and Mixed Racing Classes, will be in the morning 5 Oct 07 and 250m Races in the afternoon. 1000m Races will be in the morning of 6 Oct 07, with the celebration party on the evening. Crews depart 7 Oct 07.

For both races all racing equipments (e.g. boats and paddles) will be provided by the Organizing Committee. Participating teams are also allowed to bring their own paddles whose colour must be the same.

For Entry Forms and further information, please contact Mr. Li Wenyong, cdbadragon@126.com or Ms Amanda Qin Yi, Tel: 0086-10-87182890 (Chinese)/ 67128832 (English) Fax:0086-10-67133577



**TRINIDAD & TOBAGO INT RACES
Oct 14 - Chinese Arrival Festival.**
More Info: Email ttdbf@wow.net

**LINK YOUR WEBSITE WITH THE
IDBF**

Email: Stefan Jager at
stefan.jager@xs4all.nl

IDBF web site: www.idbf.org

**FOR JUNIOR NEWS GO TO
www.jrdragonboat.ca/**

IDBF SECRETARIAT

Sec-General; Mr HU Jian Guo
Administrator: Ms Qin Yi

Email: IDBFdragon@126.com

Amandalike@yahoo.com

Fax: + 86 10 6713 3577

MORE RACE INFO FOR 2007

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

www.dragonboatcalendar.com

and at

www.dragonboatnet.com
for articles, forum group, video
clips, merchandize and more



Watch DBTV your web channel at
www.TheDragonBoatChannel.com

DRAGON BOAT WORLD

Read the 'Paddlers' magazine
www.dragonboatworld.com

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

A warm Dragon Boat welcome to new IDBF Members, Costa Rica, Iran and Turkey, with a keen 'Hallo' to Associate Member the Reunion Islands in the Indian Ocean.

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