

MEMORANDUM



To	Member States		
From	AusDBF		
Date	04 December 2020	Document No	M-048
Subject	AusDBF General Update 9 – December 2020		

Well, what a year it has been! From bushfires to COVID-19 which has seen us endure lockdowns, no paddling, no regattas and no travelling, 2020 has had it all. AusDBF would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate all the Member States for their collaboration, resilience and flexibility over this period.

From the AusDBF family to all your families wishing you all a safe and happy holiday season and fingers crossed the dragon boat community will be able to reconnect and catch-up again in 2021!

Constitution

AusDBF is pleased to confirm a new category of membership (known as 'Club Membership') was accepted at the recent AGM with several other minor changes also accepted. A copy of the updated constitution can be found here - <https://www.ausdbf.com.au/policies/>. The new 'Club Membership' will allow those clubs where there is currently no existing State Member the ability to join AusDBF and participate at AusChamps etc

Member forums

Planning for the year ahead, AusDBF has scheduled Member forums on the following dates:

Q1 - Thursday 18 February @ 8pm (NSW time)

Q2 – Thursday 20 May @ 8pm (NSW time)

Q3 – Thursday 26 August @ 8pm (NSW time)

AusDBF AGM + GM – Sunday 14 November (Adelaide)

AusDBF looks forward to the collaboration and information sharing between the AusDBF Members over the coming 12 months with several projects in the wings for development.

Launch of 'Are You Ready Campaign'

AusDBF is excited about the launch of the 'Are You Ready' campaign which was officially launched on 01 December. Every Sunday from 06 December will be either a static or video post of a member from within the dragon boat community across Australia answering questions on why they like dragon boating. The concept is to share and like as many posts as possible to increase the awareness of dragon boating and encourage previous paddlers back to the sport. AusDBF would like to take this opportunity acknowledge and thank Zijong Chu (from Victoria) who has donated his time and created all the graphics for this campaign. Thanks to Kris Fleming for her leadership in working with the PCMWG who have invested the last 6 months in creating this campaign – stay tuned for the next campaign to be rolled out.

Trans-Tasman partnership

AusDBF and NZDBA will be meeting on 05 December via video conference to discuss a number of topics which are relevant to both organisations and find better ways to share knowledge and resources to benefit the dragon boat communities in Australia and New Zealand. Some of the topics on the agenda include: National selection process,

“Our Mission: To connect people with dragon boating across Australia”

revSPORT, running events to be COVID compliant, youth development. The two associations have already shared information and resources on sweep training race official training.

Congratulations to Janelle Gamble who was recently honoured with Life Membership to AusDBF. Janelle's contribution to dragon boating in Australia includes her work with Dragons Abreast Australia, AusDBF Board, Auroras, International Race Officials and representing Australia on the IDBF Women's Commission.

Pillar 1 - Governance

Policies & Documents - <https://www.ausdbf.com.au/policies/>

AusDBF continues to review its current documents and create new documents as required, to assist and improve its governance processes.

National Code of Conduct – is a valuable initiative which once implemented will remove duplication, the need for paper signing and filing and improve efficiencies from Club>State>AusDBF including Auroras, Coaches, and Race Officials. Feedback from Members to be submitted to AusDBF by 14 December, all feedback will be collated for discussion and approval at the Members forum in February.

The following documents are in the final stages of being approved:

- Adverse weather conditions Policy
- Cyber Security Policy
- AusDBF Buy-Sell-Swap Facebook terms and conditions

Completed Documents	Within next quarter	Within next 6 months
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AusDBF Club Membership Policy• Concussion Policy• AusDBF Document Storage Policy• AusDBF Email Retention Policy• Australian Team Operational Handbook (Edition 9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AusDBF Safety Handbook• Infectious Diseases (<i>new</i>)• Illicit Drugs Policy (<i>new</i>)• Use of Drones at Events Policy (<i>new</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transgender & Inclusivity Policy (<i>new</i>)

AusDBF hopes the update of the policies will assist AusDBF Members. As Members can appreciate there are always a number of administrative tasks to tackle. Should any Member States wish to comment on and submit suggestions for any of the above policies to be completed, AusDBF would welcome this collaboration.

AusDBF Branding Guidelines

AusDBF has received a request from one club for use of the AusDBF logo on their new club race shirts.

If there are any documents you feel are missing or information that is incorrect please email – info@ausdbf.com.au

Pillar 2 – Development

Coach Presenters

AusDBF eLearning platform is up and running with the first students from the recently held courses in Queensland and New South Wales trialing the online modules. Initial reports from the presenters were positive as the online modules freed up time during the face to face learning to allow for more on water time with the participants.

The Coach Presenters across Australia met on 30 November and were provided initial training to the eLearning platform, and shown how they can view when students have registered, started the modules, completed the modules etc. The platform has been created so that students cannot move to the next module until they have passed each module. Rex has created a table which clearly shows which modules must be completed for Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 courses. Which can be found here - <https://www.ausdbf.com.au/ausdbf-courses/ausdbf-learning-management-system/>

Sweep Accreditation

The Sweep Coordinators are due to meet again on the 15 January, where they will review the recommendation for compulsory wearing of PFDs for sweeps and drummers. In addition, the Sweep Coordinators are undertaking the review of the AusDBF Safety Handbook where it is anticipated any amendments for change will be submitted to the AusDBF Board for consideration at their February Board meeting. There has been an agreed shift in the administration process for accrediting sweeps, the training, running courses, assessments accreditations and re-accreditations will still be run at the State Level, but the updates and recording of data will now be entered at the National level by AusDBF via the revSPORT accreditation module.

ROMP (Race Officials Mentors) is due to meet again on 07 December. With ACT, SA and WA all having run level 1 race official courses in the last quarter of this year. There is still a large percentage of race officials across Australia who have yet to re-accredit or contact AusDBF/ local ROMP rep and asked to be removed from the distribution list. This has been disappointing, however hopefully as more volunteers come out of COVID hibernation, these numbers will improve.

	QLD	NSW	ACT	VIC	SA	WA
Level 1	26	14 + 5 new	21 + 5 new	9	14 (new)	8 + 9 new
Level 2	4	4	6	4		
Level 3	4	12	1	3	2	1

data as of 02 December 2020

revSPORT Users Group (RUG)

Have been meeting monthly to share knowledge and learn from each State to find ways to maximise usage of revSPORT and work towards all AusDBF Members implementing the same processes. A variety of topics are discussed from uploading photos to online crew lists, creating race programs and using the EDM feature. On the radar for next year will be tackling how to record the National Code of Conduct once approved.

Pillar 3 – Events

2021 AusChamps

DBWA regrettably confirmed at the AusDBF General Meeting they would be unable to host the 2021 AusChamps due to the unpredictability of border closures with the financial risk too high for DBWA, AusDBF and individual competitors. AusDBF appreciates this was a tough and disappointing decision for DBWA to make given the lead-up work already incurred for the Championships. Champion Lakes is a great venue and AusDBF looks forward to going back to WA again in the future.

2021 National Festival

With the decision made that 2021 AusChamps would not proceed, there was agreement amongst the AusDBF Members to hold an alternative event with the focus of reconnecting the dragon boat community across Australia in a fun and social environment. The program would be club only with State v State Championships on hold till 2022. Four States have nominated to host the event, AusDBF will be meeting with the four States on 08 December to discuss the options with the expectation of a formal announcement of venue and dates made by 18 December.

Masters Games

With 2021 AusChamps of the table, DBWA is now focusing their attention to hosting the Australian Masters Games (15 and 16 October). For eligible clubs keen to head west after months of border closures – click here <https://australianmastersgames.com/sport/dragon-boat/> or contact Barb Clarkson at DBWA - bclarkson@iinet.net.au

2021 Great Barrier Reef Masters Games

Were due to be held in Cairns (20-23 May) have been cancelled due to a suitable location not being available to meet COVID-19 event guidelines.

2022 AusChamps

Are confirmed to be held in South Australia at the AM Ramsay Rowing Course (13 – 18 April)
<https://www.ausdbf.com.au/events1/auschamps/>

AusChamps Review Working Group (ACRWG)

Presented their 6 months of research in reviewing the AusChamps program to the AusDBF Board and AusDBF Members recently. The recommendations were always going to be contentious with numerous different opinions and schools of thought. Only one of the recommendations currently has been accepted – State v State Championship to be moved to a full day and being elevated in importance which means Senior racing must be contained to two days – here the challenge begins. The ACRWG have a further 6 months to review the recommendations before final agreements to any changes to the program will need to be advertised prior to 2022 AusChamps. AusDBF thanks DBQ, DBNSW and DBACT who offered to trial the duo age band recommendations over the remainder of the season.

Pillar 4 – High Performance

AusDBF recently wrote to IDBF indicating some of the challenges Australia faces with entering a team in the upcoming 15th IDBF World Nations Championships scheduled for 1-7 November 2021 in Hong Kong. The IDBF held an International Congress with all the National Federations on 28 November.

- 15th IDBF WDBRC in Hong Kong are still proceeding as planned and will include all age divisions, with a review of the world COVID situation in May 2021. AusDBF will be writing a Risk Management plan to provide guidance and support the Auroras Team, further information will be announced in the New Year.
- 2022 CCWC in Sarasota, USA is still proceeding as planned

Direct contact can be made with Dave Abel - headcoach@ausdbf.com.au or Sylvia Wong - highperformance@ausdbf.com.au

If anyone has any comments or questions, please email info@ausdbf.com.au

AusDBF Board