

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **PADDLES UP! – INVICTUS AUSTRALIA PARTNERS WITH AUSTRALIAN DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION**

The Australian Dragon Boat Federation (AusDBF) and Invictus Australia are pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will be the foundation for the new partnership between the two organisations.

Working collaboratively, AusDBF and Invictus Australia will look to provide opportunities for veterans and their families, of all abilities, to engage with the many Dragon Boat communities across Australia.

As a charitable organisation, Invictus Australia exists to support veterans and their families in improving their health and wellbeing through connection and engagement in sport and recreation. This is done through numerous partnerships with National Sporting Organisations, working to provide opportunities via grassroots sporting activities in local communities across the country, as well as international sporting events such as the Invictus Games

"We're thrilled to be working with Invictus Australia to create opportunities for veterans and their families to be involved with Dragon Boat", said AusDBF Chair John Holland.

"Together with Invictus Australia, we will facilitate programs, activities, and events to ensure that veterans and their families have the support that is required for them to Dragon Boat."

"This partnership is extremely important to us at the Australian Dragon Boat Federation, and we look forward to working closely with Invictus Australia to bring it to life."

Toni Cumpston, Director of Community Participation and Impact at Invictus Australia, echoed Holland's sentiments.

"Invictus Australia is excited to be teaming up with the Australian Dragon Boat Federation to provide opportunities for the Australian Defence Community to connect with Dragon Boat clubs and communities across Australia."

"Dragon Boat provides many avenues for veterans and their families to get involved in a family-friendly environment. All members of our Defence community are welcome to participate, whether through competing as part of a unified team on the water or volunteering and being part of the ground crew. There are many ways to get involved and connect with these welcoming communities who are so passionate about their sport."

"We are excited to present opportunities for the Defence community to be welcomed into the Dragon Boat family."

Stay tuned for veteran-friendly Dragon Boat events in local communities, and keep an eye on our [event page](#) for details.

**About Invictus Australia:** Invictus Australia is the NFP responsible for organising the Invictus Games Sydney 2018. We carry on the legacy of the Games every day in local communities, as all veterans and their families can benefit from involvement with sporting communities, particularly 'at risk' veterans. As well as promoting the physical, social and emotional benefits of sport, Invictus Australia shines a light on the unique needs of younger veterans and the challenges they face as they transition from military to civilian life. Find out more at [www.invictusaustralia.org](http://www.invictusaustralia.org)