



Canoeing Victoria Inc

Annual Report

2005-2006



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Office Bearers 2005/2006

July 05 – April 06

President	Annette Kendal
Vice President	Tom Hirschhoff
Canoe Polo Committee Member	Ian Beasley
Flatwater Committee Member	Neville Stone
Marathon Committee Member	Mark Murray
Slalom Committee Member	Max Parsons
Touring Committee Member	Laurie Atkins
Wildwater Committee Member	

April 06 – June 06

President	Gary Flanigan
Chair	Tom Hirschhoff
Interested Director	Geoff Hindle
Interested Director	Richard Lawrence
Interested Director	Mark Murray
Independent Director	Richard Howard
Independent Director	Ron Burke

Office Staff

Executive Officer July 05 – March 06	Eric Ward
Executive Officer(s) March 06 – June 06	Andrea Boothroyd & Sharon Swoboda
Sports Development Officer	Tony Coventry
Membership Officer	Carmel Cook
Book Keeper	Sandra Reaburn
Project Officer Vichealth Participation and Various SRV projects (including Paddle Sports)	Andrea Boothroyd
Project Officer Vichealth Healthy Environments	Sharon Swoboda
Project Officer SRV Business Development and CTC projects	Eric Ward
Project Officer Yarra Descent	Eric Ward

Acknowledgments

Canoeing Victoria would also like to acknowledge the strong support provided by the following organisations:

State Government Departments:

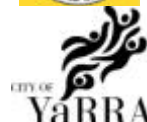
Department for Victorian Communities
Sport and Recreation Victoria
VicHealth
Victorian institute of Sport
Office of Commonwealth Games
Parks Victoria

Local Councils:

Banyule City Council, City of Manningham, Victorian Aquatic Industry Council, City of Yarra, Shire of Yarra Ranges, City of Boorondara, Nillumbuk

Other Supporters:

Aust Bananas, CKEA, Canoes Plus



Get on the water, get into life



Affiliated Clubs 2005/2006

Ballarat Amateur Canoe Club
 Bendigo Canoe Club
 Canoe Factory Club
 Canoes Plus Racing Team
 Cobram-Barooga Canoe Club
 Deniliquin Canoe Club
 Echuca-Moama Club
 Eltham College Canoe Club
 Essendon Canoe Club
 Fairfield Canoe Club
 Footscray Amateur Canoe
 G.E.C.K.O. Greater Eastern Canoe.
 Geelong Canoe Club
 Gippsland Kayak Club
 Gippsland Waters Canoe Club
 Ivanhoe-Northcote Canoe Club
 Kirinari Kayak Klub
 Mercantile Kayak Club
 Mildura District Canoe Club
 Mitta Mitta Canoe Club
 Melbourne Canoe Club
 Patterson Lakes C.C.
 Shepparton Canoe Club
 Sherbrook Knox Canoe Club
 Tarwin River Canoe Club
 Templestowe Canoe Club
 Victorian Canoe Club
 Warrnambool Kayak Club
 Whitehorse Canoe Club
 Yarrawonga Mulwala Canoe Club

Membership for 2005/2006

Membership Breakdown

	2005/2006	2004/2005
Adult	997	1134
Junior	237	246
Life	5	0
Lifetime	1	0
Rec Adult	414	262
Rec Junior	5	9
School	82	47
Social Adults	15	-
Social Juniors	1	-
Total	1757	1698

Senior Members across all states

State	Members
Victoria	1432
NSW	1711
QLD	877
SA	415
WA	539

Junior Members across all states

State	Members
Victoria	325
NSW	320
QLD	271
SA	304
WA	104

Total Number of Clubs

State	Total
Victoria	32
NSW	40
QLD	30
SA	13
WA	12
TAS	4
NT	3
Australian Canoeing	6



Presidents Report

To the Club Delegates, Board Members and Staff of CV, welcome!

2006 has proven to be a busy year. First there was the adoption of the new Constitution for CV by the 'prior' Board and then the payment of all outstanding debts due to Australian Canoeing by the Interim Board. Both tasks were handled well and 'cleared the decks' for the new Board to concentrate on future directions and strategy.

To the members of both those prior Boards, many thanks for a job well done.

Whilst 2005/2006 was a year of change, 2006/2007 looks set to continue with the pressure; earlier in 2006, and following the disastrous financial collapse of AC, the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) initiated an examination of AC and the Australian wide conduct and delivery of the sport in general. That report – a mere 150 odd pages - has now been handed down and is available for examination on the CV website.

From my perspective, the report is an excellent source of information as to the conduct of the sport throughout Australia but, whether we adopt any or all their recommendations could well be another matter! In brief, the report suggests the adoption of a 'unitary' model administered by AC. This in effect requires the States to liquidate their State organisations and transfer all assets from the States to a property trust controlled and administered by AC.

My concern with the structure suggested in the report is that if we here in Victoria (or NSW, Qld, WA etc) don't have any proprietary interest in the financial fortunes within our various States, and without any direct say in the Australian wide strategy or the emphasis or direction of expenditure, then what would be our level of interest in the overall financial performance or fortunes of AC, or the Victorian division in particular?

The ASC report was particularly scathing of the past administrative efficiency and financial performance of AC and, whilst there is an interim and certainly well intended and professional Board now running AC, what confidence can we place in AC being better administered in the future under any new Board?

Against this background of redundancies and shifting responsibilities, one point of concern is that the ASC report recommends that the States appoint an advisory Board comprised of 'the Chairperson from each Discipline Technical Committee!' This recommendation is that we revert back to the structure that we had under the previous constitution of CV and which, so I am informed, proved most unsatisfactory!

Only time and much debate with our members will determine where it all ends but, rest assured, the CV Board will strive to achieve the best outcome for our members.

Finally, the Board wish to express our sincere thanks for the sterling efforts and the wonderful results achieved by the CV staff in general and to our 'joint co-Executive Officers' Andrea and Sharon in particular – thank you! We would also record our thanks to the many volunteers who assist with the running of CV and without whom nothing could be achieved! Again, the thanks of a grateful Board to all those who gave of their time and efforts to 'make things happen' within Victoria.

Gary Flanigan
President



Finance Report

The 2005 / 2006 financial year was a fruitful one for Canoeing Victoria (CV).

From a financial perspective the reigning in of costs and introduction of financial controls such as the allocation of office expenditures to programs on a realistic basis meant that CV was in control of its finances.

As a matter of priority, the new Board decided to review the prior accounts since July 2004. Ross Stevens, a Chartered Accountant with prior audit experience in publicly listed companies, was enlisted to perform the review as a Board member at no cost to CV. The review found several discrepancies in the 2005 accounts. These were corrected and verified by the current Auditors. This had the effect of reducing prior years' losses. A review and revaluation of office equipment saw a write-down of these assets at 30th June 2006.

Next was the appointment of a new auditor, and negotiation of the audit fee. Audit fees in some prior years have been larger than \$10,000, but more recently averaging around \$5,000. With the introduction of accounts preparation training for office staff, internal controls, and agreement from the auditors, the fee has been negotiated to around \$1,000. Ross will further train office staff over the next 2 months to ensure this level of professionalism and internal controls continue in the organisation. The Board also plans to commence a formal Monthly and Quarterly accounts review process ensuring a "hands on approach" is adopted to management of the organisation.

The administration side of CV has performed exceptionally well. We acknowledge the significant support that continues to come from VicHealth and the Department for Victorian Communities (SRV), as covered in the executive officers report - a major source of funding for CV. The bulk of the remaining funding is from membership and club affiliation fees. The CV office has tightly controlled expenses for the 2006 financial year including dropping some costs that were not essential to the core operations of the association. The costs of subcontractors have increased over the period representing in a large part the costs of instructors for the running of courses. The outstanding debt to AC has been repaid in full. The AC affiliation fee is ongoing however the CV

office has still shown a surplus of \$29,086 for the financial year 2006.

The disciplines for the financial year have all shown a loss of varying sizes.

The sprint discipline has shown a decrease in income of \$7,019 and had a fee of \$2,000 applied to it to service AC debt. This resulted in a deficit of \$5,345, an increase of \$3,965 on the prior year. The sprint discipline committee has reformed, finalized race dates and looks to be in good shape for the 2006/07 season.

Slalom had an income drop of \$4,906 and received an AC levy of \$3,824 to show a loss for the period of \$2,175, a profit decrease of \$6,949 on the prior year. Given the lack of water in the state to hold events and the AC levy, slalom has held its own.

Canoe Polo is a standout for income growth. Income has grown \$19,441 for the period. They had a levy of \$11,727 applied to service the AC debt and showed a loss of \$8,831, a decrease on the prior years loss of \$9,756. This committee is extremely active in developing the sport with juniors and the results have been forthcoming. Interestingly without the AC levy there would have been a profit of \$2,896.

Wildwater had a difficult year with water levels. The work put into the sport by a very small group of committed individuals however has shone through with an income increase. There was an AC levy applied of \$3,688 and a resultant loss of \$3,001. Without the levy they show a profit of \$687. Another standout performance.

Marathon had a stable year. Income has fluctuated only slightly, and expenses have increased \$3,540, which includes an AC levy of \$4,893, resulting in a loss of \$9,802, a loss increase on the prior year of \$3,880. Without the AC levy the deficit would have reduced \$1,013 on the prior year.

This coming financial year all disciplines are targeting to balance and in some cases to show profits for the period. The new Board looks forward to providing assistance to the disciplines across the areas in which we have expertise, as well as "lending a hand" at events. We have endeavored to put in place procedures and policies to achieve the objectives of running a fully self-sufficient state for the benefit of all members from recreational paddlers to elite athletes competing on the world stage. We are also looking to increase the diversity of our income sources from a varying source of funding and sponsorship.



Executive Officers Report

2005-2006 has been a very busy and challenging year for Canoeing Victoria. With the introduction of the new constitution in November 2005, the organization redefined how it intended to work together as a community. The first step of this redirection took shape with a new Board appointed by the members at the previous AGM held in April 2006. This new Board consists of both members inside the canoeing community (Interested Directors) and outside (Independent Directors) who were subsequently appointed by the Interested Directors.

Constitutional Change

This constitutional change allows the Board to focus on canoeing as a whole and think outside the square in relation to the delivery of traditional discipline activities, develop new avenues of activity, attract new paddlers to the sport, represent the paddling community to Government and water related organizations and generally help more members of the community to grab a paddle and get on the water.

Executive Officer

The office has also had a change with the departure of Eric Ward. Eric started at Canoeing Victoria in November 2000 and was pinnacle in having Flatwater reinstated into the VIS, major project funding sources secured through Vichealth and SRV, and securing the excellent staffing team that still exists today. Eric recognized the skilled personnel that was available and by providing flexible working hours provided an excellent working environment. Always struggling with the financial side of the organization, Eric did an excellent job in ensuring projects were delivered and commitments were met. Our thanks go out Eric and wish him well in his future endeavors.

In taking on the position of Co-Executive officers, Andrea and I have been determined to ensure that we run a balanced budget and keep all the disciplines and members informed as much as possible about the office activities, projects, grants, member benefits etc. Our focus is very much on supporting the members, clubs and disciplines and providing a relevant and

timely service. Feedback on our progress is always welcome.

Financially

2005-2006 saw the outstanding payments to Australian Canoeing finalized and an agreement with Australian Canoeing to assist with their financial situation. While Canoeing Victoria fully supported the decision to assist Australian Canoeing, it does mean that the office and disciplines have much tighter budgets to work with and less excess funds from membership fees to provide the extra services. This has resulted in the office reprioritizing the activities and reducing office hours. While this will change once the agreement has expired, it will mean leaner times in the short term. The office and Board will be investigating other means to increase our revenue (not funded by members) to meet any shortfall. The Bunnings BBQ's are one way the Board is assisting in this endeavor.

Projects

Eternal thanks to our State Government who supported us once again this year. Vichealth extended their 3 year program for an extra year, with a new funding round available next year. The Vichealth projects include a Participation and Healthy Environment. Both projects are well recognized in the community including the kayaking in a pool program and the healthy choice program seen at events (bananas and apples !). The Department for Victorian Communities (Sport & Recreation Victoria), was also extremely supportive again this year. They once again supported our business improvement projects, future directions (which included the Club Training Centre's) and sport development projects. Sport & Recreation Victoria provide an extremely valuable contribution to the organization by supporting the administration aspects of the sport as well as the on water activities. We look forward to our future relationships with both organizations.



Events

2006 saw the introduction of the Yarra Descent in conjunction with the Commonwealth Games. Unfortunately, due to water conditions, the race was not undertaken however we have secured the support of SRV to undertake the event in 2007. The approach is to run the race next year in September / October to give it the best chance to become a cornerstone event in the CV calendar. We look forward to the support from all the clubs and disciplines to promote, participate and contribute to its' success.

Disciplines

With the new constitution, the discipline committees are in the process of all being reformed under the Terms of Delegations and Procedures which provide the infrastructure to which they operate. These Technical Committees are now extensions of the Board and are designed to provide the Board with the specific discipline focus and to run the day to day discipline activities.

Water Crisis.

The discipline events suffered to some extent because of low water levels throughout the state this year, with some races being cancelled and general participation down on previous years. Unless the water crisis eases, participation through our traditional activities will continue to fall. Canoeing Victoria is investigating hosting activities on water that is more consistent such as the bay and lakes, which is a step away from our traditional paddling but can offer excitement and challenges nonetheless. This strategy is pivotal for the organization if the water crisis continues. Regional clubs and members will continue to face challenges as paddling venues literally dry up. While more challenging, we will be assisting clubs wherever possible to provide alternatives and recover quickly when (or if) it rains.

Facilities

The office relocation will be going ahead in early 2007 at this stage to the new Parks Victoria building based at Westerfolds. This will be fabulous office and a perfect location for Canoeing Victoria to have a true presence on the water's edge. Mixed with the existing canoeing shed we hope that the development of future meeting rooms and conference facilities will enable us to promote and run even more training and access events in the future.

Australian Sports Commission Review.

In April 2006, the Australian Sports Commission initiated a review of the delivery of canoeing throughout Australia. This process included forums conducted in the various states with input from Members, Staff, State Boards and Government stakeholders. 2006-07 will see the report finalized after another round of state forums and submissions with implementation of any recommendations in 2007. We look forward to all members and clubs participating in the review process and that paddling in Victoria will benefit as a result.

Staff

Eric Ward was the only departure from the 2005/2006 staff list with Andrea and I, Carmel, Sandra and Tony all continuing on. Despite the changing environment, the staff have risen to the challenges confronting them and provided valuable feedback, ideas and solutions to improve and develop the services and tasks the office undertakes. Andrea and I appreciate the patience and support that both the staff and the Board have provided us in our new role. Thank you to all.

Board Members

A sincere thank you to the previous Board for their (in some cases many) years of volunteered time and energy and for steering the organization through turbulent times and to the new Board for generously offering their time and expertise and for supporting the office staff in their new endeavors.

Members

Thank you to all the members of Canoeing Victoria for your continuing support and feedback throughout what was a very challenging year. Andrea and I look forward to contributing to the administration of the sport during 2006-2007 no matter how the landscape may be painted.

Sharon Swoboda and Andrea Boothroyd
Co-Executive Officers



Juniors /Schools – Programs

(Note: This section does not include recreational programs delivered to schools).

Summary

The Canoeing Victoria office conducted two main events for schools in 2005/06 that continue to address current gaps in canoeing/kayaking pathway models.

The Kayaking in a Pool program aimed to provide a fun, cost effective introduction to kayaking for Years 5 to 10 students in a friendly pool environment.

The All School Paddle Sports Carnival aimed to provide a friendly, cost-effective novice-intermediate competition – a stepping stone between introductory programs (e.g. Kayaking in a Pool) and State level school championships.

In addition, for the second year, introduction to canoe polo sessions were delivered to around 250 year 10 students in a metropolitan secondary school as part of the school's physical education program.

During the year, the office also provided marketing and administrative support to assist Discipline Committees (Flatwater, Canoe Polo & Marathon) with their state level school championships.

Events Conducted

Kayaking in a Pool

Programs/Activities

The Kayaking in a Pool program is an introductory program for students in Years 5 to 10 in regional Victoria. This year, a pilot program was also conducted in the Melbourne metropolitan area. During 90 minute sessions, students are introduced to basic skills and safety equipment involved in kayaking through many fun games and activities in a swimming pool environment. Relatively stable and easy-to-manuever canoe polo BATs are used for all sessions.

VicHealth is the major sponsor of the program for regional Victoria. The extension of the program into the metropolitan area was supported by the Department for Victorian Communities (SRV). The November/December pilot program activities were also supported by the Victoria Aquatic Industry Council as part of its Water Safety Week activities.

Participation

As one of the major delivery times for the program coincided with early school holidays due to the Commonwealth Games schedule, the participation objective for the regional program was 600 students and 100 students for the metropolitan pilot. In the regional program, over 700 students participated. In the metropolitan pilot, over 250 students participated, an number that could have been higher but was limited by venue and instructor availability.

Regions & Pools

Pools were visited in the following locations:

Croydon (Metropolitan)
Kew (Metropolitan)
Surrey Hills (Metropolitan)
Frankston (Southern Region - Peninsula)
Beauford (Western Region)
Camperdown (Western Region)
Healesville (Eastern Region - Inner)
Seville (Eastern Region - Inner)
Warbarton (Eastern Region - Inner)

Major Activities

- Introduction to safety equipment involved in kayaking.
- Introduction to basic paddling techniques (active session).
- Capsize, exit and recovery procedures (active session).
- Games e.g. modified canoe polo, rescue relay, kayaking surfing.



Major Outcome

The program exceeded its participation objectives, despite the shortened season, and was delivered within budget. Now in its fifth year, success of the program continues to be seen in terms of market penetration as evident in re-participation rates, and as the number of schools participating at key venues increases. Participation (and interest from schools) in the metropolitan pilot was far higher than predicted.

All School Paddle Sports Carnival

Programs/Activities

The All Schools Paddle Sports Carnival is a competition for novice to intermediate paddlers from Years 7 to 10. It is an ideal 'next step' from the Kayaking in a Pool program. Students competed in school teams in three main events. Schools were required to provide one student per team to assist in the running of the event e.g. as timekeeper, slalom referee, marshal. This was the third year of the carnival. It was held at the Monash Aquatic Centre in Glen Waverley. Canoe polo BATs were used as the one type of craft for all events.

The Department for Victorian Communities (SRV) is the major sponsor of the program.

Participation

44 students from three schools participated which was well below the program's objectives.



Education and Programs

The most significant aspect of this year's education and programs was the impact of the Commonwealth Games. The timing meant that Term I was greatly reduced in length meaning that schools had a much shorter time in which to complete their swimming and athletic programs, leaving very little time for extra-curricula activities. As a result of this several schools elected not to use Canoeing Victoria for their canoeing programs. The shortness of Term I also impacted upon Term II as schools were attempting to fit in the activities which were not completed in the first term.

Furthermore, the same impact was seen upon the Australian Canoeing Award Scheme and public courses. However, Canoeing Victoria ran very successful days on behalf of the Banyule City Council and the Kananook Creek Association.

The winter months saw the usual down turn in participation at all levels apart from several Level 1 Flatwater Coach and Instructor courses. The continuing trend for people undertaking Level 1 Flatwater Instructor training and assessment for employment purposes within an organisation means that nearly all newly registered Instructors are not available for employment for Canoeing Victoria programs. This in turn has not improved the ease with which appropriate staff are employed to run canoeing programs.

With an improvement in the weather a similar rise has been seen in an increase in participation in canoeing programs. Australian Canoeing Award Scheme courses have been run for staff at the Werribee Open Range Zoo and the Victoria Police run youth camp, Derby Hill at Maldon. Methodist Ladies College has also engaged Canoeing Victoria to carry out a range of training and assessment for their Education Outdoors staff to be held at the Banksia Peninsula. A similar course was also held at Paynesville.

By running these courses at the clients' venues rather than at Westerfolds Park has impacted upon the set calendar as it has been necessary to fit these programs within other programs and courses. However, these courses are a significant source of revenue and providing suitable staff are available to run them, these organisations should continue to be looked after in this manner.

With increasing costs in transporting equipment and outsourcing additional canoes and kayaks as well as paying employees appropriately for their services, it has been somewhat difficult to ensure that Canoeing Victoria programs are seen as an attractive outdoor educational activity for their students. Many schools have been interested in our services yet have been put off by the overall cost and while this is an obvious fact of any commercial organisation, we still need to be competitive in the market place as well ensuring that we provide excellent canoeing and kayaking programs.

Tony Coventry
Sports Development Officer



Healthy Environments

Program / Activity

Year 2005/2006 saw the third year of the 3yr funding plan by VicHealth. The program continued to include:

Framework – A Club development program to initiate assistance to committees of clubs to underpin successful clubs.

Help People feel included – Studies have shown that people that feel they belong to a social environment such as a sporting club, lead healthier and happier lives.

Sunsmart – As with previous years, an objective to change participants and spectators attitude to sunburn and associated cancer.

Smokefree – Again as with previous years, an objective to reduce and educate participants and spectators to the detriment of smoking and the affects of passive smoking.

Injury Prevention – To reduce the decrease in participation due to injury. The objective being education on warm up and warm down, injury prevention and understanding the type of injuries experienced by the specific sports.

Responsible Alcohol – An education process on the detrimental affects that excessive alcohol has on participation and performance.

Healthy Eating Choices – To provide participants and spectators healthy options in the food offered at events.

Major Activities

A major focus for the year was improving the communication between members, clubs and disciplines. This included newsletters, club contact via face to face meetings, emails, web site and general accessibility.

The Sunsmart project continues to work well with many clubs and disciplines understanding and implementing Sunsmart activities such as providing shade and sunscreen for their members when both participating or volunteering as well as being mindful of spectator needs.

Smokefree within our sport is and no doubt remain an almost insignificant occurrence. However, there is still work to be done to promote clubs as smokefree to ensure that new members are aware of the policies as well as attracting new members because of these policies.

Injury prevention has taken a back seat on this project over the last couple of years due to the information from AC not eventuating as expected. However, the project has started partnerships with the SmartPlay government agency to investigate and produce simple, easy to follow injury prevention information which will be available early in the new financial year.

The most obvious aspect of this project has been the healthy eating choices. Many clubs have taken up the incentive package to be reimbursed for healthy options offered when running their canteens at the club or at events.

The free bananas (up until Cyclone Larry) apples and mandarins, have gone down a treat and have now become an expected attraction at Championship races and schools events. While the Banana girl has had to retire for the time being, the provided apples have been received with great enthusiasm. One Parent was heard to exclaim, "Where did they come from – my non fruit eating son has eaten 7 !" This an example of how a healthy choice can provide a wonderful change of eating habit.

Major Outcomes

Consolidation of Club resources

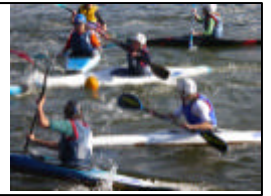
Expansion of Web site and information

Seven (7) clubs taking up option of free Web site

Club Visits including: Bendigo and Melbourne Canoe Club

plus partnership and resource discussions with regional sports assemblies and local government agencies.

Increased CV presence at Events and meetings.



Canoe Polo

Canoe Polo continues to provide excellent opportunities for participation and development in an exciting team sport that is enjoyed by a wide range of players with a wide range of skills. The canoe polo technical committee and many volunteers have provided a busy and successful year against a background of change as the sport has continued to grow.

Participation

Approximately 240 players (190 men, 50 women) covering an age range of 15-70 years play canoe polo in Victoria. Competitions are held in two indoor pools and on the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers.

The regular competitions held during the year include: the Melbourne Competition, the Summer Competition, Premier League, the Under Eighteen Competition and the Victorian Invitational Championship. All competitions attract good participation but for the first time, three fields were used on the Maribyrnong River for the Victorian Invitational Championship. This proved most successful and together with the high standard of organisation and programming, has set the standard for future events. The Schools Championship was very successful with around 100 students taking part. It is exciting to hear that one school had 70 students competing for positions in two teams.

National Championships

Victoria did well at the 2006 Australian Canoe Polo Championships in Perth with a bronze in Open, silver in Women, and a silver for Juniors. The Veterans could not hold their eternal third placing but were delegated to fourth.

2006 World Championships

Victorian players were not represented in the Australian teams at the 2006 World Championships in Amsterdam. However, two Victorian coaches achieved

important results. Stephen Gibson coached the New Zealand Women's team to a silver medal and Kate Abbey coached the Australian Women's team to sixth position.

Major Activities

The committee held a Strategy Workshop to explore the many issues facing canoe polo and to prepare an overall approach for its growth and development. Topics covered included the challenges faced at a state and national level, player development, coaching, refereeing, and the conduct of the various competitions. The Junior Development program has attracted many new players that receive coaching and mentoring from senior players. Refereeing standards have been a concern in recent years but the successful introduction of the Australian Canoeing Referee's Accreditation program is expected to have an immediate and ongoing influence that will set a new standard for referees. An Australian Canoeing coaching course has extended training techniques to the club level and Level 2 First Aid courses were held to meet accreditation requirements. Work is also continuing toward creating competitions at Frankston and Geelong.

Objectives for 2006/2007

In 2006/2007 canoe polo will continue to be promoted in the schools, the junior development program will be expanded and more players will be encouraged to seek referee and coaching accreditation.

Thank you

Canoe polo's success continues through its committee and the many players and parents putting in time and effort to present great competitions, to encourage participation, demonstrate excellence, and promote the sport. Canoe polo could not continue without the input of its many volunteers, thank you all.

Ian Beasley, Chairperson, October 2006



Flatwater / Sprint

Summary

The 2005/2006 season has been a successful season for Flatwater despite several programming issues which were complicated by the need to have all watercourses cleared by the commencement of the Commonwealth Games. We have seen modest increases in participants across the age groups, with a large number of new juniors attending the Victorian Championships.

The success has been driven by several factors, including the first steps to providing pathways for athlete development through Satellite Squads, two Coaches' Seminars, and development of K4 teams competition through the schools program.

The Coaches Seminars were arranged to increase the networking of coaches and exchange of ideas and information, and the feedback from participants was positive. There is a need for coaches to look at the development of athletes as a planned process, leading forward so that the athlete can be the primary beneficiary of the wisdom of several people, rather than depending on one individual. The coming together of so many fine people at the meetings was great to see, and it was positive to see the passion that all coaches held for their sport and the need to move forward in this environment of competing interests for young people in particular.

Although still in its infancy, the development of the Satellite Squad program is there to create pathways for developing athletes so that they can reach out for more technical training with specialist coaches, and be in an environment where they are training with like-minded athletes. The performances of our athletes at National level are testament to the specialist coaching currently undertaken through Mercantile and Sherbrooke Knox. In the upcoming year we are looking to similar focus being developed in regional areas such as Albury-Wodonga, Geelong, Bendigo and Ballarat.

Mercantile has been developed with the driving force of the elite athletes, and now stands as a central link for those wishing to develop to International standard.

The exciting project of the development of a K4 Cup for the All Schools competition will provide a genuine team focus for junior competitors.

The success of having 120 new paddlers to K4 competing in the All Schools 2005 has given impetus to the project, and will inevitably lead to a greater interest in K2 and K1 paddlers among the juniors at regular regattas.

We are also conscious of the need to cater for veterans across the sport, and will be introducing age group competition similar to the successful structure in place with Marathon competition in the coming year.

In the National Championships there were several competing athletes. The Senior athletes performed well, with Glen Singleton back after recovering from injury. It was credit to Glen that he was up for Australian Team Selection, narrowly missing out. Juniors again performed well, with Amy Peters making the National team.

Events Conducted –

Regatta 1 October-Albury
Regatta 2 November-Nagambie
Grand Prix 1 January-Nagambie
Victorian Championships January 2006-Nagambie
Inter-Schools Championships March 2005-NWSC Carrum

Programs / Activities –

Development of the Satellite Squad concept to provide pathways for developing athletes.
Coaching seminars for networking opportunities and exchange between coaches with ideas and concepts.
K4 Cup and development of the All Schools program

Junior development has led to growth in the junior ranks, with several new juniors in the Victorian Championships. The All Schools Championships was a great success with over 160 paddlers, and 120 of them paddling K4 before the day was out!

Major Outcomes –

2005-2006 has seen the development of a more structured approach to the development of the Flatwater discipline. We are encouraged by initiatives to increase the base of the juniors.



Slalom Committee

Summary

The 2005 / 2006 year has been a productive year for Canoe Slalom with the continuation support for the Yarra and Country Series of slalom races, strong support for the TID camps and State Championships.

Work continues on the Whitewater Facility for Melbourne with a meeting scheduled with the Melbourne City Council shortly. Significant progress has been made in the last 12 months, albeit behind the scenes.

Victoria plays host to the National Canoe Slalom Championships in January 2007 to be held at Eildon on the Goulburn River. Details can be accessed on the CV website.

Events conducted

As per schedule the following races were (will be) conducted within the seasonal year April 2005 – December 2006.

Yarra Series 2005 / 2006 Slalom races (6 of) conducted on various sites on the Yarra River. Champions trophies will be presented at Vic. Slalom Champs in December 2006.

Country Series 2005 / 2006 Slalom races (4 of) conducted on various Country Rivers culminating in Series final on the Goulburn River with Champions trophies presented.

Victorian Schools Whitewater Championships 2005.

Held at Warrandyte in September 2005 and to be held in September 2006.

State Slalom Championships 2005.

Conducted on the Goulburn River in December 2005 and to be held in December 2006.

Programs / activities

Talent Identification Camp (TID) was successfully held in November 2005 on the Goulburn River. This annual camp is run in partnership with Canoe Kayak Education Australia (CKEA). The camp will again run in November 2006.

Slalom squads selected following the Victorian Schools Slalom will receive ongoing coaching and clinics in partnership with CKEA.

Victoria has attracted AIS funding for a talent search program to be run over two years. The program, Rapidly to London and Beyond, is to focus on bringing new junior athletes into the sport with the aim of producing national / international standard athletes by 2012. Links available on the CV and AC websites.

It is with very great regret that the VIS Canoe Slalom program was removed by the VIS this year. The VIS have been exceptionally strong supporters of Slalom since their inception. We acknowledge, however, the VIS support for our individual athletes, Warwick Draper (K1M), Victoria Milne (K1W), and Mark Bellafiore (K2M) through individual scholarships. Slalom is very grateful for the faith that the VIS has shown and our very earnest endeavours will be directed to the Slalom program being reintroduced to the VIS in the new year.

Participation

Numbers have increased slightly over the preceding year. Generally this has been a result of better programs and the effect of SBS support in the televising of the Slalom World Championships in Penrith, 2005 and the Slalom World Championships in Prague, 2006.

We thank SBS for their support and delivery of alternative excitement sports to the general public.



Adults have continued to remain static. There have been increases in Junior numbers (approximately 15%). This has been largely due to excellent school programs by Ivanhoe Grammar and smaller school programs through Slalom Committee initiatives and the continuing hard work by CKEA as well as the new Rapidly to London and Beyond program just kicking off.

Canoe Slalom continues to have a strong working relationship with Canoe Kayak Education Australia (CKEA) and Canoes Plus and greatly value our partnership. We also welcome the newly formed Melbourne Canoe Club and their strong participation in the running of events and support of the sport.

Major activities / Outcomes

The major activity for the year has been the successful running of the State Slalom Championships in December 2005. This was a highly successful event that returned an acceptable profit that has/will be targeted back into Slalom for the benefit of athletes and officials.

Significant work continues to be undertaken by Canoe Slalom with respect to the Whitewater Facility proposal and this remains our number one priority. We have attracted the strong support of some current high profile MP's as well as the Victorian Olympic Committee.

State Teams

The following State Slalom Team was selected to represent Victoria at the 2005 National Slalom Championships.

Junior MK1 – Chris Guinea, Scott Guinea, Phil Mingurelli (VIS), Phil Gibbins(VIS)

Junior LK1 – Sarah Grant, Emily Fegen, Stephanie Harder, Alex Muir-Smith

Junior MC2 - Tim Feben/Tom Baker-Gabb, Talis Svarcs/Tom Greaves

Junior C1 – Liam Garvey, Jack Pead (VIS), Richard Merjan

Senior MK1 – Warwick Draper(VIS), Mark Nicholds

Senior LK1 – Dita Pahl, Victoria Milne(VIS), Leanne Guinea (VIS)

Senior C1 – Chris Fabris(VIS), Nick Caudry

National Teams

The following athletes were selected in the Australian National Slalom Teams.

Junior MK1 – Phillip Mingurelli (VIS), Phillip Gibbins (VIS)

Junior C1 – Jack Pead (VIS)

Senior MK1 – Warwick Draper(VIS)

22's C1 - Christian Fabris (VIS)

Senior LK1 – Victoria Milne(VIS)

Senior MC2 – Mark Bellafiore(VIS).

I would like to thank the Victorian Institute of Sport for their ongoing support of Slalom through the VIS individual scholarships.

Max Parsons

Chairman – Slalom Committee



Financial Statements

See separate pdf versions of financial statements.

Get on the water, get into life