



# Canoeing Victoria

Annual Report

2006-2007





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## Office Bearers 2006/2007

### June 06 – June 07

President	Gary Flanigan
Chair	Tom Hirrschoff
Interested Director	Geoff Hindle
Interested Director	Richard Lawrence
Interested Director	Mark Murray
Independent Director	Richard Howard
Independent Director	Ron Burke
(Jun 06 – Dec 07)	
Independent Director	Ross Stevens
Chair Canoe Polo	Ian Beasley
Chair Marathon	Connie Todaro
Chair Flatwater	Tim Altman
Chair Slalom	Max Parsons
Chair Wildwater	Mike Wilson

## Office Staff

<b>Executive Officer(s)</b>	Andrea Boothroyd & Sharon Swoboda
<b>Education Programs Manager</b>	Tony Coventry / John Moore
<b>Membership Officer</b>	Carmel Cook
<b>Book Keeper</b>	Sandra Reaburn
<b>Project Officer</b> Vicehealth Participation (Kayaking in a Pool) SRV Business Improvement SRV SRV Sports Development	Andrea Boothroyd
<b>Project Officer</b> Vicehealth Healthy Environments SRV Business Improvement SRV Future Directions (Club Training Centres) Yarra Descent	Sharon Swoboda

## 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  
Marine Safety Victoria  
Victorian Institute of Sport  
Office of Commonwealth Games  
Parks Victoria

### Local Councils:

Banyule City Council, City of Manningham, City of Yarra, Shire of Yarra Ranges, City of Boorondara, Shire of Nillumbuk

### Other Supporters:

Aquatics & Recreation Victoria, CKEA, Canoes Plus, Liquid Life, Moomba Water Fest, Kew Festival.





## Affiliated Clubs 2006/2007

Ballarat Amateur Canoe Club  
 Bass Coast 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  
 Kananook Creek 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 2006/2007

### Membership Breakdown

	2006/2007	2005/2006
Adult	911	997
Junior	273	237
Life	5	5
Lifetime	2	1
Rec Adult	352	414
Rec Junior	4	5
School	62	82
Social Adults	67	15
Social Juniors	2	1
Junior Development	2	
Total	1680	1757

### Senior Members across all states

State	Members
Victoria	911
NSW	N/A
QLD	722
SA	791
WA	N/A

### Junior Members across all states

State	Members
Victoria	273
NSW	N/A
QLD	388
SA	178
WA	N/A

### Total Number of Clubs

State	Total
Victoria	32
NSW	37
QLD	30
SA	9
WA	12
TAS	4
NT	2
Australian Canoeing	126



## Presidents Report

The year now completed was a successful, very busy but rewarding year. Successful because we – our Co-Executive officers, their staff and the Board – through stringent financial control (and to some within the CV community, necessary but unpopular decisions) have managed to return a 'breakeven' financial result. Finances within CV, as they are for all similar organisations, will always be under stress unless we can develop our own proprietary income streams. To that end, CV staged the inaugural Yarra Descent event in late September, 2007.

It is the hope of the CV Board that the Yarra Descent it will grow in stature over the years and will itself generate a substantial financial surplus. Even if it never fully achieves the desired potential, the recent event was a resounding success and enjoyed by all; competitors and volunteers. The event itself might also, hopefully, provide a much needed focus through which to encourage greater participation of and in, and for those interested in, Down River racing.

Speaking of the Yarra Descent, this event typifies the dedication and commitment, in planning and manning of the event, of both our Executive Officers (past and present) and the Board toward the success of CV in general. This dedication and hard work by our staff and of your Board to ensure the financial success of CV is further demonstrated by our raising of some \$8,500 from various fundraising activities staffed solely by Board members, their family members and friends.

I genuinely give my most sincere thanks to our Executive Officers, our staff, and to each and every member of the Board for their unstinting contribution of time and physical effort to the successful operation of CV over the year now completed.

Whilst the staff and Board members of CV have done wonders throughout the year, we collectively within CV are most fortunate that we are supported by a most amazing and widespread pool of similarly dedicated, very talented and hard working members of our Technical Committees. It is trite to say that without their efforts CV would simply not exist but, exist we do and we will continue to exist if we can retain the loyalty and dedication of these wonderful hardworking individuals.

The Technical Committees (TC), representing each different facet of kayaking, 'run' our sport. Serving on a TC committee, and on the CV Board, is very time consuming but is rewarding in both a personal and vocational sense.

It is my view that our members, and our younger members in particular, simply don't recognize the wonderful 'hands on' opportunity for vocational development offered by service on any committee but on a TC committee in particular.

Technical Committees must formulate plans, draft budgets, arrange finances and then promote and organise the events; all those skills required to successfully create and operate your own business ventures. May I encourage all CV members, and again I address our younger members in particular, to actively join in the running of our sport through the various Technical Committees.

As I have mentioned previously, the Executive and Board of CV are working to ensure the long-term survival of our sport through encouraging both recreational and competitive participation throughout the State of Victoria. The promotion of our sport requires both concentration of effort and greater funding.

Given the 'deferment' of the proposed Australia wide introduction of the 'Unitary Model' recommendations arising from the inquiry conducted by Dr Kidderston on behalf of the Australian Institute of Sport, the states have been able to refocus on our 'game plans' without the very time consuming representation and discussions of the proposals. The inquiry and discussions giving rise to the recommendations, good as they might be, did take a great deal of Board time and effort for the first half of the year.

Suffice to say that the state bodies will continue to operate as we have in the past; each operating as a separate entity but part of, and required to assist with the funding of, Australian Canoeing. The hope is that AC will, in the future, be better funded and better managed with the result that the states won't have to contribute such a high proportion of our meagre discretionary budgets in support of the AC budget. I am gladdened to be able to report that those hopes seem increasingly achievable!



Australian Canoeing has both a new CEO (Kate Heeley) and a new Board and we all wish them well and great success in reshaping both AC and the relationship between our respective organisations. Might I say that we in CV have already experienced the dedication of the AC CEO toward fostering improved relations between our organisations – Kate served as our chef over Easter at the Australian Marathon Nationals where her services were much appreciated by all. Kate, on behalf of AC, also conducted – amongst other forums in her busy schedule - a very successful 'three day strategic workshop' here in Melbourne which was attended by representatives from all states and, by many members of the CV Board.

One major and on-going task of the CV Board is to promote the creation of a recognizable and valuable 'brand image' such as to create wider public awareness of the sport in general. The aim is to develop a marketable image which will allow us to develop our own 'income streams'. Such an image will allow us to attract serious advertising revenue rather than being constantly reliant upon uncertain – but very much appreciated – government and Departmental grants.

Government sponsored funding is, at present and is likely to remain for all time, vital to our existence. The long-term aim of your Board is to create our own proprietary income streams such as to allow more flexibility in the promotion and delivery of the sport in general. Government grants are 'tied' to the delivery of specified outcomes. Our continued success in attracting this fickle source of funding is testimony to the efforts of our Co-Executive officers, Andrea Boothroyd and Sharon Swoboda and I, on behalf of the Board and our membership in general, congratulate and thank them for their efforts.

Amongst the many successes achieved by our Co-Executives were the Marine Safety grant for Boat Handling course, funding for a fleet of some 20 canoe polo bats and related equipment, approval for a feasibility study for a polo ramp at Studley Park, a major safety audit of all CV equipment, subsidy for a Level 2 first aid course etc etc; well done to both of you!

John Moore, our newly appointed Education Officer, has been actively engaged on coaching courses and in seeking to expand our involvement with sea kayaking instruction so again, our sincere thanks and well done John!

Finally, though the efforts of many, we were very pleased to be part of the inaugural meetings of two new kayak clubs, Bass Coast and Kannanook Creek; our sincere welcome to both clubs and thankyou to the Board members who were able to attend those important meetings.

In closing, I again express my sincere thanks to all members of the CV community but my special thanks go to all TC committee members and volunteers, our staff and Executive officers and to the members of the CV Board – thank you and I look forward to working with you all in the future.

Gary Flanigan.  
**President of Canoeing Victoria Inc.**



### Finance Report

The financial year 2006/07 has been a productive one.

CV would like to acknowledge our supporters and in particular Sport and Recreation Victoria, VicHealth and Marine Safety Victoria.

Our stated aim for CV Administration at the last AGM was to achieve a small profit of between \$500 – \$1,000. Before adjustments, the actual operating profit for the year is \$474. After adjustments, Administration has shown a profit of \$28,872 for the period. Adjustments included unearned income in the form of unspent portions of grants, allocation of instructor fees over 3 years, club affiliation fees and member fees for one month (i.e. member year from 01/08/06 to 31/07/07). All of these amounts in the 2005/06 accounts were correctly adjusted directly to revenue for the 2006/07 period by the auditor. From the 2005/06 accounts this figure totalled \$28,398. Accounting procedures have been updated during the year and future years will not require this type of adjustment.

I would like to stress that this profit was achieved with the support of the disciplines who have met the obligations financially imposed upon them due to the stress from the AC rescue. The future looks brighter with negotiations underway to potentially reduce stress on the states from AC. This will depend upon a financial review of the current and future outlook through accurate budgeting for AC. CV's aim is to have the stress from the AC rescue reduced which will have a positive effect across the organisation.

The structure of the organisation hasn't changed but its financial systems were altered to better reflect the operations and activities of the business. Carrying on from the prior year, under the guidance of Andrea, the systems were further adapted to reflect the needs of both project and financial reporting and control. Our method of accounting for grant income has changed resulting in a significant improvement in accountability and control. This led to the adjustment in the accounts for the 2006/07 financial year mentioned above. Australian Canoeing adopted this system during the year as developed by CV.

A review and audit of Administration assets and the asset register revealed a need for an asset succession plan, which is being currently developed. A fleet of new polo BATs for CV's school safe canoeing education programs was acquired through

a grant from Marine Safety Victoria. CV is currently looking to replace our fleet of canoes through the allocation of depreciation funding, to build a bank balance over time specifically for the long-term sustainability of the organisation. This will take between 5 to 10 years as a rough estimate. We are also seeking external funding including grants.

The financial results of the disciplines reflect a difficult year given the rainfall conditions. Wildwater has shown a small profit in a very turbulent year for them with the lack of water in the state's rivers (2006 loss of \$3,001, 2007 \$131 profit). Congratulations to Wildwater on the running of the Nationals in Victoria.

Marathon also ran Nationals this year contributing to a significant profit improvement for the period together with improved competitor numbers during the season (2006 loss of \$9,807, 2007 \$7,109 profit).

Slalom has shown an increase in its operating loss for the period (2006 loss of \$2,175, 2007 loss of \$2,965). Whilst the sport has seen growth in the state, the discipline delegates duties to clubs to run activities. One club in particular has taken on this role and congratulations should go to the Melbourne Canoe Club for the successful running of the Nationals at Eildon and the support given by Canoes Plus over the year.

The Canoe Polo committee has had another very busy year. Their result for the year of a \$3,028 loss includes asset replacement costs that were expensed of \$8,642. This gives a profit from operations around \$5,000 (2006 loss of \$8,832).

The Sprint committee has had a very good year. They have turned around a loss of \$5,345 in the 2006 year to a profit of \$2,358 2007 financial year, a turnaround of \$7,703. Congratulations on a job well done.

The achievements of most of the disciplines during the financial year have been exceptional even with the rescue of Australian Canoeing (AC) placing a significant financial strain on CV and the disciplines as a whole. While meeting the obligations in the rescue of AC, CV's aims in the coming year are to maintain it's current level of operations and sustain the financial position. Any improvement on this situation will be seen as a significant success in the operations.

Ross Stevens.



## Executive Officers Report

2006-2007 saw a year of consolidation and a focus on the internal running of the Association including financial management improvements, process streamlining, membership management and improving communication to all our stakeholders. As a result, the Association moves forward into 2007-2008 on a solid administration base to improve and grow.

Australian Canoeing has also found a way forward with the support of all the States as well as the Australian Sport Commission. This now allows the relationship between AC and CV to grow and move forward. AC has a new CEO, a new Board, new financial management plans and a new outlook for Canoeing within Australia which all members will benefit from, along with the State Associations.

Andrea and I have been working hard to be as accessible and strived to attend as many events as possible, provide consistent office hours (albeit reduced) and been available whenever possible via email and mobile phone. The result is that we have received great support and feedback from the membership.

### Canoeing Representation

Canoeing Victoria continues to represent the interests of the canoeing community by participating in such studies and reviews such as the Ballarat Water Sports Facility proposal, Boorondara Rowing Review, Council of the Ageing study into older adult participation, Victorian Boating and Sailing Education Centre feasibility study. CV also has representatives involved with Victorian Olympic Committee, Marine Safety Victoria and we are liaising with Melbourne Water to clear hazards along the Yarra River.

### Staffing

This year saw the departure of our Education Programs Manager Tony Coventry. Tony spent many years running the Education programs and working as an instructor.

While Tony departed to other shores, he continues to participate within the canoeing community leading the newly formed Kananook Creek Canoe Club.

We thank Tony for his valuable contributions over the years.

As a result, John Moore has joined the CV team to manage the Education programs. Recently John has been exploring the introduction Sea Kayaking programs while continuing to manage the school education programs and instructor training sessions. We welcome John's input and enthusiasm.

### Office Relocation.

While a few years coming, 2007 finally saw CV move into the new and fantastic offices of Recreation House at Westerfolds Park. We share a great facility with other Outdoor Recreation Centre members and Parks Victoria. It includes great storage for both tinnies, the sunsmart trailer and other stores plus the fabulous conference centre which has been heavily used by CV for education courses, meetings, workshops, first aid courses and club meetings.

We envisage that its use will become extremely popular as word gets out. The move also forced a time out to sort through old equipment and files as well as discovering lost treasures.

### IT Systems

Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) supported CV in a review of its core IT Systems and along with 2 donated computers from Banyule City Council and 2 laptops donated by Wayne Daniels and Gary Flanigan the office is now running with efficient and up to date equipment and software. The relocation enabled the office to move from a dial up internet connection to ADSL. As most of our communication is via email, the web site and the on-line database this increased connectivity has been fantastic. Between the new hardware and the new office, CV will be able to offer visitors to the office connectivity as well as providing on-line database training for members plus increasing our administration efficiencies.

In addition to the physical IT infrastructure, CV has been exploring and trialing the use of the on-line web database from newsletters, on-line entries, forms, and bulletin boards. Many of these features will also reduce administration overheads.





### Equipment Management Plans

This year the office has had a strong focus on developing and implementing plans for the management of its assets to help to ensure member safety and longevity of costly equipment including the trailers, powerboats (tinnies) and equipment used by the Education Programs. Over the coming year, discipline assets will be tackled in the same manner.

### Grants

CV has been working very closely with our major supporter that being Sport and Recreation Victoria. SRV support not only specific sports development projects but also business management activities such as the governance activities and a review of our financial, IT and records management systems. Without these activities the business side of running the association would cease, so we thank SRV for their continued support in this area.

The year also saw the completion of the Vichealth Partnership for Health 3 year funding round (that was extended for a 4<sup>th</sup> year). This project enabled the Association to focus on the junior participation (kayaking in pool) and the club development activities such as the healthy environments, sunsmart etc. Vichealth are now heading into a new stage of their funding with a new direction, objectives and target audiences (PICSAR). We thank Vichealth for their support and partnership over the past 4 years and look forward to a new relationship in the future.

CV was also successful in receiving a number of grants from Marine Safety Victoria. The purchase of 20 sets of equipment will help to keep our school kayaking in a pool program sustainable. The 20 powerboat handling courses offered to our volunteers is helping to set positive safety standards at our events, and the feasibility study for a canoe access ramp on the Yarra River will, when constructed, help to provide canoeist and other recreational users with safe access to the river.

CV has also been very active in pursuing other grant opportunities during the year. The process of applying for grants whether successful or not, has been helped to clarify the vision and implementation plans for the organization. For every grant application not successful becomes a project in waiting.

### Administration Activities.

As mentioned under Grants, this year the office had a focus on streamlining our core financial systems. These systems included a review of our chart of accounts and streamlining how we track and report on income and expenses. The result is so successful that Australian Canoeing have followed a similar structure. These types of improvements, while appearing trivial in isolation add up to the administration becoming streamlined and smarter in operations.

### Major Events

Three National Championships came to Victoria this year. Slalom, Wildwater and Marathon. Compliments especially to the Slalom and Marathon organizing committees for staging such professional and attractive events. All National events utilized the on-line entry system and while bugs existed, these are being addressed and the system will be utilized in the future.

### Board Members

The New Board that is now not that new has done a fantastic job in shaping and moving the Association forward. Their enthusiasm appears to be endless as well as their insight and diverse experience across many parts of our business. All are extremely supportive of the office staff and are quick to volunteer their already precious time whenever required. The office sincerely thanks the Board for the efforts and for the outgoing Board members we look forward to your future participation in the sport in some form or another including Ron Burke an independent Board member who resigned late last year.

### Members and Clubs

Once again Andrea and I would like to thank the members and clubs for their support throughout the year. We are always looking to improve and your feedback is appreciated and welcomed. We have some exciting development projects ahead in the next year and Andrea and I look forward to working for the betterment of Canoeing in Victoria.

Sharon Swoboda and Andrea Boothroyd  
Co-Executive Officers.



## Sport Development

### *Junior Development*

The Kayaking in a Pool introduction-to-kayaking for school students in years 5&6 continued again this year. During 90 minute sessions, students are introduced to basic skills and safety equipment involved in kayaking through many fun games and activities in a relatively friendly swimming pool environment. VicHealth is the major sponsor of the program in regional Victoria and its expansion in the metropolitan area was made possible with support from Sport & Recreation Victoria and the Victorian Aquatic Industry Council. This year Canoeing Victoria was successful in our application for a Marine Safety Victoria Education and Training grant which enabled us to purchase 20 sets of equipment to help to ensure the on-going sustainability of the program. This year the program was delivered to around 800 students. Over the next year the program will focus on working with clubs to establish opportunities for on-going junior participation.

Victorian School Championships were held by each of the technical committees (see individual technical committee reports). With SRV support, Canoeing Victoria Administration continued to provide assistance with the promotion and organisation of these events.

Canoeing Victoria Education Programs continues to successfully deliver a range of programs to schools (see Education Programs report).

The phasing in of the Department of Justice Working with Children Check began in 2006. Canoeing Victoria Administration has forwarded initial information to all clubs and disciplines to help them to ensure they comply with the relevant legislation.

### *Coach Development*

The Club Training Centre project funded by Sport and Recreation gave canoeing the ability to focus on the needs and requirements of coaches within the sport. The project was designed to develop a criteria for clubs to meet to be classified as a certified club training centre.

There were a number of objectives of the project, one of which was to increase the number of coaches within the sport and to have them available at the grass roots level at the clubs. As a consequence of

the project a number of barriers were identified including a need for a lower level coach qualification which Australian Canoeing are in the process of refining and identify the minimum requirements for clubs to advertise as a training centre.

The fall out of the project including redefining "CTC" to become "Certified Training Club" to remove the assumption that to be certified you needed a club house with certain facilities. In addition, it was evident that a strong support infrastructure for coaches was required to assist coaches to both complete their training and to continue their networking and education.

Due to this pivotal project we have been able to secure additional funding to continue the development of the coaching infrastructure and such supporting courses such as first aid, safety and risk management, powerboat handling, general principals, workshops, network meetings as well as the coaching courses, will be able to offered at reduced costs to assist and encourage coaches to become qualified and improve their coaching skills.

### *High Performance*

This year four athletes were successful in receiving a VIS Individual Athlete Scholarship. Warwick Draper, Sarah Grant, Mark Bellofiore and Glenn Singleton. It has been unfortunate that canoeing has been dropped from the Tier 2 VIS program for both Flatwater and Slalom and that no other disciplines have been successful in receiving individual scholarships. It has been identified as a major strategic objective for 2007-08 to be reinstated into the VIS and to have other disciplines recognized for their outstanding talents and achievements.

### *Masters / Veterans Participation*

Canoeing Victoria participated in a survey conducted by VicSport for the Council for the Ageing during the year. In 2007-08 Canoeing Victoria has also secured funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria to develop this age group within the Sport. We recognize that the 35+ age group plays an extremely important role within the sport but little attention is paid to their needs to enable and attract continued and increased participation.



## Education Programs

This year, Canoeing Victoria's Education Programs had three main aims that focus on the promotion of safe canoeing. These aims were:

- 1 To train & assess flatwater and whitewater instructors.
- 2 To assist disciplines to train & assess coaches.
- 3 To provide opportunities for schools and the general community to come 'n try canoeing, and to develop their canoeing knowledge and skills.

Training and assessment is through delivery of Australian Canoeing Award Scheme courses. A number of successful Level 1 Flatwater Instructor, Level 2 Whitewater Instructor and Level 1 Flatwater Coach courses were held this year.

A review of these courses, feedback from participants and from already qualified, working instructors and coaches has identified a strong need to develop and deliver an on-going professional development pathway. This is being addressed in 2007/08 with major support from Sport and Recreation Victoria.

The relocation to Recreation House at Westerfolds Park in May has been a great boost to the delivery of our instructor and coach training. We now have access to a modern conference facility for the theoretical sessions, a few minutes walk from our Canoe Shed next to the Yarra River for the practical on-water sessions.

From October to April our Sunday morning community come 'n try sessions at Westerfolds Park in Templestowe were again popular. This year we also branched out to support local community festivals such as the Kew Festival (on the Yarra River in Kew), the Banyule Kids Arty Farty Festival (on the Yarra River in Heidelberg), and Kananook Creek

Our school programs were well attended with a wide range of schools participating. These ranged from initial come 'n try sessions to skills development programs over several weeks culminating in a river trip to give students the opportunity to put their newly acquired knowledge and skills into practice.

A number of Basic Skills Award courses and rolling courses were delivered to the general community.

There have been some challenges to the delivery of our Education Programs including the absence of water combined with the early reduction of flow in the Goulburn River. Both led to the cancellation of a number of programs.

2006/07 saw the start of an upgrade of Education Program's safety and risk management procedures with the aim of identifying and adopting industry best practice. A review of our equipment maintenance and replacement procedures also commenced. Both projects will continue in 2007/08.



## Canoe Polo

### Summary

Canoe Polo provides an increasing range of opportunities for players of all skill levels to enjoy an exciting team sport. The year has been one of success as canoe polo's innovative junior development and talent identification programs create a solid foundation for growth and achievement. The regular local and national competitions continue to provide opportunities for players of all skill levels and interests.

### Participation

Men and women, boys and girls, enjoy a range of competitions, development programs, and training opportunities in a friendly but competitive environment. Competitions held during the year include the Spring and Autumn Melbourne series, Premier League, the Victorian Invitational, and the Schools Championships. Players also showcased canoe polo at Moomba Waterfest, the Moonee Valley Festival, and the Kew Community Festival.

### Major Activities

Player development continues to go from strength to strength with active Junior Development and Talent Identification programs, a National Junior/Youth Camp, and the U12 and U18 competition. There are plans to forge links with New Zealand Canoe Polo and to extend the development program to mid level players.

Experienced and novice referees attended an Australian Canoeing Referee's Accreditation program with formalised training and assessment in refereeing theory and practice. And an Australian Canoeing accredited coaching course was held for players interested in becoming a coach or simply wanting to increase their understanding of the sport.

### New Year objectives

Canoe polo looks forward to hosting the Australian Canoe Polo Championships in the New Year. There will be a focus on taking high performance players to the Victorian Institute of Sport and also to promote canoe polo to the wider community.

### National Competitions

The 2007 Australian Canoe Polo Championship was held in Adelaide where Victoria did well with a bronze in Open, silver in Women, and a silver for Juniors. The Veterans could not hold their eternal third placing but were relegated to fourth.

### Thank you

Canoe Polo is pleased to acknowledge the support of the Richmond Recreation Centre, Brunswick City Baths, Essendon Canoe Club, Parks Victoria and sponsors: Canoe Plus, Kayaks Plus, Electric Water, and cobalt niche.

Off the water, the teamwork needed to win games is also needed to run the sport. Parents have come to the fore and not only braved the fog and cold of rivers and outdoor pools, but also cooked cakes, prepared meals, carried boats, provided transport. They have stepped forward to organise competitions, assist with games, and taken to the water to assist coaches. Through its players, parents, volunteers and committee, canoe polo runs great competitions, encourages participation, commits to excellence, and has fun. Thank you everyone.

Ian Beasley, Chairperson, October 2007



## Flatwater / Sprint

### Summary

The flatwater season was a successful year with races at Bendigo, Geelong, Patterson Lakes and Nagambie

Many new paddlers were introduced to Flatwater this season. The Geelong course was ideal to use and introduced new paddlers to flatwater.

The state Championships were held at Nagambie, with about 60 paddlers from Victoria and ACT competing, because of over booking by rowing we could not start until mid afternoon on the first day this did cause a few problems. Unfortunately this is happening again this year, which does cause problems as the first days program cannot be concluded.

The 5& 10km championships were held at Patterson Lakes, which was a very successful day.

The Schools Championships was contested at Footscray with over 100 paddlers contesting the event. However, some of the races had to be cancelled because of thunderstorms.

Victoria had two Junior paddlers Megan Rose (Cobram-Barooga) and Amy Peter (Mitta) selected in the Australian Junior team to compete in The Junior World Championships. Megan and Amy paddled together in the LK2 500 final and finished 6<sup>th</sup>

Glenn Singleton was selected in the Senior world Team for the world championships. Glenn was a member of K4 1000 which finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the B final.

The Flatwater technical committee would like to thank all clubs that made their facilities available for regattas and to all Officials and parents that were willing to give up their time to help at regattas without these people regattas will not happen.

### Events Conducted –

Regatta 1 10<sup>th</sup> October - Bendigo Cup

Regatta 2 19<sup>th</sup> Nov – Geelong

Regatta 3 13<sup>th</sup> January

Victorian Championships 17<sup>th</sup> Feb

Inter-Schools Championships 3<sup>rd</sup> March

## Marathon

### Summary

The 2006/2007 season has been a successful season for Marathon. We have seen increases in participation across all age groups, in particular increase attendances by juniors.

The well organised racing and venues results in a competition that provides the best for paddlers in Australia. The fact that officials and volunteers have a willingness to contribute maintains a healthy environment for marathon in Victoria.

The crucial role played by the Alton SES and the GWS First Aid is important to our safety plan and risk management.

Marathon's success continues through its committee, clubs, parents and paddlers putting time and effort to present great events. Marathon could not continue without the input of its many volunteers

### Participation

We continue to provide trophies for Club points in the Winter Series competition for Seniors, Juniors and Schools. This encourages competition between clubs and schools. This year Fairfield Canoe Club has dominated, winning all 3 major trophies.

This year we have seen an increase in the number of juniors attending the winter series events, in a number of events we had a higher number of juniors compared to seniors. A trend we would like to see continue.

The All Schools Championships held in March 2007 was a great success.

### National and State Championships

The 2007 Australian Marathon Championships were held in Nagambie, Victoria over the Easter Long Weekend. The event was well attended by all age group, Vets, juniors and open.

The 2007 Victorian Championships were held in September 2007 at Geelong Canoe Club. Although attendance was down on previous year, mainly to the start of school holidays, it was a well run event.



## Slalom

### Summary

The 2006 / 2007 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 submissions being made to the Melbourne City Council, the Victorian Government and the Federal Government. The preferred site has been identified as the Docklands within the Waterfront City development.

Victoria hosted the National Canoe Slalom Championships in January 2007 which were held at Eildon on the Goulburn River.

### Events conducted

As per schedule the following races were (will be) conducted within the seasonal year April 2006 – December 2007.

#### Yarra Series 2006 / 2007

Slalom races (6 of) conducted on various sites on the Yarra River. Champions trophies will be presented at Vic. Slalom Champs in December 2007.

#### Country Series 2006 / 2007

3 Slalom races conducted on the Big and King Rivers and culminating in Series final on the Goulburn River with Champions trophies presented.

#### Victorian Schools Whitewater Championships 2005.

Held at Warrandyte in September 2006 and September 2007.

#### State Slalom Championships 2006.

Conducted on the Goulburn River in December 2006 and again to be held in December 2007.

### Programs / activities

Talent Identification Camp (TID) was successfully held in November 2006 on the Goulburn River. This annual camp is run in partnership with Canoe Kayak Education Australia (CKEA). The camp will again run in November 2007.

Victoria has attracted AIS funding for a talent search program to be run over two years. The program, Rapidly to London and Beyond (RLB), 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. The program is being managed by the Melbourne Canoe Club.

A new initiative by Dita Pahl and Roy Farrance in conjunction with CPRT has seen the creation of the Bendigo Bank Academy of Sport (BBAS) Slalom development program. This is now in its second year and is rapidly expanding. The program provides opportunities for young athletes in Slalom to receive coaching, support, access to facilities and tours.

Both the RLB and BBAS programs have been very successful and continue to promote Slalom and provide ongoing opportunities for the development of both athletes and the sport into the future.

Slalom continue to acknowledge the strong support of the VIS with the individual scholarships being awarded to Warwick Draper (K1M), Sarah Grant (K1W), and Mark Bellafiore (C2M).

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 near future.

### Participation

Numbers have increased significantly over the preceding year. Generally this has been due to new young paddlers entering the sport through Ivanhoe Grammar School, the RLB program and the BBAS program.

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 acknowledge the ongoing support from CPRT and the Melbourne Canoe Club with their strong participation in the running of events and general support of the sport.



## **Major activities / Outcomes**

The major activity for the year has been the successful running of the Australian National Slalom Championships in January 2006. This was a highly successful event and the work of the Melbourne Canoe Club was instrumental to that success. Monies raised as a result of this event will all be invested back into the sport of Canoe Slalom and its ongoing development in Victoria.

This has, and will continue to be, the primary policy of the Canoe Slalom Technical Committee.

## **State Teams**

The following State Slalom Team was selected to represent Victoria at the 2007 National Slalom Championships.

Junior MK1 – Tim Hobbs, Jaxon Merritt, Harry Ward  
Junior LK1 – Emily Fegan, Antra Svarcs, Marta Ivkov  
Junior MC2 - Talis Svarcs/Tom Greaves, Alistair Anderson, Chris Peterson  
Junior MC1 – Scott Guinea, John Hardman  
Senior MK1 – Warwick Draper(VIS), Mark Nicholds, Phil Mingerulli  
Senior LK1 – Victoria Milne(VIS), Leanne Guinea, Sarah Grant (VIS)  
Senior MC1 – Christian Fabris, Jack Pead, Richard Merjans

## **National Teams**

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

Junior K1M	Scott Guinea
Team 22 K1W	Sarah Grant(VIS), Leanne Guinea
Team 22 C1M	Christian Fabris
Team 22 C2M	Tim Feben/Tom Baker Gabb
Senior K1M	Warwick Draper(VIS)
Senior K1W	Sarah Grant(VIS)
Senior C1	Christian Fabris
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.