

Canoeing Victoria 2014 Marathon Race Series

The 2014 Marathon Race Series gets underway with the Saltwater Classic on 2nd February at Footscray.

This year we have 12 main races, excluding state and national titles, running from February until December. The races are located within easy commuting distance of Melbourne and major regional centres and cater for novice and experienced paddlers.

We have introduced the following changes for 2014 following input from many participants.

1. **New race formats:** Races will range from the multiple international 4 km laps to long lap (10-20 km) and point-to-point formats to provide increased variety.
2. **Choice of race distances:** In some races paddlers will be able to choose between short, mid and long courses, rather than having to race a distance based on their Divisional ranking or age.
3. **Increased discount for on-line entries:** To speed up paddler registration and to start races on time we want to eliminate entries on race day. We are offering a \$10 discount if you register and pay on-line. On race day all that paddlers who have registered on-line need to do is collect their boat number; no forms to fill out, no long queues and no cash payments. You can change your race entry (partner, class, etc.) on the day if you need to. Please see the Treasurer if you can't pay on-line to make alternative arrangements.
4. **Free race entry if you bring a friend:** We shall rebate your entry fee if you bring along a paddler who has not raced before. In return you need to show your new paddler the ropes. You don't have to race with them; just explain to them how it works. The new paddler will pay the normal race entry fee. You can do this as often as you wish (n.b. this offer doesn't apply to new paddlers participating as part of a formal school program).
5. **Revised points system:** The points system has been revised and now adjusts for craft type and race distance as well as age and gender. Paddler, club and school points will be tracked throughout the season and results will be posted as soon as possible after each race.
6. **New time for Vic Champs:** The race calendar has been changed and the Victorian Championships will now be run in March as the selection event for the Victorian team for the Australian National Championships at Easter. To be eligible for Victorian team selection you will need to have participated in at least one country race or three metropolitan (Melbourne, Geelong or Ballarat) races in the six months preceding the Vic Champs.
7. **New race start format:** To improve the racing experience for different paddlers we shall be holding smaller starts for Divisions 6 and 7 and larger starts for more experienced paddlers. This will reduce the wash for newer paddlers and give more experienced paddlers the opportunity to form packs more easily.

So put the dates in your diary now, rev up your friends and get involved in 2014.

Canoeing Victoria 2014 Marathon Race Series

Date	Event	Venue	Organizer
02-Feb-14	Summer Race 1: Saltwater Classic	Footscray	FACC
16-Feb-14	Summer Race 2: Murray River Classic	Yarrowonga	YMCC
22-Feb-14	Summer Race 3: Frank Harrison Memorial	Albury	MMCC
23-Feb-14	Summer Race 4: Frank Harrison Memorial	Albury	MMCC
22/23-Mar-14	Victorian Marathon Championships	Footscray	CV
18/20-Apr-14	Australian Marathon Championships	Ballarat	AC/CV
04-May-14	Marathon Winter Series Race 1 (D)	Patterson Lakes	CV/PLCC
18-May-18	Marathon Winter Series Race 2 (S)	Ballarat	CV/BCC
01-Jun-14	Marathon Winter Series Race 3 (D)	Fairfield/Wesley	CV/FCC
27-Jun-14	Marathon Winter Series Race 4 (S)	Bendigo/Nagambie	CV/BACC
20-Jul-14	Marathon Winter Series Race 5 (D)	Footscray	CV/FACC
10-Aug-14	Marathon Winter Series Race 6 (S)	Geelong	CV/GCC
07-Sep-14	Marathon Winter Series Race 7 (D)	Essendon	CV/ECC
04-Oct-14	Bendigo Cup	Bendigo	BACC
Oct-14	3*10 km or Barwon Mini	tba	CV/tba
16-Nov-14	Murray Dress Rehearsal	Footscray	FACC
Dec-14	Tba	tba	CV/tba

07/09-Jun-14	Riverland Paddling Marathon	South Australia	Ultra-Marathon
02/03-Aug-14	Avon Descent	Western Australia	Ultra-Marathon
Oct-14	Echuca Mini	Barmah	Ultra-Marathon
Oct-14	Hawkesbury Canoe Classic	NSW	Ultra-Marathon
01-Nov-14	Ben Ward Memorial	Cobram	Ultra-Marathon
24/28-Nov-14	Murray Marathon	Yarrowonga	Ultra-Marathon

Notes:

- 2014 summer races are generally run by clubs and winter races and the Victorian Championships by the Canoeing Victoria Marathon Technical Committee. Race formats and entry fees for club-run races are decided by the hosting club.
- The dates of the 2014 Echuca Mini and Hawkesbury Canoe Classic were not available at the time of publication.
- For a listing of races including schools, sprint, SUP and ocean racing see vic.canoe.org.au.
- BACC = Bendigo Cano Club, BCC = Ballarat Canoe Club, ECC = Essendon Canoe Club, FACC = Footscray Canoe Club, FCC = Fairfield Canoe Club, GCC = Geelong Canoe Club, MMCC = Mitta Mitta Canoe Club, AC = Australian Canoeing, CV = Canoeing Victoria Marathon Technical Committee.
- Race dates current at time of publication. Check www.vic.canoe.org.au for changes.

Go to www.vic.canoe.org.au for more information.