



SUNSHINE COAST PADDLESPORTS CLUB

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

2017 MASSIVE MURRY RIVER PADDLE-All Guts

20 - 24 Nov 2017

The Massive Murray Paddle is an amazing five day paddling adventure and paddling race that raises funds to assist local community-driven programs.

The race is 404 kilometres long and is one of the world's longest paddling races. The Massive Murray River Paddle has been connecting people, river and country since 1969. Starting in Yarrawonga and finishing in Swan Hill, it is the longest event of its kind in the southern hemisphere.

In the past, several of our club members have competed in this race either in a relay, team boat or single. Gregory Cains (Sunshine Coast Paddlesports Club) and Tim Kreis (Varsity Lakes Paddlesports Club) from the Sunshine Coast drove down to Victoria for the event with all of the preparation and excitement one could muster to compete in the event. Unfortunately not everything went their way. Tim broke his rudder off approximately 40 kilometres from the end and Greg suffered from severe cramping throughout the event so it wasn't easy going. Both said they had a great time and would be back in 2018 to do it all again. Good on ya fellas. Well done.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

It was very evident that people were getting into that Christmas spirit. From the time we hit the water, fun was had by all completing a 7.5 kilometre time trial and hooking into breaky and coffee.



WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS FOR 2018-Gotta have a go.

Our club has a number of sessions each week if you do not want to train on your own. There are six sessions to choose from. The sessions indicated below are set times by the club for anybody (with experience) who would like to join in. There are no coaching fees for these sessions and, we meet up at the club house fifteen minutes before hand to get our boats organised.

Tuesday from 5.30am to 7.00am **and** from 4.00pm to 5.30pm

Thursday from 5.30am to 7.00am and from 4.00pm to 5.30pm

Saturday from 6.30am to 8.00am

Sunday from 7.00am to 8.30am

CLUB BOATS

At the last meeting, it was decided that all club boats were to be stored in the east wing of the club house and the small section on the west side. The reason for this is so the boats can be monitored closely on their use and for any maintenance. At the moment we are getting eight seats made for two K4's that had been broken. Also each boat will have an identification number which will correspond with the same number in the racks. Each craft will be photographed for stocktake purposes. Ray Robinson and Jeff Wilkinson have volunteered to do repairs on the boats which is really appreciated. At a rough guess at least half of the boats require maintenance and if you can help Ray or Jeff in any way can you talk to them please. The plan is to get the club boats ready for use so we can implement the junior programs and "Come and Try" programs. There is also another new white board on the toilet door. This is used to record any breakages or repairs needing to be done and let Ray and Jeff know.

RANKING BY DIVISION- Is this the incentive we need?

The Marathon Committee for Queensland Canoeing have decided to rank competitors by divisions. This system has been utilised by Paddle New South Wales and has proved successful in the way you compete against competitors your own ability level. The method of ranking will be pinned up on one of the notice boards at the club. I am sure that there will be plenty of questions to ask once we start using it.

TIME TRIAL-Revamping the old to make it shiny.

The time trial for the single K1/TK1 and ski is being revamped. The first one will be held on the first Sunday in January which is Sunday 7th. In this time trial competitors will be ranked to a division. Next month the club is looking at implementing a handicapping system with points awarded etc. Jake Hudson has given me the information to use Web Scorer to put it all on our website so you can track your performance. A lot more refining is needed so keep your ear to the ground.

HOW DO WE COMMUNICATE-Don't miss out.

In this day and age communicating with each other is getting easier and easier. How we do it in our club is by-

- GENERAL MEETINGS
- CLUB EMAILS
- TEXTING BY MY PHONE
- NEWSLETTER
- WEBSITE
- FACEBOOK

GENERAL MEETINGS – Have your say.

Our general meetings are held once a month on the second Saturday of each month at 8.00am straight after the club training session. Everybody welcome.

NAME TAGS ON BOAT STORAGE – Secure your spot.

Club members who are storing their craft in the club house, are being asked to please make sure your position has been named with the appropriate tag so that nobody else can claim it.

CLUBHOUSE SECURITY – Keep our valuables safe.

Can we all make sure that we lock the clubhouse up when we go for a paddle? **The craft (club and personal) that is stored at our clubhouse is insured only while the premises are locked.**

FUTURE EVENTS – Opportunities to meet like-minded people.

- 7th January – First Sunday of the month. Singles time trial.
- 13th January – Second Saturday of the month, general meeting.
- 14th January – 2018 Marathon Development Camp, Gold Coast
- 27th & 28th January – QLD Canoe Sprint State Championships, Coomera
- 5th February – Varsity Lakes Race One
- 18th to 20th May – 2018 Australian Canoe Marathon Championships, West lakes, Adelaide, South Australia
- 3rd June - Wetland Wanders Marathon Race
- 8th July - Tentative Date for next AGM
- 29th July – Brisbane River Marathon Race
- August 2018 – Maroochy River Paddle

Last of all I would like to wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year for 2018.

Happy Paddling - Malcolm Buchanan

