



Canoeing Western Australia Inc

## Annual Report

2010 - 2011



Department of  
Sport and Recreation



**BE ACTIVE**



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## **Canoeing WA**

### **Strategic Objectives**

1. Facility Development – To work towards the development of local and international standard facilities for affiliated clubs and disciplines.
2. Participation and Membership – To recruit and retain competitive, recreational and volunteer members through community events.
3. Community Development – Provide members and the public with skills and knowledge of all aspects of paddle sports through the provision of information and education courses.
4. Administration and Management – To effectively and responsibly manage the organisation for the long term vision of paddle sports.
5. Promotion and Marketing – Develop marketing strategies for events, membership drives and courses.
6. Governance – Ensure the principles of good governance.
7. High Performance – To maximise the success of Western Australia athletes, coaches and officials at State, National and International levels.

## Canoeing WA

### Acknowledgements

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#### Board

Rosalie Evans, President  
Marion Ewing, Board Member  
Shayne Hamilton, Board Member  
Neville Hine, Board Member  
Darryl Long, Board Member  
Grant Pepper, Board Member  
Vanessa Simpson, Board Member  
Board Movement;  
Jeremy Mulcahy, Board Member (May 2011)

#### Affiliated Clubs

Ascot Canoe Club  
Bayswater Paddlesports Club  
Canning River Canoe Club  
Champion Lakes Boating Club  
Indian Ocean Paddlers Club  
Mandurah Ocean Club  
Mandurah Paddling Club  
Perth Canoe Polo Club  
Sea Kayak Club of WA Inc.  
Swan Canoe Club

#### Administration Staff

Sarah Aulin, Executive Officer  
Jak Wulff, Program and Event Coordinator  
Jesse Phillips, Events and Marketing  
Staff movement;  
Ash Nesbit, Executive Officer (April 2011)  
Lara Taylor, Sport Development Officer (June 2011)  
Guy Power, Paddle Academy Instructor & Maintenance Coordinator (June 2011)  
Cate Jackson, Administration Officer (August 2011)

## **Canoeing WA**

### **Acknowledgements**

Canoeing WA formally acknowledge its Life Members. Our heartfelt appreciation is extended to each.

#### **Life Members**

Benny Bennion

Terry Bolland

Bevan Dashwood

William Davis

Peter Dear

Bill Hine\*

Greg Kaeding

Robyn Khorshid

Hetty Snowball

Leslie Taylor

Neville Hine

Peter Martin

John Mulcahy

*\*deceased*

# **Canoeing WA**

## **Sponsors and Supporters**

### **Canoeing WA Major Sponsors**

Department of Sport and Recreation  
Healthway  
Heart Foundation  
Canoeing Down Under  
Finn Kayaks  
Mainpeak Paddlesports  
Spirit Paddlesports  
Vajda Canoes and Kayaks

### **Event Sponsors**

City of Bayswater  
City of Perth  
Go Paddlesports  
In2Kayaks  
Invisible Zinc  
Maaxx Marketing  
Shotz Sports Nutrition  
The Royal on the Waterfront  
Western Galvanisers

### **Other Sponsors and Supporters**

Aquatic Council  
Australian Canoeing  
Australian Sports Commission  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
Fremantle Ports  
Northam Avon Descent Association  
Royal Life Saving Society of Western Australia  
Surf Life Saving Western Australia  
Water Corporation  
Western Australian Institute of Sport  
Western Australian Sports Federation

## **President Report**

What an amazing year Canoeing Western Australia has had!

We have had massive changes with staff in the office; we employed a new Executive Officer, Sarah Aulin in early June. Sarah has brought a wealth of knowledge and professionalism to our sport and we consider ourselves very lucky to have her. Since Sarah started we have employed a new Program and Event Coordinator, Jak Wulff and are in the process of recruiting a part-time Administration Officer. Jesse Phillips has spent a good part of this year in Europe, at the World Championships trying very hard to qualify for the Olympics next year. He is still with us for Events and Marketing.

### **Major Achievements**

#### **Strategic Plan**

The Strategic Plan which takes us up to 2015 was endorsed by the Board and presented to the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) in June. The plan was based on meetings with the clubs and disciplines, their views and suggestions for the future.

#### **Paddle Academy**

Canoeing WA ran a very successful Paddle Academy for the 2010-11 year. Our focus was to increase the amount of schools that participate in this program based on the introduction to basic paddling skills. We had a total of 28 schools, 317 sessions with 997 students take part. Each school was given information on our Clubs where we hope each of them end up.

#### **Junior Avon Challenge**

This event just keeps getting bigger and better we had close to 100 junior competitors ranging in ages from 8 - 16 years of age. Big thanks must go to Sarah Aulin our new Executive Officer and Canoeing WA Life Member Peter Martin who with a fantastic group of volunteers pulled this event together. It was used as the curtain raiser for the main event (the Avon Descent), top paddlers just followed in the last of the juniors.

Presentations were made on the main stage to the successful competitors and each junior was presented with a medal upon finishing.

#### **Discipline and Presidents Meetings**

We ran a very successful Discipline meeting in April where all disciplines were present. It was a lively meeting and we got some very good feedback from it.

We are presently organising a Presidents meeting with all current Presidents of the WA clubs. One area that we are very focused on is engaging the clubs and the disciplines in the running of the Association. Canoeing WA is determined to work with all clubs and disciplines over the season to deliver outcomes that positivity affect the association.

#### **Northam Avon Descent Association Relationship**

Late last year we put a proposal to the Northam Avon Descent Association (NADA) that would see anyone entering the Avon Descent that was not an affiliated Canoeing WA member get cheaper entry into the event if they agreed to join an affiliated Canoeing WA club. The entry would only be pro-rata but would give membership up until 30 September, it was then up to the Club to entice the new member to rejoin.

NADA agreed to the initiative and for Canoeing WA members getting even cheaper entry into the event. This meant Canoeing WA gained 71 new members due to this agreement.



As this was the first time this occurred there were some teething problems but it was a great initiative that I believe will be repeated next year.

### **Potential New Club in Bassendean**

Discussions between canoeing enthusiasts, Canoeing WA and the Town of Bassendean are being had to utilise a building that has been marked for decommission. The potential is there for all parties involved to make this happen.

### **Our Year in General**

#### **Sponsors**

Canoeing WA is very fortunate this year to bring on board some new sponsors for our events such as In2Kayaks and Western Galvanisers. The sponsors that have been loyal to us for many years: Canoeing Down Under, Spirit, Finn Kayaks and Mainpeak make it possible for us to run so many successful programs and events.

#### **White Water Park**

Canoeing WA is still continuing discussions and working closely with the Department of Sport and Recreation in the process of obtaining the relevant and correct information for a park that will provide WA with not only a slalom course for an Olympic discipline but also recreational pursuits, including boogie boarding, rafting and under water rescue training.

#### **Talent Identification Program**

Since 2007 there have been 55 participants go through the Talent Identification (TID) Sprint Program. This program has had a 54% success rate in getting the paddler from the selection stage to state titles.

There were 26 participants that have continued paddling after the initial twelve months and eight of those have moved into the National Elite Development Squad, two of the athletes were selected in Junior Australian teams that travelled to Europe to compete.

The TID program will continue to produce good athletes at an increasing rate as we improve the selection process.

#### **Champions Lakes**

Canoeing WA ran a joint project with the Armadale Redevelopment Authority and DSR. To provide effective support for canoeing programs at Champion Lakes as part of a sport and recreational framework that offers South East Metropolitan residents the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports available at Champion Lakes.

#### **Ocean Safe Paddle**

Canoeing WA and Surf Life Saving Western Australia in partnership with DSR have established a safety and awareness program called "Ocean Paddling – Be Safe".

The program is to educate Western Australian's about being safe when taking to the water with paddle craft.

The program was developed based on extensive consultation with the WA paddling community. The program plans to ensure every paddle craft customer receives a comprehensive safety and awareness pack, including: a fridge magnet, a craft sticker and a brief guide. A new web site has been developed to support the program and we encourage you to review this site [www.oceanpaddling.org.au](http://www.oceanpaddling.org.au).

### **Our Athletes**

Alana Nicholls was agonisingly close to winning two world championship medals, finishing fourth in the K1 200m and fifth in the K1 500m. Nicholls was just under a second behind German Nicole Reinhardt in the K1 500m. A day later, Nicholls finished equal fourth to New Zealander Lisa Carrington in the K1 200m dash, finishing less than a tenth of a second behind third place. Steven Bird and Jesse Phillips finished fifth in the B final in the K2 200m. Canoeist Ferenc Szekszardi also finished fifth in the B final of the C2 200m. The impressive results for the sandgropers started at the beginning of the championships when Para-canoeist Brock Ingram finished sixth in the final of the K1 200m LTA class.

### **Disciplines**

A big thank you to our amazing discipline committees and volunteers that run all the discipline events, they do a fantastic job and we have had some sensational numbers turning up for events.

Finally, I must thank my fellow Board Members and staff members, who are so professional and have worked so hard to improve Canoeing in Western Australia and we as a Board believe the next few years will see some fantastic results in all areas of the sport that we love.

Rosalie Evans  
President

## Executive Officer Report

I commenced in my position in June 2011 and hit the ground running. As some of you know I worked for Canoeing WA in 2010 for a short period of time so when this position came up I was very excited and hoped for the opportunity to drive this sport forward.

Canoeing WA has so much potential both on the competitive stage as well as recreationally. I feel privileged to be able to work with Canoeing WA stakeholders, members, coaches, clubs, disciplines, board and staff.

My approach with projects is to be collaborative, below are some of the initiatives the Canoeing WA office are working on with all stakeholders to enhance the sport:

- Para Canoeing, Come and Try plus talent testing 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2011
- Para Canoeing, development pathway and adaptive canoeing equipment access
- Professional Development of coaches and athletes, through conducting;
  - Level 1 Flatwater Coaching Course
  - Level 2 Flatwater Coaching Course
  - Level 1 Whitewater Coaching Course
  - Two Nutrition seminars
  - Four Development sessions for coaches with WAIS Coach, Ramon Andersson
  - Two Junior day camps
  - Create coach mentor relationships
  - Engage athletes to step into coaching
- Discipline Chairperson meetings/workshops
- Club President meetings/workshops
- Continue to work with Surf Life Saving WA for National Elite Development Program talent testing and Ocean Paddling-Be Safe campaign
- White Water Park
- Work with Councils to find additional storage and or facility upgrades
- Linking Paddle Academy a basic skills paddle program that had close to 1000 participants last season to clubs

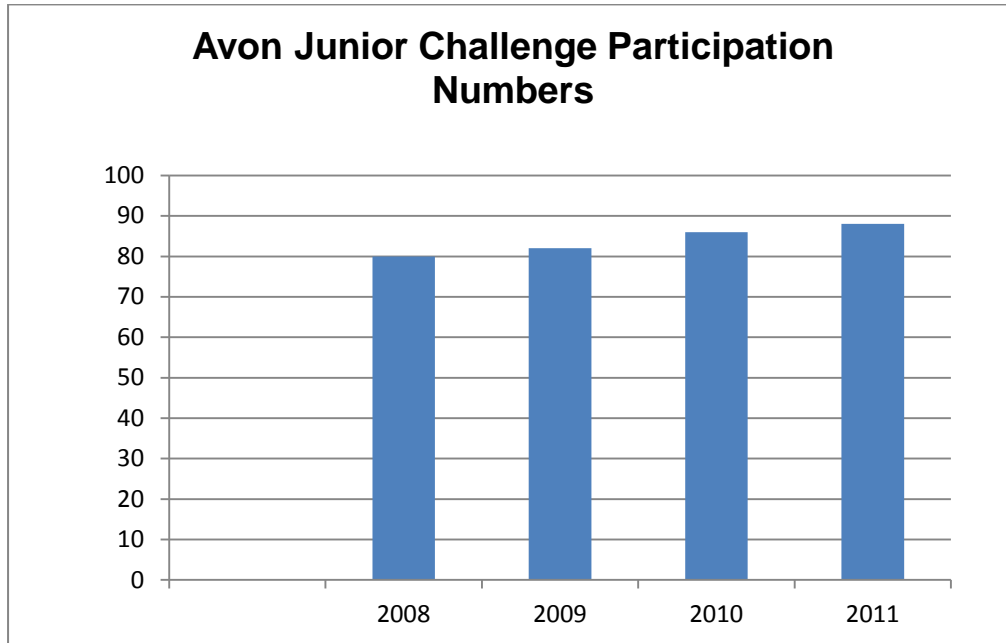
I look forward to seeing our members over 2011/12 season.

Sarah Aulin  
Executive Officer

## Events

### Avon Junior Challenge

Year	Paddlers Entered
2008	80
2009	82
2010	86
2011	88



There has been a slight participant increase for Avon Junior Challenge.

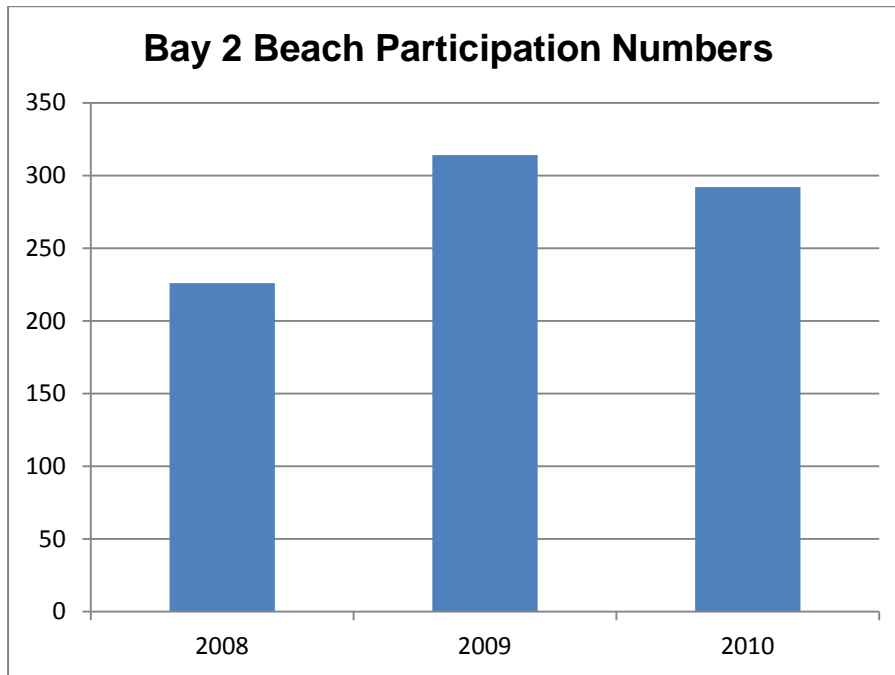
### Category Winners

Iron Boy	Alex Graham
Iron Girl	Tess Watson
Team Under 18	Eloise Moody and Laressa MacDougall
Team Under 14	Anthony Carbone and Nick Harris
Team Under 12 Guppies	Tyler Armenti, Toby Digney and Kye Buytels
Team Under 10 Guppies	River Armenti, Ovid Choudhury and Luke Egger
Under 18 Canadian Canoe	Nathan Wytkin and Alex Haigney
Under 15 Canadian Canoe	Bryce Fenwick, Luke Cannon, Fraser Sewell, Patrick Sewell, John Francis and Catherine O'Donoghue

## Events

### Mainpeak Paddlesports Bay 2 Beach

Year	Paddlers Entered
2008	226
2009	314
2010	292



Numbers in 2010 were slightly down on previous years. The Bay 2 Beach in 2010 included the Stand-Up Paddle event for the first time.

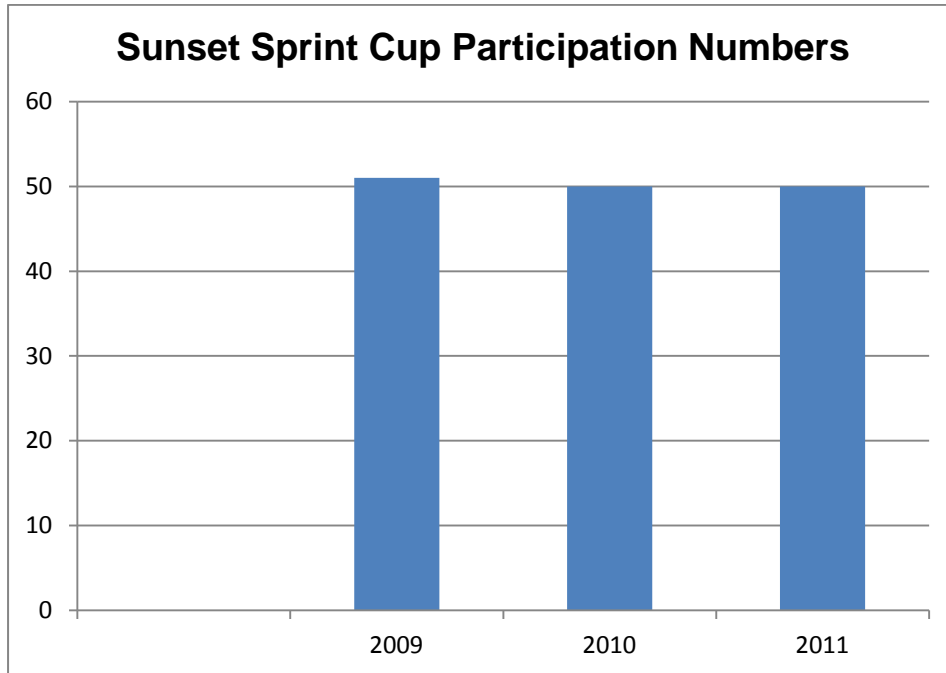
### Category Winners

Single Ski Men	Brendon Sarson
Single Ski Under 19 Men	Brad Taylor
Single Ski 40 and Over Men	Ramon Andersson
Single Ski 50 and Over Men	Kim Bingham
Single Ski Women	Natasha Leaversuch
Single Ski Under 19 Women	Shannon Reynolds
Double Ski Men	Nicholas Taylor and Andrew Stephens
Double Ski Mixed	Gary Butlion and Bernice Butlion
Plastic Skis Men	Alan Albert
Plastic Ski 40 and Over Men	John Hilton
Plastic Ski 50 and Over Men	Warren Southwell
Plastic Ski Women	Nathalie Long
Stand-Up Paddle Open	Kevin Kemp-Smith
Sea Kayak Men	Terence Brooke
Sea Kayak 40 and Over Men	Peter Tomczak
Sea Kayak 50 and Over Men	John Breed
Outrigger	Mandurah Ocean Club

## Events

### Sunset Sprint Cup

Year	Paddlers Entered
2009	51 (individuals and team) – 21 individuals
2010	50
2011	50



The participation rates have been consistent over the past few years. This included 2010 when the Sunset Sprint Cup changed to an individual event held over 200 metres.

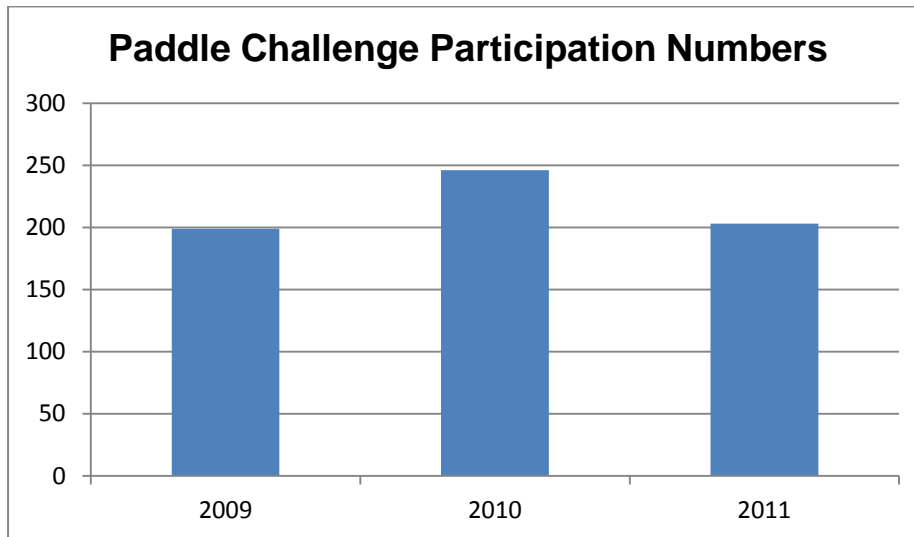
### Category Winners

K1 Men Division A	Nick Stubbs
K1 Men Division B	Bill Bain
K1 Women/Veteran Men	Alana Nicholls
Ski Open	Reece Baker
K1 Under 16/18 Boys	Bill Bain
K1 Under 16/18 Girls	Shannon Reynolds
K1 Under 14 Boys	Ben Harris
Guppies	Kye Buytels

## Events

### Canoeing Down Under Paddle Challenge

Year	Paddlers Started
2009	199
2010	246
2011	203



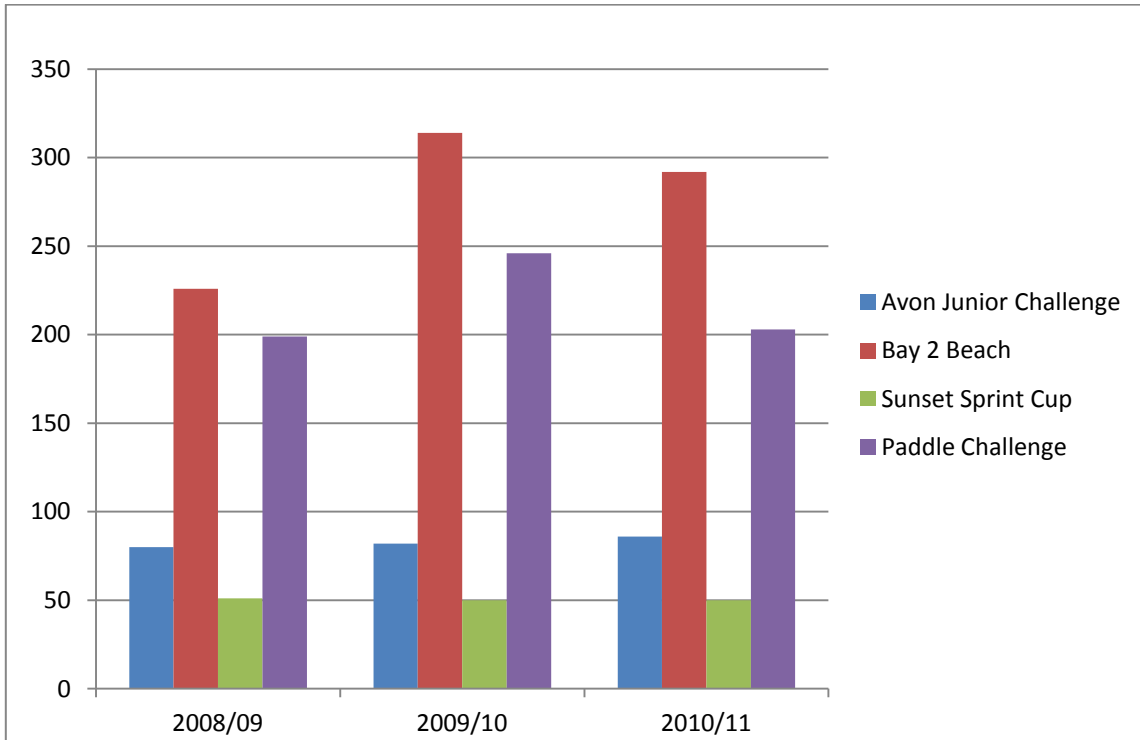
2011 saw a 17% drop in participation for the Paddle Challenge event.

### Category Winners

K1 Men	Simon Roll
K1 Under 18 Boys	Alex Graham
K1 40 and Over Men	Darryl Long
K1 Women	Jenni Bateman
WWK1 Men	Warren Southwell
WWK1 Women	Leonie Cockman
Single Ski Men	John Wilkie
Single Ski 40 and Over Men	Mark Hardie
Single Ski 50 and Over Men	Kim Bingham
Single Ski Women	Ruth Highman
Plastic Ski Men	Alan Albert
Plastic Ski 40 and Over Men	Will Acworth
Plastic Ski 50 and Over Men	Claus Bonde
Plastic Ski Women	Elizabeth Gralton
Short Plastic Men	James Gralton
Short Plastic 40 and Over Men	Neil Hannett
11KM Men	Craig Porteous
11KM Women	Bronwyn Martin
6KM Juniors Boys	Max Gibson
6KM Juniors Girls	Demi O'Brien
3.5KM Guppies	Luke Moreton
3.5KM Guppies	Shania Smee

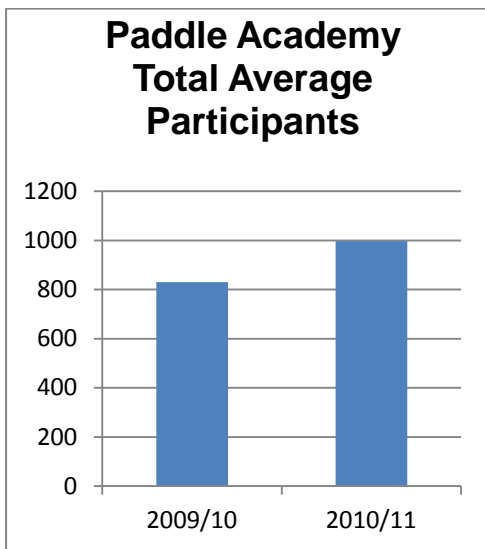
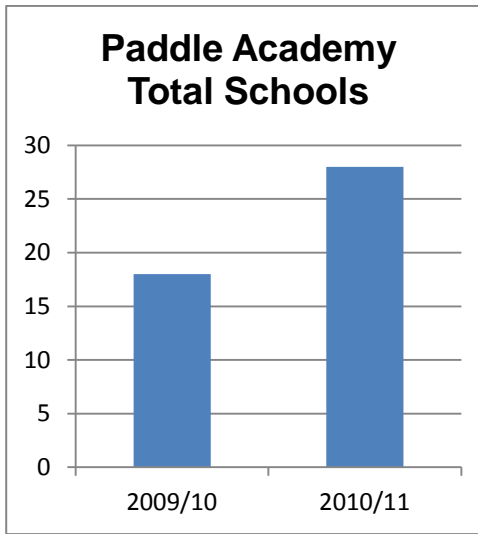
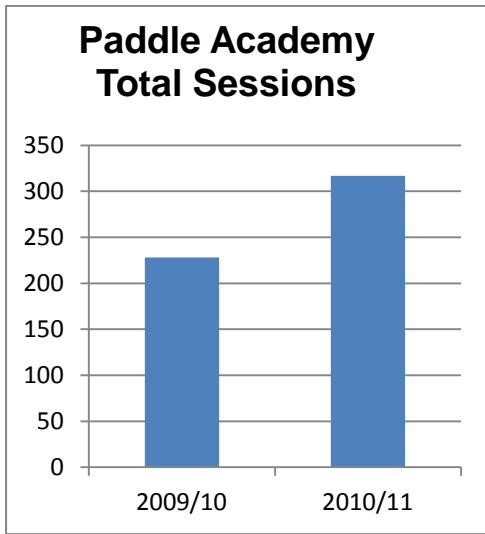
## Events

### Event Participation Comparison 2008/09 to 2010/11





## Paddle Academy Program



The Be Active Paddle Academy program has grown emensley during 2010/11. The amount of sessions increased 39%, the amount of schools rose by 56% and the total number of students participants involved in the 2010/11 year was 997, an increase of 20% on the previous year. The program has been successful educating and engaging potential new members to Canoeing WA clubs. Canoeing WA thanks all of our instructors who taught during 2010/11:

Jerry Alderson	Guy Power	John Di Nucci	Taitiarna Brown
Jen Mickle	Lara Taylor	Sam Pilton	Jesse Phillips
Shane Braddock	Rowan Berger	Glenn Rogers	Sue Quick
Mathew Smith	Ashley Nesbitt	Daniel Bowker	Earl James
Peter Martin	Rusty Creighton	Amanda Simper	

## Membership

### 2009/10 Membership Year

Membership	Count
Comp Adult	660
Comp Adult-Fam	55
Comp Jnr	77
Comp Jnr-Fam	59
Comp Pensioner	49
Educational Jnr	49
Rec Adult	30
Rec Adult-Fam	3
Rec Jnr	2
Rec Pensioner	29
Second Club	15
Single Event	422
Trial Adult	10
Trial Jnr	12
Volunteer	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,486</b>

### 2010/11 Membership Year

Membership	Count
Adult	576
Come & Try (insurance)	85
Comp Adult	16
Educational	437
Educational Adult	2
Educational Jnr	17
Event Licence (per event)	27
Family	107
Family - Adult Pay	3
Junior	113
Rec Adult	1
Recreational	109
Recreational Club	27
Recreational Clubs (snr & jnr)	34
Second Club	8
Senior O/55	25
Senior O/70	1
Series Adult	1
Single Event	18
Trial Adult	21
Trial Jnr	2
Volunteer	14
Volunteer/Social	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,661</b>

## Marathon Discipline Report

This season we have increased in numbers with 80/100 participants at each event. Over 300 paddlers participated in the six races and three championship events during the season. Junior and Guppy classes took up a large portion of the overall numbers. It was great to see the way the open and veteran paddlers accepted the junior paddlers into their ranks as they increased their speed over the season. Looking at the rankings in the Marathon Paddler of the Year you can see how successful Western Australia juniors are paddling.

I would like to thank our major sponsor for the season, Kaos Kayaks, who for the second year has generously donated a brand new kayak for the lucky winner of a draw from all the paddlers that did six or more races including one championship event. Mark Hardie was presented with his new kayak as the lucky winner over the course of the 2010-11 season.

The six regular races had a seven grade system to allow all paddlers to race against other paddlers of similar speed regardless of age, craft or gender. Fitting the K2s into these divisions enabled paddlers to gain the experience of wash-riding. Each of the division winners received a blue, red or green thermo mug to keep their chocolate, tea or coffee warm at the winter events.

The State Marathon Championships in June were well-attended and ran under gender, craft and age classes. With multiple portages in the Marathon Championships the experienced marathon racers showed their skills at exiting their craft, picking them up, running with them and re-entering the craft allowing them to pick 10 to 30 metres each portage. The 10 km event at Champion Lakes just before Christmas allowed many paddlers to enjoy the festive season. The fancy dress competition was won by Ryan Goodchild, with Taitiarna Brown and Tyler Armenti runners up. This season we cancelled the popular Moore River Race to support Canoeing WA at the Festival of Sport on the Perth foreshore.

For the first time in many years, we sent a team to the National Marathon Titles in Victoria. Jerry and Margaret Alderson did well in the 55+ age divisions, with Liam Quick and Coran Longwood collecting medals in their Under 18 and Under 16 classes. Lockie Cooke also paddled in the Open Class. The team was managed by Trevor Longwood, who acted as a go-between for the paddlers and the officials. The Marathon Technical Committee sponsored each paddler and the team manager to enable them to travel and take their own boats across. This years World Marathon Titles are in Singapore and several paddlers from Australia are going over to paddle. National Marathon Titles are in New South Wales this year but are returning to Perth in 2013.

All of these events would not have run as smoothly as they did without the assistance of three to four key volunteers and others. Judy Darbyshire gathered whoever was available and welded an efficient registration team together, putting up to 100 paddlers' names into divisions, making sure monies were paid and the event members filled out the paper work. Trevor Longwood's assistance as chief timer allowed this important section of the day to proceed smoothly. John Breed Sr. put out any buoys required for the events and collected them after the race. Both Judy and John raced as well. John made us the new large portage sign boards which were used during the State Titles. Several parents turned up to each event and escorted the Guppy paddlers on the water. Without these escorts it would be a very risky business racing.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all those paddlers that participated in the season and made marathon racing in WA so exciting. I look forward to seeing you all on the water again this season.

Peter Martin  
Chairperson  
Marathon Technical Committee



Bronwyn Martin and Alana Robertson

## Ocean Paddling Discipline Report

The 2010-11 was a quiet year for the club and we are looking for a better year in 2011-12. A lot of changes have been made within the committee as the club aims for stability for the upcoming season.

The Spirit Paddle series was a success thanks to the generous support of Spirit Paddle Sports and to the Indian Ocean Paddlers Committee that helped make each event a success. 2011/12 looks to be an excellent year with the first event kicking off in early October.

The Doctor Paddle race is now classed as arguably the best race on the international calendar not for the prize money but for the conditions. Many of the world's best paddlers attended the 2011 event. The Doctor Surf ski race was also recognised by the International Canoe Federation as a World Cup event. The 2012 Doctor Surf ski race looks to be bigger and better than previous years.

It was great to see the Mandurah Ocean Club grow and we look forward to their event, the Mandurah Duel early in 2012.

Early June I attended a Surf ski coaching clinic/forum supported by Australian Canoeing and the NSW Canoeing Association with the aim of producing a coaching syllabus. Two forums were run over two different weekends, the outcomes were very good and I look forward to seeing the draft course outline in early December.

Both Dean Beaumont and I have been sitting on the Australian Ocean Racing Technical Committee to help promote the sport across Australia and to attract world recognition. To date there not been too many major details to report on.

Dean Beaumont also ran some downwind clinics for ocean paddling which were a great success and we hope to run one every year. Dean and Travis England continue to provide training on Saturday mornings for committed ocean paddlers within Indian Ocean Paddlers or the Sorrento SLSC.

We look forward to the 2011/12 season and hope to get some great downwind paddling!

Ash Nesbit  
Committee Member  
Ocean Paddling



Indian Ocean Paddlers set course for Sorrento (Annual Fremantle to Sorrento race)

## Slalom Discipline Report

### Slalom Discipline Report

In 2011 Slalom continued to direct the promotion of the sport to juniors. Slalom in WA had a strong year with excellent results in the 2011 Nationals, National Talent Squad (NTS) selections, junior team selections, and summer and winter series championships. Coaching thrived with three new Level 1 Slalom Coaches being qualified and our experienced coaches continuing to work actively with juniors. 2011 also saw a new committee ratified with Shane Richardson becoming committee chair.

### Nymboida 2011 Nationals

The 2011 Nymboida Nationals will be remembered for the torrential rain and flooding in the areas surrounding the course. Over 240mm of rain fell and the course surroundings were reduced to mud. Fortunately river levels were consistently good due to the regulated release from the hydro-electric plant. 22 West Australians travelled the Nullabor to race, the competitors ranging from nine to 63 years with the majority of them winning medals in their respective classes. Head coach Robbie Jeffery and Team Manager Andrew Pope put in a great effort to prepare and guide the team. Cody Pope, Bevan Dashwood and Josh Kippin provided great coaching support on the water. From the four national competitions Western Australian paddlers received 79 individual and team medals.

### National Talent Squad and Junior Team Selections

As a result of outstanding performances at the National Titles Ben Pope, Brody Crawford, Steve Lowther, Georgia Rankin and Tim Whitlock were all selected to the NTS. Georgina Collin was selected as an NTS cadet. All six have attended camps and tours at Penrith and beyond. Georgia Rankin and Brody Crawford were also selected to the Junior Slalom team which toured the United States and Canada in July this year. It is a testament to the strength of junior slalom that our WA slalom juniors have done so well.

### Coaching

The lack of whitewater in WA delayed the final Level One Slalom coaching assessment. Slalom National Coach Mike Druce kindly helped us out by conducting the final assessment at Nymboida. Josh Kippin, Cody Pope and Ben Pope passed with flying colours and are now qualified Level 1 Whitewater Coaches. The new coaches join experienced coaches Zlatan Ibrahimbegovic and Bevan Dashwood in weekly coaching sessions at Ascot Kayak Club and Swan Canoe Club.

### WA National Talent Squad Camp

On 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2011 the second WA NTS camp was held at Walyunga National Park. 24 paddlers attended during the two days and were coached by Zlatan Ibrahimbegovic, Lachie Milne and Josh Kippin. Zlatan and Lachie are both ex-Olympians and Josh is ranked eighth in Slalom Men's K1 in Australia so the paddlers were in good hands.

### Racing: Winter and Summer Series

Slalom continued the tradition of a summer series at Hester Park and winter series mostly at Walyunga. A return to normal rainfall resulted in a good season at Walyunga with Races three to seven held at Walyunga. The summer series is held on flat water and plays a major role in maintaining competitive form in the lead up to Nationals. Winter series winners will be presented with their awards at the Slalom Windup Dinner on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011. Special mention must be made for the excellent job done by race coordinator Joy Lowther and her husband Richard Lowther. It is an onerous task into which they have put considerable effort.

### New WA Slalom Technical Committee

In February 2011 Chair Margie Jeffery resigned after 11 years on the committee. The committee thanks Margie for her many years of service. In March 2011 a new committee was nominated. New members Shane Richardson (Chair) and Kate Vyvan (Vice Chair) joined the executive, whilst Lucy Williams (Treasurer), Charlie Collin (Secretary) and Joy Lowther (Race Coordinator) continued in their roles. Steven Mueller, Cindy Crawford, Tiki Ewing, Josh Kippin and Richard Lowther complete the committee.

Website (<http://www.slalomwa.canoe.org.au>)

The committee is now in its second year of running the Slalom WA website using the Australia Canoeing MyClub format. Slalom now offers online entry to races with links to state calendars, and centralised email distribution with user-managed subscribe and unsubscribe options. Thank you to Leesa Collin for continuing to assist in the administration.

### Officials

Marion Ewing and Margie Jeffery continue to lend their skills to slalom as senior judges. Marion was chief judge for the WA Slalom State Championships on 14<sup>th</sup> August and whilst Margie was chief judge for the National Schools Championships in Nymboida as well as the WA Schools Championships on 4<sup>th</sup> September. Three parents completed the Level 1 Judging Course at Nymboida swelling the ranks of qualified judges in WA.

### Venues

Access to venues continues to be a major challenge for Slalom kayaking in WA. Careful negotiations with government bodies have been necessary for Slalom to be able to retain access to their existing venues. A substantial amount of committee time and effort is spent maintaining these courses and keeping them in good order.

### Volunteers

The other major challenge facing slalom is maintaining grassroots support from volunteers. Slalom events require many officials, and the committee would particularly like to thank the parents, friends and coaches who give up their time to judge, compile, and coach our talented pool of junior paddlers.

Charlie Collin

Secretary

Slalom Technical Committee



Nina Mueller surfs the Walyunga chute



Ben Pope in a C1 session

## **Canoe Polo Discipline Report**

The 2010/2011 year has been an action packed and successful year for the Canoe Polo community. Pulling back from the hectic year we had hosting the Australian Canoe Polo Championships, Perth Canoe Polo Club continued to operate weekly competitions at Beatty Park (winter) and Scotch College (summer) fielding five teams on most occasions. Approximately forty people participated with representatives from most of WA's canoeing clubs.

An early closure of the diving pool at Beatty Park due to development works saw the club on the hunt for a new winter home. The Perth Canoe Polo Club finally settled on the Somerset Aqualife Pool in East Victoria Park. Negotiation with pool management has allowed the club to use the floating goals purchased last year for the Australian Canoe Polo Championships.

The club also saw members Niki Lee and Libby LeCoultré attend the ICF World Canoe Polo Championships in Milan, Italy. A good fight was put up by the women's team achieving fifth place overall. Congratulations to Nikky and Libby for representing their country in the sport.

Once again we would like to thank Australian Canoeing, Canoeing WA, Mainpeak Paddlesports and the Perth Canoe Polo Club committee and members for their continued support throughout the year.

Mark Lommers  
Perth Canoe Polo Club



## **Wildwater Discipline Report**

The 2011 Wildwater Technical Committee consists of nine dedicated DR paddlers. The committee organised five races beginning with the season opener the Ascot Buoys race and finishing with the annual Wildwater Racing - State Championships held at Bridgetown. The whole committee did a great job in running the races and ensuring the work load was well spread.

Derek Klompmaker once again volunteered his time and expertise to the Wildwater committee ensuring that all race timing was conducted in the most professional of manners. A big thank you from the committee to Derek for doing such a great job.

This year ten members travelled to New South Wales to compete in the Wildwater National Championships. Dave Worthy competed very well and won the team's Rapid Sprint title. The juniors also gained valuable experience taking the opportunity to compete before their slalom commitments. Wildwater in Western Australia has some very promising young paddlers that soon could become the leading paddlers in the state.

Dave Worthy decided to share some of the knowledge he has gained from competing in Wild Water events by running a fortnightly clinic at Ascot Kayak Club then moving up to Amiens Court once the water started flowing. These clinics were well-attended with everyone improving their skills and knowledge over the course of the clinics.

A small group of Wildwater paddlers competed in this year's Avon Descent with Dave Worthy winning the \$500 first prize sponsored by the Wild Water Technical Committee. Phil Edwards and Warren Southwell finished second and third respectively and received \$150 and \$100 Canoeing Down Under vouchers for their achievements. Helke Thorpe was the lone female entrant this year and she won the \$300 first prize sponsored by Alarm Systems WA. Hopefully we will see an increase in the participation levels in the Wild Water category in years to come.

Needless to say that none of the above would have been possible without the work and dedication of the 2011 committee and many other volunteers that make our sport so great.

In preparation for the 2012 season, the Wildwater Technical Committee AGM will be held in late October and we look forward to new members assisting us with a new season.

Spencer King  
Chairperson  
Wildwater Technical Committee

## Sprint Discipline Report

The 2010/11 season was a year of growth for WA Sprint with a regular turnout of paddlers at our regattas and a growing number of new paddlers. The most pleasing aspect of this growth has been the increase in the number of parents and supporters volunteering at regattas. The committee would like to specially mention Judith and Christian Thompson who have again contributed their time to ensure things run smoothly from start to finish, Christian is our main starter and Judith the finish line official! They are joined by Ramon Andersson, Callum MacDougall, Peter Martin and other sprint committee members and parents whose support makes it all happen.

The continued strength of the sport was most evident this year with WA providing the biggest team for the National Titles and a record number of WA paddlers representing Australia in national teams. Four in the senior team competed at various event in Europe, six Under 23's competed in Slovakia and Germany, one in the Junior Worlds in Germany, five in the Olympic Hopes in Poland and our first ever representative in an international Para Canoeist event.

A big thank you to all our coaches from all the clubs who have tirelessly given their time to both junior and senior paddlers. To produce great results and have an increase in participation within the sprint discipline is pleasing for the future success of the sport. The new season kicks off on the 15<sup>th</sup> October at Champion Lakes and based on past performance looks to be our best ever. Thank you to all those who were involved.

Sara Trown  
Chairperson  
Sprint Technical Committee

