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May Newsletter

A message from CEO Peter Tate:

Hello PNSW Members and paddling enthusiasts,

Even though COVID-enforced border closures and natural disasters impact national-level events, we are pleased that our state-level Championships and Series continue to thrive in 2021.

Well done to hosting clubs, volunteers and participants of the many events already held, and best wishes for forthcoming events.

The countdown continues for our high performance athletes on the path to Tokyo, with less than 100 days to go. Family and close supporters will be disappointed they are unable to attend as spectators, however all of Australia will be cheering in front of the TV or at the many local viewing centres being organised across NSW.

The Board of PaddleNSW has made great in-roads in the past two years developing opportunities for all paddlers, and protecting the waterways on which we enjoy our fantastic pursuits. The PNSW Environment Committee, led by Bron Powell, championed Clean Up Australia campaigns in March which were the envy and "wow" of many other sporting organisations nation-wide. Their proud work continues with other campaigns, so clubs and members please stay tuned...

The Board's strategy for greater inclusion and empowerment of female paddlers and volunteers was highlighted when we waived course fee and accreditation for 30+ female instructors and coaches. The rewards of that project are already being witnessed amongst our clubs and paddlesports. The next step is to avail appropriate members in leadership and communication workshops. Any female member interested in such a program is warmly invited to contact the CEO or a Board Director.

Continuing the Board's strategic objective to involve all Australians, we are delighted to announce Darren Forbes as the appointed Chair of the inaugural PNSW Indigenous Advisory Group. The group will be key to projects such as the Reconciliation Action Plan and Acknowledgment of Country. Any members wishing to join Darren on the Advisory Group are most welcome to contact me.



Photo of the Month!

Our Dolls Point Paddlers winter Thursday morning sunrise ocean paddles resumed at the end of Daylight Savings. We reckon it's the best paddle of our week, half an hour straight out to sea off Cronulla until the sun comes up, a surf into South Cronulla for a coffee, a game of chicken with Shark Island's famous bombie, then a cruise back to the kayak ramp via the Bundeena surf bar.

- Mark Sundin

Don't forget the Dolls Point Classic will be on Sunday 8th May.



Come and Try Sprint Kayak

Do you have athletes aged between 12-17 who are either ski paddling, looking to get into ski paddling or wanting to improve their ski paddling technique? [Read more here.](#)



NSW Surf Aussies Success

Last week we saw the Surf Life Saving Australia Aussies take place on the Sunshine Coast. We had a large number of NSW kayak athletes attend, producing some great results and demonstrating the strength of NSW paddlers against the rest of Australia. [Read more here.](#)



[Expressions of Interest - Diversity Advisors](#)

The Board of PaddleNSW is looking for expressions of interest from members open to helping us understand the barriers and gateways to participation in paddlesports for people from diverse backgrounds. [Read more here.](#)



[Freestyle in the Pool!](#)

Without PWS Freestyle is somewhat handicapped, so our Freestyle community are focusing on planning the season ahead and running rolling sessions in the pool. Members from all disciplines are welcome. [More info here.](#)



[A Milestone Race on Bonville Creek](#)

Can you believe there have been 1900 races on Bonville Creek? [Read more here.](#)



[Frank Harrison Interstate Race](#)

The annual Frank Harrison Memorial Race, hosted by Mitta Mitta Canoe Club, invites paddlers explore the river from weir of the Hume Dam to Albury, a portion of the river that is perhaps not so well-known to paddlers familiar with the Murray Marathon. [Read more here.](#)



Clean Up Australia Day!

A huge thank you to our seven clubs who participated in Clean Up Australia Day on or around the 7th of March. [See reports here:](#)

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PaddleNSW acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. As an organisation and as a paddling community we pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

