



NEWSLETTER

December 2013



★ **Happy Christmas**

State Squad Training

Well done to the Burleigh Girls & Guys who are training for State Squad Selection.

Best Wishes...

HAPPENING EVENTS 2014

- 19Jan Gold Coast Dragons Regatta - Lake Orr
- 1Feb Boat Blessings/Come&Try Day - Home
- 9Feb Broadwater Regatta - Emerald Lakes
- 22Feb Trivia Night - Details to follow
- 9Mar Te Waka Regatta - Lake Kawana
- 29/30Mar State Titles - Lake Kawana
- 15-21Apr National Titles - Lake Kawana
- 2 Sept Club Crew World Championships - Italy
- 8/9Nov Pan Pacific Masters Games - Lake Orr



*Yes this is Burleigh Dragon Speaking..
Yes, Me, lazing on the sand... A message
for Coach Scottish William - give em 3
bags next session!! Ha ha ha*

The Dragon Spirit

"Play the game for the game's sake; be modest in victory and generous in defeat. The most important thing in dragon boating is not to win, but to take part, just as in life, it is not the triumph but the struggle. Be true to your fellow paddler. Paddle not for yourself but for your team. Work hard. Be strong. Expect no reward and reward will come."

The Paddler's Oath

"I promise to take part in this regatta showing mutual respect and abiding by the rules that govern with the Dragon Spirit in heart and mind, for the glory of dragon boat and the honour of all teams."

Who Am I??

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|--------|--------------------------------------|
| QDBF | Queensland Dragon Boat Federation |
| AUSDBF | Australian Dragon Boat Federation |
| IDBF | International Dragon Boat Federation |
| DAA | Dragons Abreast Australia |
| EDBF | European Dragon Boat Federation |
| USDBF | United States Dragon Boat Federation |
| PDBF | Philippine Dragon Boat Federation |

IDBF World Championships

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| 3 Sep 2014 | 9th Club Crew World Championships Ravena, Italy |
| Aug 2015 | 12th World Nations Championships Welland-Niagara Region, Canada |
| Aug 2016 | Club Crew World Championships Adelaide, Australia – Yippee ! |



The Dragon Boat Race

A Very Special Chinese Tradition

The Dragon has a very symbolic meaning for the Chinese. A classic dragon has the head of an ox; a deer's antlers; the mane of a horse; the body and scales of a snake; the claws of an eagle and the tail of a fish. With its strength and power the Dragon rides the clouds in the sky and commands the wind, mist and rain.

The Dragon Boat is deeply embedded in China's 'Dragon' culture, with each Boat having an ornately carved dragon's head at the Bow and a tail in the Stern. The Hull is painted with the Dragon's scales. The paddles symbolically represent the claws.

Not only are strength, endurance and skill important in a race, but teamwork and *harmony of purpose*.

In ancient China the Dragon Boat was used for religious purposes as a way of appeasing the rain gods. Later Qu Yuan, the great warrior poet, committed suicide in the river Mi Lo, as a protest against the political corruption of the day. To commemorate this sacrifice the people began to organize Dragon Boat Races in his memory. Since that time over 2000 years ago, Dragon Boat Racing has become a major part of Chinese culture, representing patriotism and group integrity.

Have Paddle – Go Travel

Wherever you go around the world you can find a Dragon Boat Club. Next time you are travelling, either around Australia or overseas look out for a Dragon Boat Club. You will be welcomed wherever you go. Dragon Boat paddlers are special people in a wonderful community around the world. I've met great friends in my travels and had the opportunity to paddle in Canada, United States, Philippines and my next adventure is Venice. Deborah – Editor