



Newsletter of the
BURLEY GRIFFIN CANOE CLUB

Volume 31 Issue 8, August 2021

Your Committee:

President: Bob Collins

Vice President: Patricia Ashton

Secretary: Rachel Muldoon

Treasurer: Shadi Samir

Safety Officer: Margi Bohm

Membership Secretary: Patricia Ashton

Public Officer: Bob Collins

Editor: Sue Powell

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*The ACT Government assists this organisation through the
Sport & Recreation Grants Program*



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Coming Events:

- *Waiting for lockdown to end.....*



<https://kayakjournal.wordpress.com/2020/04/20/kayaking-lockdown-should-i-get-a-pool/>

President's report: Bob Collins

Thanks to Covid19, again not much is happening on the paddling front, particularly with racing. As you now know, our shed is closed until further notice and I have been keeping Sport and Recreation up to date with the actions we are taking to comply with ACT Government restrictions.

A few of us have been paddling on Lake Ginninderra and Richard Fox at Lake Tuggeranong - in his words: "*Lake Tuggeranong might be a tad manky but it's a godsend to me!*"

We are still working on finalising our pontoon replacement and have now received approvals from Transport Canberra & City Services and the NCA. I have also been keeping the Grants area of Sport & Recreation updated and am hopeful that a grant will come our way when applications open.

As the manufacturer, Marine Dock Systems, in Sydney is a bit reluctant to produce the kits and maintain that it would be less expensive if we made them in Canberra, we have decided that Shane and Scott will construct them in Canberra from the Marine Dock Systems detailed plans. Marine Dock Systems has agreed supply all brackets and fixings.

Our AGM is due sometime in September 2021, unfortunately, due to the Covid19 restrictions, we will need to wait until lockdown ends.

Stay safe

Bob

Club news - AGM

The club will be holding our AGM in late September (date will be confirmed once we know what is happening with our lockdown). As 4 of our committee members will be finishing up, we have been 'inviting' members to volunteer for positions and great to say, we've had some success. We have new volunteers for the Treasurer position, Secretary (or Ordinary member), Safety Officer and Editor as well as our current President, Vice President, Boat Captain and one Ordinary Member, Canoe Polo Convenor, Marathon Convenor, Web Master and Coaches Rep.

So who are we looking for:

a **second Ordinary Member** (or Secretary)– it would be great if this person came from Canoe Polo or one of our younger members (our committee will be made up of mostly retired or semi retired Flatwater paddlers, so if we may be stuck in our ways a bit!!)

Time Trial Convenor – while our Wednesday evening time trials have been fairly poorly attended over the last year or 2, we believe its important to have something in place. We need someone to run it. Its not an onerous job, but requires someone to take charge weekly.

Duties of Burley Griffin Canoe Club Committee Positions

Public Officer: (An ACT Government-required position, but not a committee member)

Submits Annual Return (Access Canberra Form AR) and Change of Committee Particulars (Access Canberra Form A9) to Access Canberra following BGCC's AGM. Responsible for general liaison with Government departments on Club related matters.

Officers of the Club:

President

Be a supportive leader of all club members over all disciplines.

Be well informed of all club activities, plans and future directions of the club and its members.

Manage club committee and other meetings as chairperson –or appoint a replacement to chair.
Ensure that planning and budgeting is carried out in accordance with the wishes of club members and within the bounds of the club's Constitution.

Act as liaison with ACT Govt & other outside bodies

As per club's financial arrangements, approves invoices from club members

Access to online banking to assist in transfer club funds as required, signature with bank for chq signing

Delegate to other club members such duties as are needed for the smooth running of the club.

Vice-President:

Acts in the position of the President in periods of his or her absence.

Has a good working knowledge of the club's Constitution, club rules and the duties of all Office Holders and Sub-Committees.

As per club's financial arrangements, approves invoices from club members

Access to online banking to assist in transfer club funds as required, signature with bank for chq signing

Secretary:

Is the chief administrative officer for the club; he or she provides the link between members, committee and external organisations

Receives and records all incoming and outgoing correspondence

Provides the agenda for club meetings and records the minutes of all meetings

Provides WebMaster with copies of Minutes for website

As per club's financial arrangements, approves invoices from club members

Access to online banking to assist in transfer club funds as required, signature with bank for chq signing

May assist in replying to inquiries via info@bgcc

Maintains definitive copies of all official documents; including the Constitution, Club Rules, Letter-head, etc.

Treasurer: bookkeeping aspects have been outsourced

Is responsible for advising the committee on the financial situation of the club,

Is responsible for the financial management of the club,

Makes sure balance in Debit Card account will cover expected payments.

Is go between committee and outsourced Accountant

Presents invoices for approval by the committee as per club's financial arrangements

Approves invoices from club members, (other committee members do this)

Forwards invoices to Accountant for payment

Collects and banks club monies

Access to online banking to transfer club funds as required, signature with bank for chq signing

Out Sourced CPA

Maintains a record of all current Income and Expenditure, presenting a monthly update to all club meetings

Under instruction of Treasurer or President, pay approved invoices from Debit Card account

Prepares monthly financial reports for Committee meetings

Prepares annual financial accounts for auditing.

Organises Audit report before AGM in September (pref by end July)

Boat Captain:

Detailed Duty Statement on Website under Administration – update annually.

Keeps a record of all equipment owned by BGCC and suggests any equipment replacement needs.

Allocates racks for the storage of both club and privately-owned/stored boats.

Keeps up to date records of rack/member details

Is the contact for members requesting boats for races etc.

If appropriate, performs minor repairs to club boats and/or arrange for damaged boats to be repaired off-site. Keeps shed supplies up to date, ie cleaners, toilet paper etc.

Safety Officer

Give advice to the Committee on safety issues in relation to:

- shed, boats, equipment and facilities
- environmental and health issues such as, smoke, blue/green algae and Covid
- the conduct of events
- club rules and procedures
- content of training and education programs

Assist the Committee engender a culture of individual responsibility in relation to safety, consistent with applicable legislation

- Paddle Australia and Paddle NSW safety standards
- ACT Public Health Directions
- what an ordinary person would consider reasonable.

One of these executive members will also hold the club debit card – one individual can hold it through several appointments to various positions. (Ie Patricia first received it as President & held it as Secretary and VP)

Committee Members:

Two Ordinary Members:

Aim to have people from different disciplines to ensure a greater spread of expertise in the Committee.

Take on ad hoc tasks, ie look into insurance, special purchases...

Other club positions: (Not Committee positions)

Membership Secretary:

Not a committee position as person will need a good working knowledge of various systems which may mean position needs to be held for more than 2 years , ie, GoMembership & Register Now

Is point of contact for club members with any membership issues.

Keeps an up-to-date record of all club members via GoMembership and personal spreadsheets;

Advise members with any payments for club extras, ie shed key or storage.

Up-dates on-line payment systems for club memberships and club extras, annually in May and monthly from January till May.

Reports to the committee on membership details

Confirms membership fees with committee, annually in April.

Editor:

Requests and edits contributions to the monthly publication of Blazing Paddles club newsletter.

Publishes newsletter on-line and sends out a club email to let club members know it is available.

Look into a more up to date method of communication, keeping articles accessible for use in Annual Reports and for Awards and historical interest.

Coaches' Representative:

Does not need to be a coach, but takes up any concerns of coaches with the committee.

Coordinates coaches getting their qualifications: courses, first aid qualifications, etc.

Web Maestro:

Under instruction from committee members keep the club's web-site up-to-date

Advise committee on security issues

Discipline Conveners:

Needed for each paddling discipline, to represent their discipline at open meetings or by special request at Committee meetings.

Canoe Polo Convenor

Ensure that all players are current members

Organise payments to cover pool hire and forward invoices to the treasurer.

Liaise with the committee on boat/gear requirements

Update committee on events run by BGCC, ensure that any approvals etc are in place.

Organise items for Blazing Paddles

Liaise with sub committee on awards for players

Report to committee monthly, via email or at a committee meeting.

Marathon Convenor

Encourage members to take part in Divisional, Ultra Marathon and other races, organise transport where required

Write up regular reports for BP's

Keep track of Divisional winners etc for awards

Work with Event Manager to run our Divisional Race and Bash

Organise info and or training for Ultra Marathons ie Nelligen long distance paddle or night paddles

Liaise with PNSW as appropriate

Ensures their discipline is able to conduct events and training in a suitable manner.

Beginners convenor

Run inductions for new members

Arrange coaching times for beginners and group paddles

Encourage new paddlers to join existing training groups and try new boats

Organise one off sessions, ie technique with Margi or rescue sessions etc

Work with Boat Captain to ensure beginners boats are in good condition.

Event Manager

Organise approvals for events well in advance – Divisional Race, Bash, 24 Hour

Follow Event Management Planner

Organise volunteers to action the Plan

Arrange Update of Risk Management Plans

Paddle to Fitness/Time Trials

Organise weekly timed paddle – time participants

Send times to WebMaster for inclusion on website

Print out entry forms

Encourage those not 'racing' to get together for a group paddle

And then the rest!

Throughout the year there are many things which need to be done –some annually, or weekly, or for a special event. Things like washing the boat wipe-down towels, shed clean-ups, canoe polo field maintenance, pontoon maintenance, food preparation and cooking at barbecues, time-keeping at time trials, umpiring at CP games, applying for ACT Government Grants, cleaning the kitchen area, club trailer maintenance, etc. etc.!!

Patricia

Boat Captain – Caring for our fleet.

BGCC has a club fleet of 50+ boats: K1, K2, TK1, TK2, C1, C2, long rec, touring, junior kayaks, polo bats and SUPs. These boats are available on a first come, first served basis 365 days a year, unless they've been booked generally for a competition.

Compare this, for example, with a Sydney club we closely challenge for marathon series honours most years. According to their website they have just 17 boats which must be pre-booked and PAID FOR (minimum \$10 per day for a club activity or \$20 for personal use). Their senior membership is only \$5 p.a. less than ours AND there's an additional charge to participate in their club time trials.

Although we have a substantial cohort of paddlers who own their own boats, it's surprising how many of these will jump in a club boat at some time during the year: when their boat is in for repairs, to paddle something more stable in winter or a race, when competing in the marathon series doubles round, or just to try something different.

For anyone who doesn't own a boat, the club fleet is their way of getting on the water.

Given all of the above, it's disappointing when boats are damaged. Accidents do happen – boats can be heavy and awkward, and private boats still get dings and scrapes – but it's incumbent on all of us to take care, be aware of things like posts and bollards, and generally treat club boats well.

A real-life example of the inconvenience and cost of not looking after a boat follows.

The club's Vajda Voyageur cost \$3300 two years ago. A few months ago, its back deck received what must have been a significant whack. Someone probably thought they were doing the right thing by putting a piece of clear chine tape over the main damage, but the radial cracks extended well out across the deck. The boat continued to be used – “but the damage was on the deck, so hey, it wasn't in the water so what's the matter?”

By the time I happened to notice the damage (which wasn't reported to me, and I couldn't find a note on the sign-in sheets) the deck had become soaked and required significant repair – the story follows:



Oops, forgot to take a photo of the original damage, but this photo shows the amount of sanding required to remove the damaged gel coat and expose the sodden materials underneath.



Drying the foam and glass in the damaged area on a Canberra winter's day – a bit of sun and a heat gun.



Three layers of fiberglass layed-up with epoxy resin and peel ply to take out excess resin and any trapped air.



Glass work sanded back as close to level as possible.



Bogged with filler, ready to sand and repeat until smooth.



Taped up and undercoated. Then tape and paper get removed to sand and prep for painting.



4-5 layers of grey gel coat, then the blue pin stripe will be taped up, sanded and painted with 3-4 coats.

Then it's all sanded with 800 and 1200 grit wet & dry sandpaper, and then polished.

After all this, which took a couple of weeks to finish with all the waiting required between stages, the Voyageur was returned to its rack in the shed. Oh, and the large chips to its bow and stern have also been repaired.

All this work doesn't come cheap, despite Scotty's repair rates being very reasonable and his experience and equipment meaning he is extremely efficient and thorough. As is the case for many things, it's almost easier to build a boat from scratch than it is to have to go through all these steps.

So the moral of the story – please take care. Be aware of anything you might knock a boat against (including the ground). Ask for help if you need it, especially if a boat is wet and slippery and/or you're tired after a paddle.

Our fleet gives members tremendous fun and exercise, and it deserves to be taken care of. If you do notice any repairs needed to boats, please send me an email via the link on the club website or to swimming.fast@yahoo.com.au

Jeremy

Canoe Polo update

Last weekend we held the first of our two session Women's Come & Try Canoe Polo course. Advertised through the Women's Adventure ACT page, we were aiming for participants with an existing interest in the outdoors, and were extremely impressed when we discovered they had all tried kayaking at some point, including an ex white water guide and an ex slalom paddler. With Adam Hofmeyer and Toni Harmer coaching the class, and Jess Harmer and I their eager assistants, we had 12 women attending, with 13-14 expected for the second session, which has unfortunately been delayed as a result of the lockdown. The course aims to develop basic ball and boat skills, as well as an introductory understanding of the game and rules, to a level that they will be able to join our weekly games whilst we're still in the pool, as well as bigger competitions such as the Canberra Invitational, which is scheduled for early November.



It was excellent to see so many people try our sport, and we were quite surprised by how high the competency level was. We can't wait to host the second session once lockdown lifts, as well as run further courses. If you would like to come and try polo, please reach out as newcomers are always welcome, and it's definitely wise to try it whilst we're still in the pool!

Laura Kleinrahm

0412096084



PaddleNSW Image of the year

“This photo of Jeremy Cook and Tom Layton from Burley Griffin Canoe Club (BGCC) was taken by Ian* at the NSW state doubles championships. It captures the joy of participating in PaddleNSW marathon paddling that can enhance the lifestyle of paddlers well into their senior years.”

I'm not too sure the Jeremy and Tom are all that happy about being described as '*well into their senior years*' but they were certainly enjoying the paddle.

*Not long after the announcement, Ian Wrenford, being the stand-out and amazing bloke that he is, notified PNSW that the actual clicker for that winning image was Tom Holloway. Check out [PaddleNSW Facebook page](#) to find out more.....



Lockdown blues? Get ready to cheer on the Paralympians!

The para-canoe's get their chance to shine on the world stage, scheduled to start on Thursday 2nd September, with semi's and finals on the 3rd and 4th. But there is plenty of other action on offer with the games kicking off on the 24th August with the opening ceremony, and events starting from the 25th.

We used to joke that the Olympics were the test event, to make sure everything was running smoothly before the real games started (or perhaps we weren't actually joking 😊).

In terms of spectator sports, I would highly recommend following the Wheelchair Rugby. Out of all the events I did get an opportunity to watch during my time in London and Rio, this was certainly a highlight for me.

<https://olympics.com/tokyo-2020/paralympic-games/en/results/all-sports/paralympic-schedule.htm>

Marketplace

Surf Ski Carbonology Pulse - \$1200 negotiable

Carbonology's elite racing ski- This is an 11kg, low volume ski. It is 4 years old and in very good condition with a few minor marks and scratches. A super fast ski for flat water or suitable for someone skilled and under about 80 kgs in the ocean. It has always been stored under cover and used mainly in fresh water. Comes with multiple rudders including weedless.

Contact Tom - tlayton044@gmail.com



Thank you to all contributors to this edition of Blazing Paddles.

If you have contributions for the next edition, please get in touch editor@bgcc.org.au