



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Welcome members new & old.

It was great to see so many attend the September 10th General Meeting. I think we signed up 50 plus members on the day. We just need to pick up another 50 in the next few month's which would be fantastic.

Now that the club has organized its own insurance (and it's cheaper) we have already moved to make race licences cheaper which should entice a few extra members and board, and as the November 27th meeting is only weeks away racing members need to organise their medicals & make sure their boats are ready to go.

If you have any questions, ask now and don't leave until the last minute. We want to see you on the water!

Alan Muir
0418 344 909

VOTE WITH YOUR BOAT !!!!

It seems that every time the drag boat club is mentioned there is a vote going on or a meeting to attend well it would now seem that most of that is behind us and its now time to get stuck into the job of getting the club moving forward and putting some real racing on the water .

With the new insurance in place, NOW is the time to get the word out to as many people as possible to get on board with the club either on or off the water!

Clearly our number one priority is to get as many boats on the water as possible for the coming season, it has never been as cost effective to go racing as it is right now or as easy to get on the water with a few small rule changes that we can now implement due to running under our own insurance.

Safety standards will in no way be relaxed however a more common sense approach to our own code of racing should make the sport more accessible to first timers and experienced racers alike.

So your job as CLUB MEMBERS is to seek out boat owners and introduce them to the club at every opportunity and also if you happen to see any event that you think would be a good chance to showcase our club ie: static displays etc then grab the details and lets get involved !!!

So lets get things pumping at the V.D.B.C. AND MAKE THIS A SEASON TO REMEMBER!

REMEMBER ***VOTE WITH YOUR BOAT !!!***

Alan Joy
0418 388 898

Secretary Report September 2011

Well another month has gone by. The extra general meeting held on the 10th September had a good role up. I counted 62 people in the room just before the meeting started. The members vote on the future direction for this race season has now been decided by the members. The club I hope can only go forward for drag boat racing now. The letter from the club has been forwarded onto the State & National councils, if any correspondence in return should come about the members will be duly informed.

The committee & members also attended the normal monthly meeting the following Tuesday evening. Racing & licensing costs for year has been established. Those who own boats will be receiving their licence packs very shortly in the mail or via email.

If you are intending to race this season could you please attend the next club meeting on the 11th October 2011. The committee has a lot of work to do between now & the first race meeting so members support in helping in certain areas is vital; help is seriously needed so if you can help in any way please put your name forward to one of the committee members, contacts are in the previous newsletters or on the website. www.vdbc.com

Help is needed in the following areas:

Clerical & administration support.

- Raising Excel spread sheets including making Data sheets
- Licensing Officer
- Recording Officer
- Safety Officer
- Referee on Title events
- Rules officer. (maintaining the rule book)

Timing System, the club is looking for somebody willing to manage the timing system.

- Willing to work with Chris Buhagiar this season to learn the system.
- Organise members by contacting them by phone to help with setup & pack up the system.
- Ensure the computer system is operational prior to race commencement.
- Ensure results are correct & liaise with the race director on the day.

Ensure that faulty equipment is brought to the attention of the committee & repairs or replacement items are organized as required to ensure racing isn't compromised.

Scrutineering the club seriously needs those with the relevant skills to inspect boats when they come to race with the club. We don't expect to see the same members doing the same tasks at every meeting. It can be organized to do the task at intervals. This is an area of great importance to the clubs safety record so good mechanical & boat inspection skills are required.

Not all of these services are required straight away but a good club is always about those who volunteer their time to makes things easier for all in the club. Many hands make light work as they say. The old saying has been in the pass the committee is a thankless job, well I would like to change that with the members showing a little thanks for those who have volunteer their services for the clubs benefit, both passed & present regardless good , bad or different.

Racing:

The first race this season is on the Sunday the 27th November 2011. Members help is required on the Saturday Afternoon the day before hand to help set up the course plus scrutineering & race entries also.

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Memberships:

To the 10th September, we currently have 66 members in the club. 34 Family memberships & 32 single memberships, still down on last years of 86 or the previous year 93 memberships. Still a good result thus far & based on the clubs records we also had 19 new members joined also to date. Some of those members may also been a member many years back as well & it's good to see members rejoining the club.

Memberships are due now, the cut off for this years earlier bird prize is the 30th September 2011. Members both past & present have been receiving letters & newsletters from the club, for the past several months, those who haven't renewed their membership by the end of October will unfortunately cease to receive any more notices or newsletter & other membership benefits until your membership is paid.

Memberships are a vital part of the club it not only keeps the club financial to some respect is also keeps members active in the club. The couple of meetings held on Saturday afternoons have shown us just that, so please keep your membership up with the club.

Please send your membership renewals to the post office box or via the membership email address.
membership@vdbc.com

Please remember to give us your full details so we can keep you up to date on matters within the club.

Membership cards have been done for those who have already paid. If you didn't collect your cards back on the 10th September you will receive them in the post very shortly along with your membership packs.

Poster:

I'm happy to report the new poster for this race season is well on the way. I am sincerely hoping the poster will be finished for distribution by the end of October.

Catering:

Pitstop Café; Tried their new mobile food caravan out at the general meeting, I believed it worked a charm. The food they put on was a great success, **Special Thanks** to them for their support & the food they provided to club free of charge. Once again special thanks.

Special Notice:

The National Water Sports centre (NWSC) is Managed by Government Body, Parks Victoria, due to Government Bureaucracy the club needs to provide certain information before race days. This doesn't need to be complicated. This primarily due because the water ways are closed water ways which means the general public & powerboats are not allowed on that particular water. Therefore Parks are required by other Governing bodies to ensure certain laws are complied too. If the club doesn't provide the information to parks beforehand boats may not be able to race on the day. So your co-operation will be essential. Please keep in mind this is not the club asking for this information.

A letter will be sent out with Licence packs in due course.

**VDBC Secretary
Mike Waghorne
0400 447 822**

VDBC Start Barge

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we now have “the last piece of the puzzle” -- a start barge!

The barge was located at Lake Eildon and was negotiated on by Dave Bradford on behalf of the club where I'm sure it will receive a birthday and be another great piece of equipment for the club.



ARE YOU MOVING?

Help us stay in contact with you. If you're moving and would still like to receive information from the VDBC, please let us know by emailing secretary@vdbc.com



KEEP US UP TO DATE!

When completing your 2011/2012 Membership Form, please tell us as much information as possible (ie: mobile number, email address, family members birth dates etc.) so we can included you in any communication from the VDBC. Or you can email any information changes during the season to secretary@vdbc.com of VDBC, PO Box 358, Ferntree Gully VIC 3156.

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