

canoeingvictoria 

# Annual Report

2015-2016



# Annual Report 2015-2016

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## Acknowledgments

Canoeing Victoria acknowledges and thanks the following organisations for their support during 2015-16:

### Major Supporters

- Victorian Government, Sport and Recreation Victoria, Department of Health and Human Services/ Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.
- VicHealth
- Australian Government, Office for Sport, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

### Supporters

- Australian Canoeing
- Australian Sports Commission
- Outdoor Education Group
- Parks Victoria
- Polomania
- Murrindindi Shire Council
- Shire of Strathbogie
- Vicsport
- Victorian Institute of Sport

We would also like to acknowledge the support of the hundreds of volunteers across our canoeing community.

Front cover : PaddleHub at Lillydale Lake – February 2016

## Membership

	2015-16	2014-15
Full Adult	515	657
Recreational Adult	700	671
Life	4	6
Full Student 18- 24	85	79
Full Junior U18	257	262
Limited Youth	198	193
Social/Non Paddling	39	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1798</b>	<b>1894</b>

## Affiliated Clubs

Ballarat Amateur Canoe Club  
Barwon Heads Canoe Club (affil July 2015)  
Bellarine Paddlers Inc (affil Aug 2015)  
Bendigo Canoe Club  
Coaching Evolution Kayak Club (New 2016)  
Canoe Factory Club  
Canoes Plus Racing Team  
Cobram-Barooga Canoe Club  
Echuca-Moama Canoe Club  
Eltham College Canoe Club  
Essendon Canoe Club  
Fairfield Canoe Club  
Footscray Amateur Canoe Club  
Geelong Canoe Club  
Gippsland Kayak Club  
Ivanhoe-Northcote Canoe Club  
Kananook Creek Canoe Club  
Kirinari Kayak Klub  
Melbourne Canoe Club  
Melbourne University Mountaineering Club  
Mercantile Kayak Club  
Mildura Canoe Club  
Mitta Mitta Canoe Club  
North East Canoe Club  
Patterson Lakes Canoe Club  
Shepparton Canoe Club  
Sherbrook Knox Canoe Club  
Swan Hill Canoe Club  
Tarwin River Canoe Club  
Victorian Canoe Club  
Warrnambool Kayak Club  
Whitehorse Canoe Club  
Yarrowonga Mulwala Canoe Club

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## Office Bearers

### Board

President, Chair & Interested Director	Gary Flanigan
Interested Director	Marg Buck
Interested Director	Richard Lawrence (resigned August 2015)
Interested Director	Paul Grant (elected 2015)
Independent Director	Lawrie Chenoweth
Independent Director	John McMorrow
Independent Director	Daisy Brooke
Independent Director	Paul Loughran (elected 2015)

### Administration Staff

Executive Officer	Andrea Boothroyd (July 2015 – Feb 2016) Sharon Swoboda (Feb – July 2016 - acting) Mark Heggie (Aug 2016)
Finance Officer	Sandra Reaburn
Membership & Club Administration Officer	Roz Manester
Education Business Manager	David Hagel
Education Delivery Manager	John Moore
Education Administration Officer	Roz Manester
Equipment Maintenance Officer	John Shields
Communications Officer	Victoria Langley
Paddlepower Project Manager	Warwick Draper
Project Manager	Sharon Swoboda

### Discipline Technical Committees

#### Marathon

Chair	Joseph Alia
Vice Chair	Graeme Bowes
Treasurer	John Young
Secretary	Alan Opie
Trophy Officer	Madeline Sloane

#### Polo

Chair	Dale Tomlinson
Treasurer	Rowan Jenner
Secretary	Amanda Lane
Committee Member	Ben Watts
Committee Member	Warwick Duncan
Committee Member	Larry Robb
Committee Member	Jen Stevens
Committee Member	Matthew Farrington

#### Slalom

Chair	David Le Mottee
Treasurer	Karen Shamieh
Committee Member	Russell Bassett

#### Sprint

Coordinator	Kieran Dews / Laurie Chenoweth
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#### Wildwater

Chair	Chris Wharton
Committee Member	Mathew French
Committee Member	Wes Hurrey

#### Representatives

Victorian Olympic Committee	Warwick Draper
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# Annual Report 2015-2016

## President's Report



Gary Flanigan  
President

Good morning and a warm welcome to all attendees

Firstly, I thank all attendees for giving up of their time to attend this, the 2016 AGM of Canoeing Victoria. I would also express my thanks to all for representing their club as their club's delegate.

As you might know, after ten (10) years as a director of Canoeing Victoria, we need new blood and, to allow that to happen, I am resigning as a director and as President, basically at the instant the position is declared vacant in order to call for nominations.

All that said, I thank the members of our Association, the members of our various committees and our staff for their support during my tenure as a director but in particular, I would like to record a special thank you those who were our Executive Officers over the past ten years, Sharon Swoboda and Andrea Boothroyd.

Both did an amazing job and were a great source of support and encouragement to the Board and to me in particular; thank you to both.

I won't bore you with my reflections on the past or present situation within Canoeing Victoria but suffice to say, due to the efforts of our staff, our many volunteers and our members, Canoeing Victoria is financially healthy and has sufficient financial reserves to serve our members. We have long standing relationships with the Victorian Government and agencies such as Vichealth all assisting in the development and delivery of existing and new programs that not only support paddling opportunities but the organization as a whole.

I am actually very encouraged by the composition of the present Board of CV. We have a great gender mix, maturity, business acumen and experience, knowledge of and participation in paddling, and an inside knowledge of the support required by our clubs and committees.

Given the composition of the present Board I can say, with all sincerity that as a member, you and the Association, are now to be guided by very capable and well connected individuals.

Our recently appointed Executive Officer, Mark Heggie, who is a paddling member of the Patterson Lakes Canoe Club, is a welcome addition to the staff and has quickly demonstrated an enviable list of characteristics which I for one believe, make for a successful Executive Officer – well done Mark and I have great expectations of your drive and experience over the coming years.

During the year we managed to recruit Paul Loughran as a director. Paul is a senior member of the Monash University marketing team and, together with Daisy Brooke, completes and enhances our marketing team; welcome Paul.

I must also report that John McMorrow resigned as a director during the year.

Sadly I must report that due possibly to my own ignorance at the time, the amended Constitution which was voted on and accepted at the 2015 AGM, was not lodged with the Consumer Affairs Department within the legally mandated 21 days period following the adoption of the document.

The effect of this is that we must again consider a Resolution to adopt the Constitution at a Special General Meeting, which requires no less than 60 days notice. To that end we have given notice of the Special Meeting to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 2016, to our clubs.

The Special Resolution to adopt the new Constitution was included in the notice of meeting.

I would appreciate it if all delegates reported the need for the Special General Meeting to their clubs and made particular emphasis on the need to ensure that the clubs appointed a delegate to attend the meeting and, that the delegate was – if considered appropriate – authorised and instructed to vote to adopt the new Constitution.

For me personally, my period on the Board has been enjoyable and very rewarding. I enjoyed the challenges and embraced the inevitable peaks and troughs of intensity.

Thank you all for your support during my tenure.

**Gary Flanigan**  
President of Canoeing Victoria Inc.

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## Finance Report

Canoeing Victoria as a whole has posted an operating loss \$12,005.00 for the 2015-2016 financial year, down from \$32,604.17 profit in 2014-2015. This is due to Administration investing in Education and the disciplines not running any major events this year. During 2015-2016, Canoeing Victoria continued to receive strong financial support from the Victorian Government through Sport and Recreation Victoria and from VicHealth. This support has been critical to Canoeing Victoria in helping to implement a number of projects throughout the year.

### **Administration**

Administration posted a loss from ordinary activities of \$10,388.00. Administration's closing retained surplus was \$131,550.00. The main factor for the loss was the investment in Education by creating new resources for risk management, lesson plans for our programs and a \$5,000 top up of the long service liability. Once again Bunning's BBQ fundraising efforts contributed around \$3,000 which is greatly appreciated by Canoeing Victoria.

### **Marathon**

This year Marathon made a surplus of \$1,280.26. This was mainly due to the success of the Winter Series Races and Victorian Marathon Championships. Overall competition fees had increased which allowed Marathon to purchase a new safety boat and to support the Victorian athletes on the Australian Team. Marathon over the last few years has been able to reduce their running costs to increase their surplus.

### **Canoe Polo**

Canoe Polo posted a loss of \$1,393.43. With no major Polo event being held in Victoria this year, the Autumn competition making a loss \$2,281 and Spring competition making a profit \$1,073 they both ran as usual. The biggest expense at the moment for Polo is pool hire which on average is \$678 per session and about \$27,000 for the year.

### **Slalom**

This year Slalom made a loss of \$1,890.00. They ran the Victorian Championships and Yarra Series Races which were both profitable and this year Slalom invested in the Goulburn repairs and purchasing medals which contributed towards the overall loss.

### **Sprint**

Sprint made a surplus of \$1,674.86 for this financial year. This was an increase from the previous financial year. Only one event was held this year, the Victorian Championships in February which contributed towards the profit.

### **Wildwater**

There has been little financial activity for Wildwater this year with a posted loss of \$82.00. This was due to the tidying up of the assets recorded against Wildwater and low participation numbers at events.

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Mark Heggie

### *A note from incoming Executive Officer*

I started at Canoe Vic in August 2016 so my employment covers the 2016-2017 financial year.



My working background is from small business incorporating design, manufacturing, retail and wholesale. I have experience with Arts boards, dealing with councils, local and federal funding.

I have been a paddler from age 10 and have kept contact with paddling all my life, being involved in different clubs and paddling disciplines from Sprinting to Sea kayaking.

I was attracted to the role at Canoeing Victoria as I believe there is enormous change happening in the paddling world and with that change opportunities are being created.

One of the areas I have seen develop over the last five years is PARA canoeing, like all paddle sports there are many different levels of participation. The debut of PARA Canoe at the recent Rio PARA Olympics demonstrates the high performance aspect. I have been privileged to assist Coach Steve Vegh to introduce many disabled paddlers to our fantastic sport, and as well as his numerous high performance paddlers there are many who just enjoy access to something we all take for granted.

A requirement of all paddlers is safe and easy access to the water and disabled access also requires a safe and seamless infrastructure. This is where my position at Canoeing Victoria enables me work with the numerous bodies such as Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water, local councils and potential funding bodies to develop a consistent approach to rolling out jetties, pontoons, pathways and ramps.

Sites have been identified that include places where clubs are already active and the infrastructure will also be available for public access. In my short time at Canoe Vic I have met with many of the stake holders and found great goodwill to realise these plans.

Canoeing Victoria has been extensively involved in development work on the North East Regional Paddle Sports Centre at Westerfolds Park and access to the water will be a vital aspect of the development. The ramp will be ground breaking for canoe access above Dights Falls and will pave the way for more ramps in strategic positions.

I am looking forward to hearing from any club that is looking to upgrade access to the water to enable Canoe Vic to put a coordinated approach to our partners.

As I stated previously there is continual change happening around us, but I have great faith in the sport continuing to be relevant. Canoe Clubs have been around in Victoria for a long time, many clubs are over 50 years old, the demographics have changed and the community's expectations have changed.

Programs such as PaddlePower are providing children with a fun and accessible way of being introduced to paddling. As we bring more children to paddling Canoe Vic has a vital role facilitating training of coaches and overseeing the highest standards of protection for the young participants.

The staff of Canoe Vic has made my introduction a pleasure, they are all experts in their area and bring enthusiasm and long term expertise to the roles.

The board is also a pleasure to work with and they provide a combination of long term experience and knowledge, with forward thinking enthusiasm to take Canoe Vic in to the future.

Most importantly there are so many volunteers at all levels of paddling. I acknowledge and appreciate all those who volunteer their time and skills, and all of those who were here before us building the sport as we know it now. They have created a legacy that we have a duty to carry on for future generations.

Yours in paddling

**Mark Heggie**

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## Administration Report

Coming off a buoyant year financially, it was time to take the time to invest and reflect a little in 2015-16. As a result the Board agreed to a budgetary loss to enable some of this investment. Primarily focused on investing in promotion and education, saw the launch of Canoeing Victoria into the social media arena and a reflection of the website requirements as well as some research and reflection about our education delivery.

A delay in the funding opportunities with the state government in late 2015 also meant some projects were put into a holding pattern until certainty was delivered early in 2016. By that stage, the Executive Officer had resigned, an acting Executive officer was put in place and the focus was on recruiting a new leader to take the association into the next era.

Despite these challenges, the office managed to continue to deliver services to members and clubs, deliver programs and projects to the wider community and reduce the proposed financial loss quite substantially.

### **Membership**

Despite the increase in participation in the activity of paddling within the broader community, it is disappointing not to see the reflection in the membership numbers. This we believe can be equated to three (3) things, one being the aging membership population being evident from the shift from competitive adults to recreational memberships, two (2), clubs not being an attractive option to the wider community for recreational paddlers and three (3) existing competitions or events not being an attractive option for either recreational paddlers to participate in or an attractive option for athletes of other sports to transgress to. All three issues are our future challenges. Not only to increase the numbers of paddlers in the wider community but to see them as part of the membership community as well contributing to strong and viable clubs and local paddling communities.

### **Promotion**

This year did see the association venture into the world of social media with the launch of the Canoeing Victoria facebook page. This did highlight again how diverse the world of paddling is and how and what should or could be disseminated to our community and the wider world. With such a variety of paddling interests and motivation the challenge was about how to engage with whom, when and how.

In a world of websites, social and visual media, this is where the investment needs to be made. The association and members do some great things and the challenge is to ensure that everyone else in the world knows about it.

### **Youth Participation Program**

With the assistance from the Victorian Government, Canoeing Victoria has been developing and delivering a great product to introduce paddling to the new and young paddlers in Victoria. This year we saw an increase take up from the Victorian clubs of Paddlepower and an increase interest from other clubs in other states. It is a key element of a suite of products that are designed to be delivered by clubs and Canoeing Victoria to provide broad ranging opportunities and appeal to increase participation. The Paddlepower holiday programs were piloted in September 2015 and increased participation during the January holiday period as well as the Easter break. Except for the winter break, it is expected that the holiday programs will be a consistent item on the calendar with more venues and clubs delivering the great program.

The next stage is to expand into new markets ever exposing young people to the great activity of paddling.

### **Play it safe by the water**

Canoeing Victoria has also been involved in the play it safe by the water committee and received funding to develop and promote the safety messages around kayaking and paddling in general in Victoria. The project has been researching and collecting Victorian specific information and messages, collating them into one space and will review the findings in 2016.

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## **Education initiatives**

This year saw the administration reflect and invest in the education section of the organization. With changing expectations from the outdoor industry providers, the year was spent consolidating procedures and reviewing the risk management around delivery of education programs and reviewing how Canoeing Victoria will go forward in an ever competitive market. As a result, Education contributed to the financial loss during the year, but felt it was an important time to reflect before moving forward. While still maintaining and supporting the Australian Canoeing Award scheme, a number of instructor and coaches courses were run throughout the year as well as lifeguard and guide courses.

## **Facility Initiatives**

It was wonderful to see the successful completion of the Geelong Paddlesports and clubhouse facilities during the year. As highlighted in facility strategic plan, facilities are the cornerstone for future growth in the sport.

The North East Metro Regional Paddle Sports Centre (Westerfolds park) remains a key project for the association. As a facility that proposes to support many disciplines, education outcomes, club agenda's as well as both recreational and competitive objectives, it was very exciting to support a successful funding application by the Manningham City Council to move the project into the planning stage of the development supported by the Victorian Government.

The project is unique in Victoria as it crosses many council boundaries (3) as well as involving many other government agencies and utilities. Juggling everyone's needs and concerns for the ultimate facility for canoeing will indeed be a miraculous feat, one we are confident will succeed in the end.



In support of the facility, Canoeing Victoria was also successful in receiving funds to install permanent gate poles along the Yarra River bank at Westerfolds Park to reduce the environmental impact of hanging wires from trees etc. A huge thank you to the volunteers who put many hours into the application and project implementation.

The Whitewater facility also continues to be on the agenda with a few more leads followed up during the year. Ever on the top of the list, it is a project that will not be given up on until it is successful.

## **PaddleHub**

Canoeing Victoria was also successful this year in gaining support for a new initiative called PaddleHub. During 2015-16, Vichealth supported the project to pilot a new idea to create paddle centers at underutilized water ways, to create the demand for paddling, showcase the opportunities to paddle and deliver existing programs to a new community. Lillydale Lake was the pilot location and the research and preparation resulted in a 6 week pilot program run from February 2016.

The pilot program was a great success and resulted in Canoeing Victoria gaining support for the project for the next 2 years.



The overall project now includes creating paddlehubs with / within club structures, taking the concept, the other underutilized waterways, partnering with councils to develop future infrastructure as well as developing a mobile solution to widen the catchment of community paddling.

This concept is to target those new to paddling and the recreational market, provide opportunities to participate as well as market the pathway to competition and the diversity of paddling disciplines. We believe that there is some sort of paddling that would appeal to everyone in the community; they just don't know about it.

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## **Resignation of Andrea Boothroyd**

Starting in 2002 as a Vichealth participation project manager, Andrea decided to take a well earned break from the demands of the Executive Officer role in February 2016, a role to which she held in partnership with Sharon Swoboda from 2006 and solely for the last 3 years.

Andrea brought many skills and a professional approach to the association having come from a corporate marketing background. This was evident in the desire for sound financial practices and professional decision making as well as excellent grant writing skills that enabled the association to partner with many government organizations to benefit both the association and members as well as underpin some government initiatives. This investment in both skills and programs, enabled Canoeing Victoria to be in a great financial situation, respected by both local, state and federal governments and ready to grow exponentially into the future.

All the board, staff and members as whole, thank Andrea for her unlimited dedication to all aspects of the association and canoeing as a whole and wish her the best for future endeavors.

## **Board members**

It was fantastic to see additions to the Board this year of Paul Grant and Paul Loughran. Both bring a unique blend of skills and knowledge that the association will only benefit from. Paul Grant and Gary Flanigan both attended a forum with other state board members and executive officers in Sydney with Australian Canoeing in March and it was great to see Victoria represented so well.

Thank you also to board member John McMorro who resigned in May 2016.

A special mention needs to be given to the outgoing President Gary Flanigan.

Gary came onto the Board after the constitution was changed in 2007 and along with Tom Hirschoff at the time, lead the organization through financially difficult times, recovering from a very low base to what is it now, a strong and viable association. Gary was instrumental in making ends meet particularly in

the early days when the budget was literally border line. Gary put thousands of hours into fundraising through sausage sizzles and over the years has raised over \$56,000! Just extraordinary. Gary was also extremely generous with his time and energy, always available to the staff, hosting board meetings and even providing the nibbles. All the while enjoying his paddling passion. Gary has always maintained

respect and dignity towards everyone he encounters, loves his sport and wishes only



the best for everyone who participates. All the staff at Canoeing Victoria thank him for his efforts and loyalty over the years and wish him all the best.

## **Staff**

The staff of Canoeing Victoria have shown their true form this year with the changes in management, meaning that despite the leaders changing hands (a couple of times), the work still got done in a professional and timely fashion without fault. A testament to their dedication, loyalty and skills, they are a great team who only wish for paddling to be the next AFL.

## **Acknowledgments**

It takes many to make things work and paddling in general would not be possible without our fantastic community. The volunteers that open up club houses on the weekend or during the week, those that run the coaching sessions and those that are passionate about teaching someone new. The people that sit on committees run events and make endless decisions to keep the cogs turning. Those on the Board that make hard decisions and the staff that try and make it happen or make it easier for all the volunteers.

For the supporters, such as our major sponsors the Victorian Government through Sport and Recreation Victoria and Vichealth and the local governments that support our clubs at the grassroots level, thank you for your financial support of our vision and our passion.

Sharon Swoboda

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Slalom Report

The Slalom Canoe Discipline in Victorian continues to be vibrant with strong competition and solid support from many volunteers. Compared to other states, the Victorian group remains healthy despite a declining trend in the number of competitors.

For 2016, the Slalom Technical Committee is a new group and it has taken some time to settle into the required tasks. The committee's immediate imperatives were to ensure the race events were organized effectively and professionally and the committee is confident that this has been achieved. Now that the committee has a handle on event organization, it can address the more pressing issue of promoting the sport to rebuild participation.

A significant achievement is the committee's adaption of an electronic scoring and timing system for race events. The development of this system is due to the dogged determined and work by committee member, Russell Bassett. Russell has invested considerable time and money in building the infrastructure to facilitate the use of an international competition standard scoring and timing system. The Slalom Canoe community is indebted to Russell's for the many hours of work and determination to overcome complex problems.

The committee has proposed the purchase of dedicated iPads and a laptop to use with our new scoring system. Currently, the sport relies on borrowing personal equipment which is not an ideal situation. In order to present a professional standard, the committee recognizes the need to use dedicated equipment.

Our sport continues to be predominantly supported by two clubs, Melbourne Canoe Club (MCC) and Canoes Plus Racing Team (CPRT). However, MCC has taken a more active role in organizing events and providing support to the committee.

Before closing, the National Slalom Technical Committee has asked Victoria to host the 2018 Slalom Nationals & Nationals Schools events. The committee has accepted the offer so planning for these events will shortly begin.

**David Le Mottee**

Chairman – Victorian Slalom Committee

## *Yarra and Country Series Slalom Races*

The Yarra series continues to be a great introductory competition to slalom for the new and younger paddlers plus enjoying the natural rivers such as Big and the King River in country Victoria.



Photo: Dean Tonkin

## *Victorian Championships*

The Victorian Championships and the Victorian Schools Slalom Championships were run by the slalom discipline in November 2015 at Eildon.

## *High Performance*

### *Australian Canoe Slalom Championships*

The Australian Canoe/Kayak Slalom Championships were held on the Mersey River in Tasmania January 2016. The championships comprised of the Australian Slalom Championships, plus a series of lead-up events:

- Australian Slalom Championships 2016
- Australian Schools Slalom Championship 2015
- Australian Schools Wildwater Championship 2015 (Classic and Rapid Sprints)

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## Key Results of the Victorians at the Australian Championships

A Anderson	1st Mens K1
	1st Mens K1 Teams
	2nd Mens C2
W Draper MCC	1st Mens K1 Teams
	2nd Mens C2
	3rd Mens K1
M Myers	1st Mens K1 Teams
T Anderson MCC VIC U23	2nd Mens K1
C Fabris MCC VIC Sen	2nd Mens C1
S Grant	3rd Mens K1 Teams
J Montalto	3rd Mens K1 Teams
M McDonald	3rd Mens K1 Teams
A Hobbs MCC	3rd Mens C1 Teams
L Bassett MCC	3rd Mens C1 Teams
T Carter MCC	3rd Mens C1 Teams
K Poulier CPRT	2nd Womens C2
	2nd Womens K1 Teams
H McConnell CPRT	2nd Womens C2
	2nd Womens K1 Teams
	2nd Womens K1 Teams
D Pahl CPRT	3rd Womens C2
C Tonkin MCC	3rd Womens C2
C Hodgman MCC	3rd Womens C2



Photo: Dean Tonkin

## Victorian Athlete - Australian Team Performances

### Jason Merritt

9th K1 – Oceania Championships (Penrith, NSW)  
31st K1 – Australian Open (Penrith, NSW)  
18th K1 - ICF World Cup 1 (Ivrea, ITA)  
23rd K1 - ICF World Cup 2 (La Seu d’Urgell, ESP)  
31st K1 - ICF World Cup 3 (Pau, FRA)  
Current ICF Ranking - K1 46th

### Lachlan Bassett

48th C1 – Australian Open (Penrith, NSW)  
50th C1 - Junior/U23 World Championships (Krakow, Poland)

### Tim Anderson

22nd K1 – Oceania Championships (Penrith, NSW)  
25th K1 – Australian Open (Penrith, NSW)  
32nd K1 - ICF World Cup 4 (Prague, CRE)  
44th K1 - ICF World Cup 5 (Taken, SLO)  
Current ICF Ranking - K1 86th

### Tristan Carter

33rd C1 – Australian Open (Penrith, NSW)  
42nd K1 – Oceania Championships (Penrith, NSW)  
43rd K1 – Australian Open (Penrith, NSW)  
45th C1 – Oceania Championships (Penrith, NSW)  
31st C1 - ICF World Cup 3 (Pau, FRA)  
8th C1 - Junior/U23 World Championships (Krakow, Poland)  
41st K1 - Junior/U23 World Championships (Krakow, Poland)  
Current ICF Ranking - K1 209th  
Current ICF Ranking - C1 84th

### Warwick Draper

27th C1 – Australian Open (Penrith, NSW)  
20th K1 – Oceania Championships (Penrith, NSW)  
31st K1 - ICF World Cup 1 (Ivrea, ITA)  
29rd K1 - ICF World Cup 2 (La Seu d’Urgell, ESP)  
63rd K1 - ICF World Cup 3 (Pau, FRA)  
Current ICF Ranking - K1 73rd  
Current ICF Ranking - C1 210th

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## **Australian Canoeing National Talent Squad**

During 2015, eight Victorians were part of the Australian Canoeing Slalom National Talent Squad 2015, and eight Victorians were selected to the squad for 2016 after qualifying at the Australian Championships in January.

### Australian Canoeing Slalom National Talent Squad 2015:

- Lachlan Bassett
- Tristan Carter
- Samuel Grant
- Ashley Hobbs
- Max McDonald
- Bradley McLaughlan
- Aiden O'Callaghan
- Georgie Tonkin



### Australian Canoeing Slalom National Talent Squad 2016:

- Zoe Lau
- Claire Tonkin
- Georgie Tonkin
- Lachlan Bassett
- Tristan Carter
- Samuel Grant
- Ashley Hobbs
- Max McDonald
- Bradley McLaughlan
- Aiden O'Callaghan
- John Montalto
- Cameron McLaughlan
- Sam Nightingale
- Daniel Shamieh

### **Scholarships and Travel Grants**

*Supported by the Victorian Institute of Sport.*

Slalom athlete Jaxon Merritt was awarded an individual scholarship from the Victorian Institute of sport with Tristan Carter awarded a future talent scholarship in January.

## Dale Tomlinson Canoe Polo Report



Canoe Polo has been an established sport within Victoria since the late 1980's. The purpose of the Victorian Canoeing Canoe Polo committee is to promote the sport of Canoe Polo (or Kayak Polo as it is known in Europe). Canoe Polo in Victoria is based in the inner suburbs of Melbourne, and provides 4 grades of competition from Novice through to A-grade levels of competition. Canoe polo attracts a range of paddlers into the sport, from experienced paddlers from other disciplines, to novice paddlers with no experience at all. Victorian canoe polo is a great breeding ground for international competition, with our top paddlers often competing for positions in Australian teams.

### **Canoe Polo Competitions**

#### **Urban Competition**

Canoe Polo originally started with urban competitions in our council swimming pools. Outdoor swimming pools restrict the capacity to run competitions in the cooler months of the year. For this reason Canoe Polo is now based in Richmond Recreation Centre, where the committee runs 4 grades of competition. Our capacity to run competition through the winter months makes our competition unique within Australia. Whilst other states have the winter off paddling, we run an autumn and spring season.

Again this year the Richmond organising committee changed the structure of the A&B levels of competition, by splitting the season into two halves. The first half ran the standard season structure, with the second half of the season, splitting the top 4 A-grade teams into their own competition, and the mixing of the lower level of A-grades and the upper level of B-grade teams. This allowed the elite of the competition to compete at a higher level, but also gave the higher B-grade teams a taste of the competition at a higher level. This concept appears to have been well received. With lower numbers the A-graded competition has been reduced to 4 on 4.

### **Interclub Competition**

The interclub competition runs through the summer months of the year beginning in late October, and running through to the end of March. The interclub competition is run in suburban and regional locations. Interclub competition provides an opportunity for junior competition, as well as giving regional teams an opportunity to compete for their club.

This year the organising committee introduced the concept of a Div 1 game during the lunchtime break. The concept game pulled the best players (both senior and junior) from all canoe clubs into a competitive game. This provided an excellent experience for our up and coming junior paddlers and provides them with an insight into the speed and skill level required to play high-level canoe polo. Additionally, the interclub competition provides a good platform for Victorian team selection, and preparation for the Australian Canoe Polo Championship.

A point should be made regarding the performance of Geelong Canoe Club throughout the season. This year was the first year that maturing Geelong Canoe Club juniors have started to win the interclub competitions. This year the Geelong Juniors managed to win 2 of the interclub competitions. This is a great reflection of the quality of coaching that has developed the junior talent, as is an example of how canoe polo can be developed within a canoe club to encourage juniors into paddling.

### **Summer Series**

The Summer Series provides the pinnacle of competition for Australian Canoe Polo. The best players across the state form teams to compete monthly in most eastern capitals of Australia. At this point, Victorian Canoe Polo is in a re-growth period, with many of our experienced players moving interstate and internationally. This has provided a great opportunity for our up-coming players to take more senior positions in the teams, and in the future years we hope we can re-attain ascendancy in this level of competition. Our Victorian juniors (under the guidance of John Yacoub) have dominated in the junior levels of competition, with wins at the junior levels in all of the competitions they attend.

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## *The Australians*

This year the Australian Championships were run in Queensland. Victoria had a very successful competition winning the overall competition.

All Victorian teams performed well in their designated classes and some particularly outstanding performances by the Victorian junior teams.

### **Key Results:**

#### **Peak UK Junior Category**

VICTORIA – 3rd

#### **Titan Kayaks Masters Category**

VICTORIA – 3rd

#### **Polo Mania & Canoe Innovations Youth Category**

VICTORIA – 1<sup>st</sup>

#### **City of Gold Coast Open Category**

VICTORIA A – 3rd

#### **Overall Winning State**

VICTORIA

#### **Day Two Micro-Junior Category**

VICTORIA – 2nd

## **The Challenges Ahead**

Like all minor sports, Canoe Polo competes against bigger sports for media attention, sponsor dollars, and government support. Over the new few years, the focus for the committee will be on growing the number of teams and players. We will need to focus on methods of gaining the attention of the public, and to advertise Canoe Polo as a sport that anyone can participate in. We would also like to become more involved with schools and even have a separate schools competition.

**Dale Tomlinson**



Photos courtesy of Kim Hogue

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Sprint Report

The Sprint season in Victoria had only one event this year. The State titles at Nagambie Water sport Centre on February 27<sup>th</sup> 2016. The weather was fine and very hot on the day. As we shared the venue with Canoe Polo, we had a very large program for the day and started one hour behind our 9am start time. Running 3 distances 1000mtr, 500mtr and 200mtr, time was always running against us.

With a small but dedicated volunteer group we simply did the very best we could to deliver a race program that was inclusive of all the competitors. From the 135 entries we received we knew that if things did not precede smoothly that running to time was not possible. After modifying and combining some events we finished the day late but with many happy competitors thanking the volunteers and officials at the end of the racing.

As we packed up after the days races, a group of dedicated volunteers gathered and put forward some race dates that are now included and on the CV calendar website. Sprint is in a rebuilding phase with 4 events on the list this year with hopefully 6 events next year.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped make this season and last season possible, for without their help we would have simply nothing to report on. To Roger Douglas and all the sensational members at Bendigo Canoe Club, Dean and Georgie Tonkin and other kids from Slalom NEDP who helped out on the day.

A big thank you to Michael Hudson from Australian Canoeing who worked the laptop and printer all day. Thanks to both Gary and Helen Flanigan for all their hard work in the rescue boat and finish line timing. Lastly thanks to both Gary Flanigan and Margaret Buck for putting their names forward to be part of the Sprint committee that can work together to improve and grow participation in this sport after many years of minimal input in this state.

Lawrie Chenoweth

## High Performance

### Australian Canoe Sprint Championships

Victorian athletes who medaled at the Australian Canoe Sprint Championships in WA were:

Macgregor Doyle -Fairfield

- 1st Mens Under 16 K4 200
- 1st Mens Under 16 K4 1000
- 1st Mens Under 16 K2 2500
- 2nd Mens Under 16 K1 2500
- 3rd Mens Under 16 K2 500
- 3rd Mens Under 16 K2 1000

Carter Turnbull - Fairfield

- 1st Mens Under 16 K2 2500
- 3rd Mens Under 16 K2 500
- 3rd Mens Under 16 K2 1000
- 3rd Mens Under 16 K1 2500

Oliver James - Coaching Evolution VIC

- 1st Mens Under 18 K1 500
- 1st Mens Under 18 K2 1000
- 1st Mens Under 18 K1 1000
- 1st Mens Under 18 K4 1000
- 2nd Mens Under 18 K2 200
- 2nd Mens Under 18 K4 200
- 2nd Mens Under 18 K4 500
- 3rd Mens Under 18 K2 500

Noah Cameron - Fairfield

- 1st Mens Under 18 K1 200
- 1st Mens Under 18 K2 200
- 3rd Mens K1 200 18 Race Off

Sabastian Wakim - Fairfield

- 1st Open C2 200
- 1st Open C2 500
- 1st Open C4 1000
- 2nd Open C4 200
- 2nd Open C4 500
- 3rd Mens Open C2 1000

Dean Garo - Patterson Lakes

- 2nd Para Canoe Mens V1 500m
- Open Multi-Class
- 2nd Para Canoe Mens V1 1000m
- Open Multi-Class

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Amanda Reynolds - Patterson Lakes VIC

1st Para Canoe Womens K1 500m  
KL2/KL3

1st Para Canoe Womens K1  
1000m Open Multi-Class

1st Para Canoe Womens K1 200m  
Open Multi-Class

Monika Galovic - Patterson Lakes

3rd Para Canoe Womens K1  
500m KL2/KL3

Rebecca Mann - Bendigo

1st Womens K2 500 U23 Race Off

Imogen Douglass - Bendigo

2nd Womens Under 16 K4 500

3rd Womens Under 16 K4 200

3rd Womens Under 16 K4 1000

Shelley Chaplin - Patterson Lakes

3rd Para Canoe Womens K1  
200m Open Multi-Class

3rd Para Canoe Womens K1  
1000m Open Multi-Class

## **International Events**

During 2015-16, four Victorians represented Australia at international sprint events

ICF World Canoe Sprint Paracanoe Championships, August 2015, Italy

- Amanda Reynolds

ICF World Canoe Sprint Junior and U23 Championships August 2015, Portugal

- Oliver James (U23)
- Rebecca Mann (U23)

ICF World Olympic Hopes Regatta, September 2015, Poland

- Noah Cameron

## **National Elite Development Program**

During 2015-16, fourteen Victorians were selected as part of the Australian Canoeing Sprint State Development Squad. The unusually large squad had the aim to encourage development within the state as it undergoes a reinvestment stage.

Sprint/Paracanoe State Development Squad 2015-16:

- Noah Cameron
- Macgregor Doyle
- Carter Turnbull
- Oliver James
- Imogen Douglass
- Shelley Chaplin
- Sean Jones
- James Humphrey
- Joseph Burton
- Josh Harper
- Jack Osborne
- Alex Boyd
- Brendan Clarke
- Hannah Scott

## **Scholarships and Travel Grants**

*Supported by the Victorian Institute of Sport.*

Paracanoe athlete Amanda Reynolds was awarded an Individual Athlete Scholarship from the Victorian Institute of Sport with Oliver James receiving a future athletes scholarship.



# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Wildwater Report



Chris Wharton  
Wildwater Chair

The last 12 months has seen an increase in junior paddlers and an improvement in their performances. However we are still finding it difficult to pull in regular large numbers of paddlers at each Yarra Series race or training on country rivers.

We did a national DR development camp in Sep/Oct 2015, based around the Snowy and rivers in NSW, which was a great training and learning experience. This got the juniors enthused about bigger water and encouraged them to paddle in Tasmania.

The standout event would have to be the paddling at the Nationals and Schools events in Tasmania. Victoria was the best performing state at the Nationals and the juniors (Bayden Murphy and Imogen Douglass) improved dramatically paddling the Mersey. They then went on to do well in the Schools with Imogen recording the fastest female DR time overall.



We have been running both sprint DR races and the classic 3 – 4km downriver races. We have also added more races on the Goulburn over the summer

months to try and pull in more flatwater paddlers and transition them into the wildwater aspects of the sport.

The country series races on the Big and King have proved to be good training exercises but numbers for each event are low.

We have had good numbers to the Vic DR sprint championships on the Goulburn as we run them at the same time as the slalom development camp and they join in.

We also had good numbers to the Vic Schools DR (67) but again we are having trouble in transitioning them into the sport on an ongoing basis.

### **High Performance**

#### **Australian Wildwater Championships**

The Downriver and Slalom Nationals were held at the Mersey from Jan 1 to Jan 6 and were followed by the Schools event on the Forth River. Victoria fielded its largest team for many years (22 paddlers) and had many first time paddlers who braved the exciting Mersey river course.

Our youngest paddlers were Imogen Douglass (14) and Baden Murphy (13). It was great to see the improvement in the younger paddler's times as they gained confidence on the fast flowing water. Congratulations to Maddie Batters for a clean sweep of the sprint, teams and Classic 1 and 2 races. Victoria filled the podium for the woman's sprint event.

### **Sprint**

#### **Mens**

Masters: 3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Wharton

Under 16: 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### **Under 18 C1**

1<sup>st</sup> Robert Janiszewski

2<sup>nd</sup> Tristian Carter

#### **C2**

1<sup>st</sup> Lachlan Basset / Sarah Grant

### **Womens**

Open: 3<sup>rd</sup> Dita Pahl

Under 23 1<sup>st</sup> Maddie Batters

Under 18 : 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgie Tonkin

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Sprint Teams

Open: 1<sup>st</sup> Kaylen Bassett  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mathew French

Open: 1<sup>st</sup> Maddie Batters  
Under 23: 2<sup>nd</sup> H McConnell/K Poulter/I Douglas

## Classic Course

### Mens

Masters: 1<sup>st</sup> Chris Wharton  
Under 23: 3<sup>rd</sup> Kaylen Bassett  
Under18: 2<sup>nd</sup> Max McDonald  
3<sup>rd</sup> James O'Donoghue-Hayes  
Under 16: 1<sup>st</sup> Joshua Montalto

### Womens

Under 23: 1<sup>st</sup> Maddie Batters

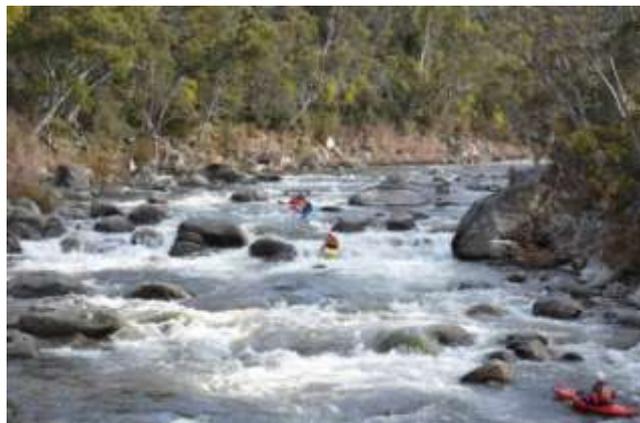
### C2

Under 18: 1<sup>st</sup> Lachlan Basset / Sarah Grant

## Standard Classic Course (Classic Teams)

Open: 2<sup>nd</sup> Mathew French  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kaylen Bassett

Open: 1<sup>st</sup> Maddie Batters



# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Marathon Report



Joseph Alia  
Marathon Chair

Photo: Malcolm Scott

As stated previously our aim is to provide a standard of competition that caters for all levels of paddlers, from elite to novice and also junior paddlers. The main goal of the CV Marathon Committee has been to provide marathon events over the year. The committee held Winter Series of races throughout the year. This year the Victorian Marathon Championships were held prior to the 2016 Australian Marathon Championships and was the selection event for the Victorian Marathon Team.

### **2016 Victorian Championships**

The premier event held by Canoeing Victoria Marathon Racing Technical Committee in 2016 was the Victorian Marathon Championships. This event was held over two days at Footscray Canoe Club. The event was well attended and congratulations to Footscray Canoe Club for hosting the event.

### **2016 Winter Series**

There were six winter series races held this year of which three were held in regional Victoria - Warrnambool, Nagambie, and Geelong. Participation in the winter series has remained steady this year at approximately 660 entries for the season. We believe that for Marathon events to continue to be successful, we require a greater input from clubs.

### **2016 Australian Marathon Championships**

The 2016 Australian Marathon Championships were held on the 25th to 27th March 2016 on Lake Coomera on the Gold Coast. There were more than 250 entries at this event which is the highest number for a very long time if not a record. Victorian athletes were well represented both in numbers and results. Nineteen Victorian's received medals.

### **Financials for the Year ended 30 June 2016**

This financial year the Marathon Discipline showed a surplus of \$1280. The full details are shown in the financial report.

### **Achievements in 2015/2016**

1. The CV online entry system has now become the norm for entering races.
2. This year we have purchase a new safety boat and trailer and two new boat motors
3. The Race calendar/ diary was published early and can be downloaded free of charge.

### **Initiatives for 2017**

- To publish the events calendar 12 months in advance on the CV website.
- New race formats will be introduced to offer a greater variation for competitors.
- A trial of different race days and race time will be introduced.
- To encourage a higher participation from all levels of paddler competency by promoting marathon racing at the club and school level.

### **Acknowledgements**

In conclusion I would like to thank all the paddlers that have competed in our events and I look forward to their continued support in 2016.

Joe Alia  
Chairman Marathon Racing Committee

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Notable achievements of Victorian paddlers in 2016

Listed below are the results of Victorian paddler at the Australian Marathon Championships and the ICF World Marathon Championships

### Australian Marathon Championships

Boat Category	Name	Place
MK1	Mick Leverett	2nd
WK1	Kate Leverett	1st
	Marlena Ahrens	2nd
MK2	Mick Leverett/David Ceddia	2nd
	(Timothy Stenlake) & Angus Campbell	2nd
WK2	Penny Young/Reka Abrahams	1st
	(Pia Ruhm )& Marlena Ahrens	2nd
U23 MK1	David Ceddia	1st
	Logan Dutton	3rd
	Casey Haynes	4th
	Edward Lovick	5th
	Alexander Neilson	6th
	Hamish Young	7th
	Andrew Holloway	10th
U 23 WK1	Penny Young	1st
	Madeleine Sloane	4th
	Olivia Myers	5th
	Arabella Eyre	6th
	Brea Roadley	7th
U 18 MKI	Oliver James	1st
	David Inguanti	2nd
	Brendon Clarke	4th
	Matthew Graves	6th
	Callum Gosbell	7th
	Alex Boyd	9th

U18 WK1	Isobel Nielson	1st
	Stephanie Langley	2nd
	Brianna Jones	4th
	Hannah Scott	5th
	Brigitte Blood	7th
	Olivia Kurczykcki	9th
	Ellie MacLennan	10th
	Ruby Wright Howie	11th
	Samantha Glynn	12th
	Alanna Stegner-Bilos	13th
U 18 MK2	David Inguanti & Matthew Graves	1st
	Callum Gosbell & Brendan Clarke	2nd
U 18 WK2	Stephanie Langley & Isabel Neilson	1st
	Hannah Scott & Brianna Jones	2nd
MV55 K1	Brigitte Blood & Ellie MacLennan	3rd
	John Young	2nd
MV 60 K1	Rob Russell	3rd
	Donald Campbell	6th
MV65 KI	Terry Poole	2nd
W V55 K1	Lipe, Suzanne	5th
	Davis, Joanne	7th



Photo: Sam and Caroline Lovick

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WV60 K1	Debbie Bennett	3rd
	Lisa Newton	5th
U16 MK2	Sean Jones	1st
U16 WK2	Emily O'Rourke	1st
	Ruby O'Keeffe	
	Annie Ross	2nd
	Jasmine Kennan	
	Belicia Nadurata	3rd
	Julia Murray	
	Ashleigh Lewis	4th
	Stephanie Lourantos	
W U14 TK2	Victoria Wood	1st
	Emily McEvoy	
M V40 K2	John Young	4th
	Tom Kennan	
W V60K2	Lisa Newton	3rd
Mx V50	Joanne Davis	3rd
	Ralph Wright	
	Jennifer Ackerly	4th
	Trevor Ackerly	

# Annual Report 2015-2016

## Audited Financial Statements