



South Island  
Rowing

## Newsletter

Issue No. 9

Date: April 2010

Principal Sponsor



### Contacts

#### Postal

PO Box 3261  
Christchurch 8140

#### Telephone

+64 3 435 0628

#### Email

Secretary@sir.org.nz

### Management

#### Chairman

Cliff Buchanan  
H 3 249 8404

#### Vice Chairman

James Sheehan  
M 21 315 480

#### Secretary

Philip Bell  
H 3 358 9929  
M 27 432 5001

#### Course Manager

Trevor Wilson  
M 21 134 1073

### Facilities

Course Hire  
Lounge Hire  
Clothing Sales  
Souvenir Sales



Page No 1



Above is a photo of the sunset on the Thursday night of the MAADI Cup regatta. This regatta proved that we have the capability of being able to work through very difficult and trying conditions and still come up with results. It was unfortunate that the weather was a little unkind to us but it was actually better in Twizel than many other parts of the country.

The variable weather conditions certainly tested many of our systems and processes. While some were found wanting most were successful and with a de-brief coming up we expect to determine what actions need to be improved for next time. There are always opportunities to learn and if anyone has some suggestions or where improvements could be made, please send a note to the secretary.

### Didymo

Didymo is still a serious problem in New Zealand. It was most encouraging to see that all those present were found doing their bit to ensure that this organism is contained and does not spread further north. Having a sample for people to view certainly proved to be very enlightening.

### ECAN Bylaw

It is the ECAN Navigation and Safety By-law that operates on this lake. Another law that needs to be known is MSA 91. These two laws are legally binding and all must work within their requirements.

It was quite noticeable that a few did not know or understand the implications of these laws and the dispensation the regatta has. Given the weather conditions and the available support, training was not appropriate on many occasions. Some Coaches seemingly did not appreciate this.

### Boat Park

This year the boat Park had been expanded and provision made for boat trailers to be used as boat racks. Unfortunately the racks were not labelled so we ended up with some of the "eights" racks under utilized when singles or doubles used the racks. So, we now have two things to do; label the boat racks and install some more.



The same is true for the oar racks. While we have significantly increased the capacity here we still need to provide a lot more. The picture above shows the utilization on a day when there was little rowing!



That aside, the operation of the boat park was much improved over previous years. While we could say it was due to improved boat park management, we also need to recognise the cooperation of the rowers. Thank you for your work here.

### Weather

The weather is always going to be an issue and it is unfortunate how many of us forget the real situation. Rowing is an outdoor aquatic sport which makes it subject to weather. Wind to rowing is like calm to yachting so we need to learn to accommodate it.

New Zealand consists of two main long narrow land masses at right angles to the prevailing wind. Further, we have a major regatta during the equinox when the winds are quite variable. So it comes as no surprise that wind will cause difficulties. But it is a real tribute to those who ran the regatta and especially to those who rowed because they were all able to quickly respond to the changing weather patterns which meant the regatta was able to be completed.

### AON MAADI CUP REGATTA



The regatta progressed rather sluggishly with a couple of bright patches. It was fortunate that some of the qualifying races could be run as a 1000m sprint or there would have been no chance of finishing. This and the 10 minute event spacing on Saturday was a credit to the cooperation between the rowers and the organizing team. The rather forboding clouds in the above picture shows the rather fickle nature of the wind. However, there were plenty of other activities which seemed to engage people such as the tent site decoration. In the pictures right are two examples of this site work. There were a number of other sites that were decorated and it was very encouraging to see people taking such care with their work.







South Island  
Rowing

## Newsletter

Issue No. 9

Date: April 2010

Principal Sponsor



## Contacts

### Postal

PO Box 3261  
Christchurch 8140

### Telephone

+64 3 435 0628

### Email

Secretary@sir.org.nz

## Management

### Chairman

Cliff Buchanan  
H 3 249 8404

### Vice Chairman

James Sheehan  
M 21 315 480

### Secretary

Philip Bell  
H 3 358 9929  
M 27 432 5001

### Course Manager

Trevor Wilson  
M 21 134 1073

## Facilities

Course Hire  
Lounge Hire  
Clothing Sales  
Souvenir Sales



Page No 3

## Visiting Schools

While it was very good to have two Australian Schools attend this regatta it did highlight the fact that the NZSSRA Regulation 11.2 promotes crews to the final based on origin rather than merit. Some people viewed as a veiled form of racism suggests that a regulation review may well be on order.

This has caused serious embarrassment to the hosts and claims that such regulations are contrary to the very foundations of sport and the culture of New Zealand. It will be very interesting to see if the NZSSSC, and appropriate government agencies also encourage a change.

In trying to negate the negative connotations of this situation, SIR presented our visitors with commemorative medals. The picture on the right shows the Chief Umpire and Chairman of SIR (Cliff Buchanan) announcing and Mrs Mary Thomas presenting the medals to the ladies from Melbourne Girls College.



## Military Careers

There was a distinct military presence at this regatta as can be seen from the picture on the right. All three services were represented and we understand that there was a significant interest shown by those present.

One aspect that may have been missed was the flyover on Saturday by a

Mitsubishi Zero, a Japanese fighter plane from WW2 with a very characteristic engine noise. This particular plane was at Wanaka practising for the "Warbirds over Wanaka" air show the following weekend. We understand this one of only three that are left flying in the world so we really appreciate the efforts of those who paid us a visit.



## World Champs

The world champs at Lake Karapiro later this year will be very important for rowing in New Zealand. The row box with the rowing machines were present and well utilized by those present. The picture on the right shows it in use.



## Signage

There have been some innovative signs erected around the complex. One such sign was at Woods Point. As shown on the picture on the right the sign is topped with a rowing skiff. Although not wind resilient, the sign and the "eight" were a welcome edition to the venue. Thanks to the Oamaru Club for the loan of their boat.





## Reporters Diary

Here is an extract from a report written in the "Twizel Update" by Kevin Moore. Well that is another Maadi done and dusted, dusted being an appropriate word to use. If you spent anytime down at the lake you surely would have had your share of the stuff. Rowing is an outdoor sport and I suppose those involved with it become very philosophical about the weather and the effect it can have on their sport. I am told unlike us here in Twizel most of the North Island regattas didn't get through their full programmes of races during the season. One has to admire the organisational skills of those involved; flexibility is certainly the name of the game.

With record entries of 1900 rowers and 113 schools and the wind to contend with it is no easy paddle in the lake so to speak. Big occasions breed their own special atmosphere and the Maadi is no exception. That atmosphere doesn't just happen it is a combination of many small cogs making the big wheel go around. A lot of those small cogs are working away behind the scenes unseen and are unheralded by the public. The saying of 'doing a good job around here is like wetting your pants wearing a dark suit, it gives you a warm feeling but nobody notices', may well apply to them, but with out those people the whole thing would grind to a halt.

The big screen also adds to the atmosphere as does the on course commentary, how does that guy still have a voice? Well done to Don and Chris and the team from Twizel Radio, they brought the lake into the town. I happened to be sitting in Chris Diack's 'radio shack' when someone rang and excitedly reported "There are people standing around in Market Place listening to the broadcast." The marquees adorned in school colours are a great sight as well as serving as shelter from the incessant wind. Interestingly it was the low humidity around 18% that was causing some problems to the northerners, who are used to 80-90% humidity.

Congratulations to South Island Rowing, every year we see improvements to the venue. They must feel very proud when they see the banks of the lake teeming with spectators and supporters, the car parks were full to overflowing. The entrance drive looked great with all the banners and what about the eight's boat perched high on its pedestal.

Talking with Senior Constable Swanson from the police on Saturday afternoon he indicated there were few problems from the young rowers or the 'cream of New Zealand's youth' as he described them. He was not so impressed with some of the parents driving habits having written out 40 traffic offence notices out on the highway, mostly to those attending the regatta. The police had also had some problems with "some pratts" as Swany described them, "who had come back to Twizel just to make a nuisance during Maadi week."

As I said at the start, Maadi produces its own atmosphere and this reaches its peak as the Maadi Cup race is about to start. The crowd estimated at between 6 and 8000 people goes very quiet and remains that way until the final 250 metres. Then the crowd finds their voices again and how, as they drive the crew's home in a deafening crescendo. And what an excellent race it was with Hamilton Boys over turning the result from the N.I Champs and just edging out Westlake Boys. Auckland Grammar was thrilled to take an unexpected third spot with their very young crew.

Rowing continues to grow in popularity led by the world class performances of our elite crews; this can only be good for Twizel. Well done to all concerned with the Maadi Regatta. It is a magnificent occasion. If you didn't make the time to have a look then you missed a great opportunity to see one of N.Z's. Premier sporting events.

Right is extract from the Otago Daily Times.

■ I COMMEND those involved in organising the 2010 weekend rowing regatta at Lake Ruataniwha. As an assistant sound technician for the after-party, I was extremely impressed with the organisation, fast response and co-operation of the organisers, the parents and volunteers. This was an example of a well-deployed event catering for more than 1000 teenagers.

Craig Dillon  
Queenstown







## Newsletter

Issue No. 9

Date: April 2010

Principal Sponsor



## Contacts

### Postal

PO Box 3261  
Christchurch 8140

### Telephone

+64 3 435 0628

### Email

Secretary@sir.org.nz

## Management

### Chairman

Cliff Buchanan  
H 3 249 8404

### Vice Chairman

James Sheehan  
M 21 315 480

### Secretary

Philip Bell  
H 3 358 9929  
M 27 432 5001

### Course Manager

Trevor Wilson  
M 21 134 1073

## Facilities

Course Hire  
Lounge Hire  
Clothing Sales  
Souvenir Sales



Page No 5

## Communication

This year several changes were made to the communication systems. Radio Ruataniwha broadcast live commentary to many places including along the course. The volume levels were not right but with variable crowd numbers and wind there is no way this will suit everyone. There were also volume variations with the commentary and this is being addressed.

The text messaging service used to keep key people informed worked very well and there have been many favourable comments here. While the big screen TV was a helpful addition we appreciate it was not ideally located. SIR intends to have a permanent, user friendly location established when funds permit.



We have also received several comments about the live web coverage and the television highlights. Both have been favourable and a credit to those who implemented the systems that made this happen. We hope that the same will occur next Maadi at Lake Ruataniwha.

## Grounds

The grounds are owned and maintained by South Island Rowing. We requested that in order to minimise the costs of operation that all rubbish is taken to the recycling station in town. This year has been quite amazing in that cleaning up the rubbish was a far less onerous task and we thank all those who made the effort to keep the grounds clean and tidy.

## Volunteers

The whole Regatta was organized and run by volunteers...those who give up their time and put the effort into undertaking some aspect of the regatta so that everything can run successfully. We owe then all a great debt for this and the regatta Committee sincerely thank them for their efforts.

## Sponsors

The Regatta was very dependant on the generosity of our sponsors. The Regatta Committee would like to thank all our sponsors for their help during the year and especially with the AON Maadi Cup Regatta. We also acknowledge the support from the Twizel Community and their considerable assistance with the rowing facilities and their support throughout the year.





## Rule Comment

There is confusion and misunderstanding of rules within the rowing community. SIR has asked senior Officials to highlight some of these rules and explain how they are applied. If you have any questions or doubts: Ask an official! They are happy to help.

### Rule 23.6 – Start Zone

What is the Start Zone?	The start zone is defined as the first 100m of the rowing course after the start. This is indicated by buoys of a different colour.
What is important about the start zone?	There shall be no other boats than the crews belonging to the race in the start zone. If a crew after the start indicates that they have suffered any damage to its boat or equipment the starter or umpire shall stop the race by sounding a horn, and/or waving a red flag.
How does a crew indicate damage?	The damage will prevent rowing and the rower(s) should immediately raise his/her/their arm(s).
What happens next?	After stopping the race by raising his red flag, the umpire will decide after inspecting the damage what to do. If the damage can be fixed with tools available to the crew this should be done immediately and the race will be restarted. If spare parts are needed the umpire will inform the boat marshall who will inform the coach. It is up to the coach to bring the spare parts to the start and do the repair. Therefore the coach should always know which boat the rowers are using.
What if the damage cannot be fixed?	Normally the race will be started without the crew as the tight race schedule does not allow for any delay. This would disadvantage other crews with a later start in a different race. However it may be possible to reschedule the race, depending on the time it takes to repair the damage.
What if there was no damage?	If a rower just came off the seat or a gate was not closed properly the race umpire will decide that this is no damage. He normally will allow the crew to race again under penalty. If the crew was already under penalty the crew shall be removed from the race.
When has a crew left the start zone?	A boat has left the start zone when the bow of its boat has crossed the 100m mark. A race will not be stopped for damage after a crew has left the start zone.
What happens if boat damage is noted by the crew before the start?	Raise your arm and an umpire will attend to you. The umpire can then inform the start and the boat marshall and let you know about their decision.

