



South Island
Rowing

Newsletter

Issue No. 3

Date: October 2010

Principal Sponsor



meridian

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This month has seen a flurry of activity at the Lake. This started with the R2K Regatta and the Mainland Interpro Regatta. This was followed up with the Aoraki 1000 regatta. All of these regattas seem to have been very successful.

There has been a continual flow of rowers visiting the complex for training. The earthquake effects in Christchurch necessitating some more creative ways of being able to train and in spite of the distance it appears that for many, the travel is worthwhile.

On the work front there is a lot to do with getting the course and grounds ready for the NZ masters regatta later in November. There have been a number of comments about the faithful volunteers who are working towards completing the Academy complex. The magnitude of the task has been underestimated but this continual and persistent work slowly but surely advances the completion. We are very grateful to those who are assisting with this work.

R2K Regatta

This regatta was held during the first weekend in October. This has been a regular fixture on our regatta calendar and continues to be very popular. It is most encouraging to observe that the winners are spread throughout the South Island. The weather was fine and this led to a very successful regatta. Thanks to everyone taking part.

The prize winners are:

MENS:

U-18: Scull: O Behrent (WHO) 9m04.10s

U-17: Scull: E Harvey (BLE) 9m09.68s

U-16: Scull: R Wilson (BLE) 9m33.32s

U-15: Scull: B Crosbie (STAN) 9m01.04s

U-14: Scull: J O'Leary (OTA)

Open: Scull: F Fauvel (OGU) 7m29.92s

WOMENS:

U-18: Scull: T Young (WHO) 9m57.17s

U-17: Scull: S Bruce (WKN) 9m57.26s

U-16: Scull: K Froude (WHO) 10m27.64s

U-15: Scull: Z McBride (OTA) 10m01.36s

U-14: Scull: K Shaw (TIM) 10m42.08s

Open: Scull: E Fraser (OGU) 8m27.75s

Congratulations to all the winners.



Mainland Interpro

The Mainland Interprovincial Regatta was also held on the same weekend as the the R2K. The weather was very calm and it was great to see crews from Marlborough, Southland and Otago supporting this regatta.



The picture above show the lake conditions for the finish of one of the eights races. The overall winning province was Southland with Otago and Marlborough close behind.

Aoraki 1000 Regatta

This regatta has traditionally been held on Lake Ruataniwha about this time of the year. Although only a 1000 meter race distance, it gives opportunity for those who have been training over the winter to assess just where that are at. It is organized by the Oamaru and Timaru Clubs and again this year the weather was kind.

It was noticeable that there were some Christchurch based crews attending this regatta. This added an extra dimension to the racing. The traditional BBQ added to the enjoyment side of the regatta.

Next Regattas

The next regatta on the lake are the BankLink NZ Masters Regatta on November 20/21. We understand that entries have closed for this regatta and we are looking forward to much better weather than that recorded for the SI Masters last Queens Birthday Weekend.

The Otago Championship Regatta is on December 11/12. Entry is via the RNZ web site. Please note the date.

In Memorium

During this past month we have seen the passing of one of our regular supporters, Vern Brosnahan. Many of us have very fond memories of Vern. He is shown in the picture, right with Max Smith. While all of us have our own individual memories of Vern, SIR will remember his continued assistance with regattas and work around the complex. We express our sincere condolences to Heather.





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Classifications:

The differences between club and school systems.

At the 2010 AGM the NZRA classification system was revised and simplified. The changes, particularly aligning the NZRA season with NZSSRA's season, have significantly reduced the differences between club rowing classifications and school rowing classifications.

However, there are still two very important differences coaches need to take into account when selecting crews that might compete in both club and school regattas throughout the season.

1. Novice class. The NZRA Novice class was simplified so an NZRA Novice is now somebody who has not competed in more than one regatta prior to the current season beginning. In comparison an NZSSRA Novice is somebody who has not competed AT ALL in a prior season. So... it is possible to have a club rowing Novice crew that is ineligible to compete as a school rowing Novice crew. If you have club Novices who have competed in one regatta previously then those athletes are not school Novices.

Note: neither association removes Novice status from a coxswain of a crew until after the cox actually competes as a rower/sculler in a sliding seat.

2. Lightweight class. Both associations treat individual Lightweight athletes the same way (72.5kg limit for males, 59kg limit for females) but NZRA has an additional crew average weight limit (70kg for males, 57kg for females) that NZSSRA does not.

So... it is possible to have a school rowing Lightweight crew that is ineligible (too heavy) to compete as a club rowing Lightweight crew.

If all your school rowing Lightweights are near the individual weight limit the crew might fail to make the club Lightweight crew average limit."

SIR has found a measure of confusion in this area and it is quite timely that the situation be clarified before the season gets to far advanced. Our thanks to Andrew Carr-Smith from the NZSSRA for providing this clarification.

We thank all who have contributed to this news letter. If you have information that needs to be shared please forward it to the secretary.