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Complex

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Facilities

Accommodation
Course Hire
Functions
Ground Hire
Kitchen Hire
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Souvenirs

Sponsors



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As 2006 draws to a close, we are now facing some real challenges. As we enter the world of commercial reality we do not have the luxury of profit making investments but we do have to comply with the legislation and regulations. The cost of compliance is significant and will have to be reflected in such aspects as entry fees. There are also some actions that will require compliance on your part and this appears in the areas of Safety, Health, Bio-security, Water use, Waste Disposal etc. We rely on your compliance to minimise the overall costs.

Looking back over the last year we have seen a number of significant changes in the Course and its facilities. This is now consolidating and it is a time to reflect on what a great job that the Volunteers have managed. On behalf of SIR, may I wish you all the best for the festive season and look forward from catching up in the New Year.

Who Are We?

We are often asked about our operation and in this day and age of a very materialistic world it is difficult for people to understand how we work. South Island Rowing Inc is an independent, non-profit organization set up by the four South Island Rowing Associations to own and operate the rowing facilities at Lake Ruataniwha. There are no paid officials, all are volunteers. We have had some people who volunteer for tasks but the hidden agendas of personal gain or misplaced gains for others are soon revealed and corrective action is taken.

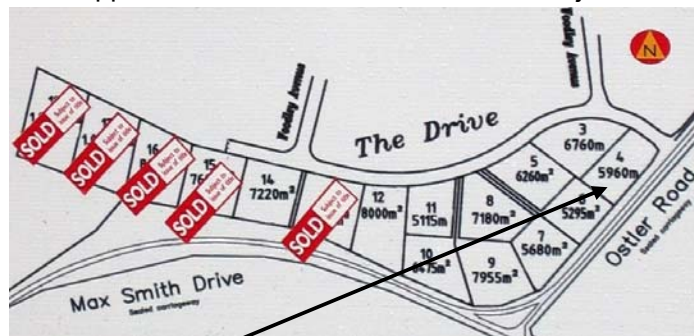
The pricing for income is aimed at recovering operating costs and running a small surplus so that we can maintain the facilities. For example the surplus from last year has allowed us to replace 5 lane wires complete with new buoys, repair the damage to the umpire boats and make repairs to the facilities damaged by the harsh winter.

In the coming year we face increased costs with rates, insurance, increased rubbish charges, water rates as well as charges imposed by the various regulatory authorities (E.G. ECAN). We seek to get funding for capital works from external sources but we are mindful that we need to ensure we do not significantly increase the operating and maintenance costs. Consequently, we are extremely grateful for the assistance from our dedicated sponsors.

Raffle

South Island Rowing in conjunction with Ruataniwha Farms is running a raffle to raise funds for course infrastructure. The prize will be a 5960m² section on the corner of "The Drive" and "Ostler Rd". Some approximate details are shown on the adjacent map.

The tickets will be \$20 each and be available in the New Year. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone wanting to obtain a section close to both winter and summer recreational activities.



Section for Raffle

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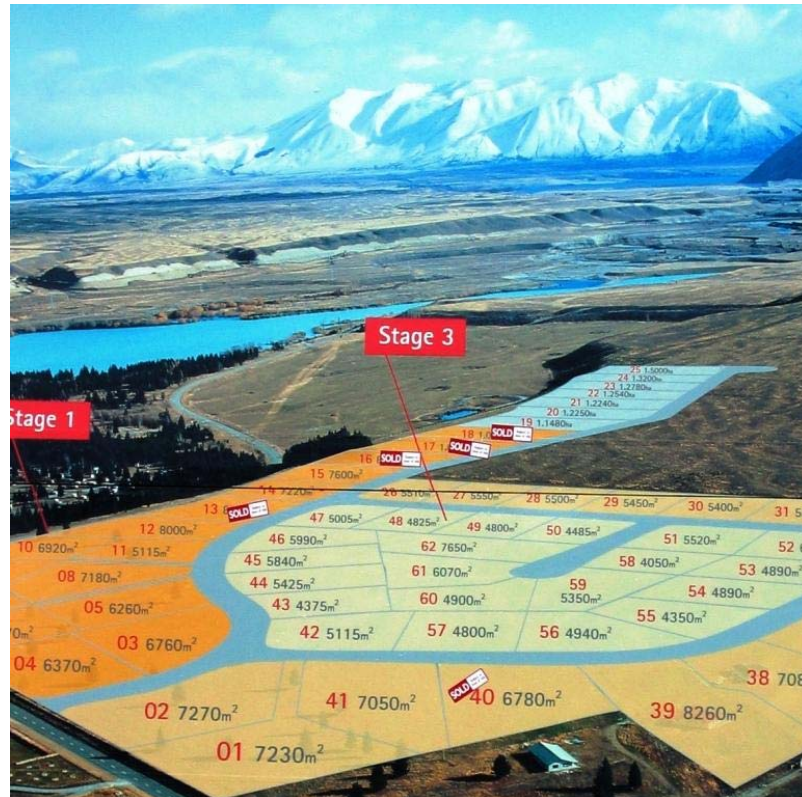
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For those who may not recall the location, Ostler Rd is the road from Twizel to the lake and the intersection with Max Smith Drive is notable for the number of “near misses” that have occurred. The picture below more clearly shows the area looking towards the South west.



Course

During the Christmas-New year period, it is intended to replace some of the lane wires: mainly as a safety measure. Broken lane wires during a regatta are a serious safety risk and we need to take steps to prevent this occurring. This will also be coupled with the installation of more buoys in readiness for this season’s regattas on the lake.

Safety

Safety is a very serious issue and everyone at the Lake needs to be aware of the dangers. Other Lake users are not particularly aware of the rules that govern the lake usage even though they are well displayed along the shore. Therefore Rowers need to be aware that they also have to meet the obligations of using the Lake.

The recent changes in the regulations mean that SIR does have the authority to close the lake for its regattas. This is a major step forward and establishes Lake Ruataniwha as primarily a rowing lake. But the rules on other lakes in the area are different and failure of rowers to operate with the operating parameters of other Lakes could have a serious detrimental effect on our somewhat privileged position.



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Environmental Protection

Didymo (aptly called rock snot) is a major problem and serious efforts are being made to minimise the potential for its transferral between lakes and rivers. All your boats **must** be washed when they come to Lake Ruataniwha and when they are taken from the Boat Park. Facilities are available for this.

No Wash ... No Row ... No Exceptions

See <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/pests-diseases/plants/didymo/index.htm> for details on these pests.

It has been most encouraging to observe that the standard practice of washing boats is being restored and clearly the impact of not washing is well understood.

Fire Protection

There is a fire ban in the area so no open fires are allowed. The presence of trees and very dry grasses make for serious concerns here and we expect all visitors to the area to abide by the rural fire ban. All tents must be equipped with a fire extinguisher.

Communications

We continue to build on the platform of practices developed so far. The PA system seems to operate well and we are now installing a video link to the 1000 meter mark to assist with the 1000 meter start and with the 1000 meter split timing.

Clubs attending Regattas at Lake Ruataniwha will have to give a text compatible cellphone number for contact purposes. We intend to use this medium to advise Clubs and Schools of changes to start times etc.

Volunteers

We are always keen to hear from anyone who will be attending Regattas and is willing to volunteer with some of the activities associated with running Regattas. (judging, boat driving, marshalling in the boat park etc). Training can be arranged and this could possibly lead becoming a licenced regatta Official. Please contact the Regatta Secretary on site if you can assist.

Regatta Information

The next Regatta on Lake Ruataniwha is the Otago Championships which is on 13th & 14th January. Entry details have been posted on the web site.

Information about Twizel and the surrounding area can be obtained from the Twizel development and promotions web site. www.twizel.com. They can also be contacted about accommodation in the area.

This season will see the Banklink New Zealand Rowing Championships on Lake Ruataniwha. We have previously released information about this course and we expect clubs to be familiar with the major issues associated with this course. As many will know the Regatta will be held in February from 20th to the 24th. Details will be sent out in early January and the event list is included at the back of this newsletter.



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Works

The works we need to complete continue as an ongoing programme. Below is an amended an update.

1. More boat racks have to be fabricated and installed to increase the capacity.
2. The Boat Park is to be made more secure and fencing is being investigated
3. The cladding on the Control building has yet to be done.
4. Larger buoys to clearly mark the outside of the course are under investigation.
5. Options to absorb more of the wave energy at the start needs investigation.
6. Tent site expansion followed by levelling & grassing needs to continue.

Accommodation

The Complex is proving popular with Clubs and Schools using the rowing facilities for their training camps. We can accommodate about 30 people outside regatta times. All bookings are coordinated by Catherine Wilson who can be contacted on telephone 03 437 0908 or email on cath.trev.wilson@xtra.co.nz. Note that a deposit may be required.

Tent Sites

Tent sites for the 2006/07 season have already been booked by a number of clubs and the list of bookings so far received is as follows.

Site	SI SCHOOL/CLUB	Site	SI SCHOOL/CLUB
1	Villa Maria College	15	Waitaki Girls/Boys/St Kevins/Oamaru RC
2	Twizel Area School	16	Otago Girls High School
3	Nelson RC	17	Wakatipu Rowing Club
4	Rangi Ruru Girls School	18	Burnside High School
5	Rangi Ruru Girls School	19	Roncalli College
6	Marlborough Boys/Blenheim C	20	Christchurch Boys High School
7	St Bedes College	21	Avonside Girls
8	Marlborough Girls College/Wairau RC	22	Marion College
9	Waikato Diocesan School	23	St Margarets College
10	Craighead Diocesan School	24	Christ's College
11	Timaru Boys High School	25	Timaru Girls High School
12	Christchurch Girls High School	26	Ashburton College
13	Otago Boys High School	27	St Andrews College
14	Columba College		

If you don't receive a copy of this newsletter and would like one emailed out to you, please forward your email address to secretary@sir.org.nz

The following is the latest event list for the National Champs. There has been no change to the entry fees at this time. All entrants are encouraged to read the entry conditions which have changed from previous years.

Friday's Finals and Heats					Saturday's Finals				
Event No	Class	Sex	Event	Heat for		Event No	Class	Sex	Event
1	Club	Men	1x		8:00	27	U21	Men	1x
2	Premier	Men	2-		8:15	28	Lightweight	Men	2X
3	U21	Men	2x		8:30	29	U21	Women	1x
4	Lightweight	Men	1x		8:45	30	Premier	Women	2-
5	Club	Women	1x		9:00	31	Premier	Men	1x
6	Novice	Men	2x		9:15	32	Lightweight	Women	2x
7	U21	Women	2x		9:30	33	U19	Women	2x
43	U19	Men	2x	43	9:45	34	Club	Men	8+
33	U19	Women	2x	33	10:00	35	U21	Women	2-
8	Novice	Women	2x		10:15	36	U21	Men	4x-
9	Senior	Women	2-		10:30	37	Premier	Women	1x
10	Lightweight	Women	1x		10:45	38	Club	Women	4+
11	U21	Men	2-		11:00	39	Premier	Men	4+
40	U21	Women	4x-	40	11:15	40	U21	Women	4x-
12	Senior	Men	2x		11:30	41	Senior	Women	4-
13	Premier	Women	2x		11:45	42	Club	Men	2x
14	Premier	Men	2x		12:00	43	U19	Men	2x
15	Club	Women	4x-		12:15	44	Senior	Men	4-
16	Senior	Men	2-		12:30	45	Novice	Women	8+
36	U21	Men	4x-	36	12:45	46	Club	Women	2x
17	Senior	Women	2x		13:00	47	Premier	Men	4x-
18	Club	Men	4 +		13:15	48	Premier	Women	4x-
52	U21	Women	8+	52	13:30	49	Novice	Men	8+
19	U21	Men	4-		13:45	50	Lightweight	Men	2-
55	U19	Men	4+	55	14:00	51	U21	Men	8+
20	Novice	Women	4+		14:15	52	U21	Women	8+
21	Premier	Women	4-		14:30	53	Club	Men	4x-
56	U19	Women	4+	56	14:45	54	Senior	Women	4x-
22	Senior	Women	8+		15:00	55	U19	Men	4+
51	U21	Men	8+	51	15:15	56	U19	Women	4+
23	Novice	Men	4+		15:30	57	Senior	Men	4x-
24	U21	Women	4-		15:45	58	Club	Women	8+
25	Senior	Men	8+		16:00	59	Premier	Women	8+
26	Premier	Men	4-		16:15	60	Premier	Men	8+