

INTERNATIONAL BREAST CANCER PADDLERS COMMISSION (IBCPC)

NEWS BULLETIN No: 1

Date: 6th December 2007

Background:

Following on from Abreast in Australia Caloundra 2007 and the Tenth Anniversary Celebrations in Vancouver 2005, the next International Participatory Festival for breast cancer teams will be held in 2010 under the auspices of the International Breast Cancer Paddling Commission. (IBCPC)

At both Caloundra and Vancouver the emphasis was on participation and inclusiveness. The key to both events was that the hosts, Dragons Abreast Australia and Abreast In A Boat Vancouver fully embraced this concept and ensured it permeated every facet of the planning so that the breast cancer survivors attending were able to have the best time!

Breast cancer teams have agreed that each of these events has set a standard which we are keen to see applied globally.

An event with the IBCPC stamp will ensure a standard for participants, paddling venues and social events. These standards will be clearly laid down in documentation. For example all paddling participants will be people who have been diagnosed with and treated for breast cancer. The Sandy Smith Global Race and Medals of Participation for all attendees are examples of other features.

NEXT STEPS:

2009 Those breast cancer teams wishing to paddle competitively have the opportunity to do so under the auspices of the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF), the IDBF World Cor Coms in Miami, Florida in July 2009.

2010 The next International Participatory event will be held under the auspices of the IBCPC in 2010. A bidding process will be established to identify the host of the event.

HOW WILL THIS HAPPEN?

Prior to opening the bidding the IBCPC will undertake an international survey. This survey will identify what breast cancer paddlers consider to be the most important elements of a participatory event.

The IBCPC steering committee will analyse the survey and establish criteria for hosting the event. We anticipate that the criteria will be established by the spring of 2008. Completed bids to be lodged by summer 2008.

A selection committee including representatives of the organising committees of Caloundra 2007 and Vancouver 2005, will be established to assess the bids and recommend the venue.

The announcement of the successful bid will be late summer 2008.