



*Mission —To support all USACK affiliated clubs in their efforts to provide quality paddling programs to their members and communities.*

*Vision —To foster an environment in which the athletes, coaches, officials, directors, parents and volunteers are valued and respected in their efforts to support the growth of sprint canoe and kayak.*

### **Club Athlete Development Camp — Lake Placid — June 29 to July 7**

I wish to thank all clubs for notifying me, as requested in Bulletin #11, with the number of club athletes taking part in this USACK project.

Here is my breakdown — if there are corrections to be made please let me know asap — SCKC – 2; Gig – 9; SDCKT – 1; HCKT – 1; LCKC – 16; KCKC – 1. That is a total of 30 athletes and the appropriate number of racing shirts and certificates required will now be ordered.

Each day club athletes are welcome to join the two water workouts as well as land sessions. The water workouts are as follows:

- 9:30 – 11:00 & 5:00 to 6:30 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday am — Tuesday is the Canada Day Regatta.
- Friday afternoon is OFF as the beach is cleared of boats for the July 4<sup>th</sup> FIREWORKS – a spectacular event that must be seen that night.
- Athletes are to meet at the Mirror Lake beach area at 8:30 and 4:00 for warm up activities and on water boat assignments.
- All athletes will be met each workout and assigned training groups by members of the coaching staff.
- Club coaches involved include — Alan Anderson, Head Coach Gig Harbor; Dave Robertson, Head Coach LCKC; Devri Robertson, Asst. Coach LCKC; Blane Chong, Asst. Coach HCKT; Graham Ulmer & Jon Sousley, Asst. Coaches Gig Harbor; Aasim Saleh, Asst. Coach, Seattle Canoe and Kayak Club
- There is no charge to take part in this Club Development Camp
- Clubs are responsible for registering their athletes in each regatta – the Canada Day Regatta registration package has been forwarded to your club and for the Lake Placid International check their website for registration information [www.lakeplacidinternational.com](http://www.lakeplacidinternational.com)

### **Coaching Education in Lake Placid**

The following coaches have contacted me, as per Bulletin #11 and will attend the three coaching seminars to be offered on Monday, June 30, Wednesday, July 2 and Thursday July 3 at the Olympic Training Center 12:30 to 2:00. Alan Anderson, Jon Sousley, Jaime Preston and Graham Ulmer, Gig Harbor; Aasim Saleh, SCKC; Dan Henderson, Cascade; Blane Chong, HCKT; Devri and Dave Robertson, LCKC; Wanda Blackburn, SEP.

Topics include Coaching and Leadership; Coaching Philosophy and Ethical Coaching Practices.

There is no charge for this ongoing National Development Coaching Education program offered by USACK.

### **Moscow Junior Trials Event — August 3 and 4 — Oklahoma City**

Mary Garland, Events Chair for the Sprint Racing Committee, has agreed to once again take on the task of coordinating the entries for the Trials for the Moscow Pre Test Regatta. The Trials are the 2 days preceding Nationals, but there is a separate registration process.

The plan is to use the same arrangement as we had for the National Team Trials and Olympic Team Trials event in Oklahoma City in April – online. The entry deadline will be Sunday July 20 12:00 midnight PT.

Entry information will be sent out to all clubs shortly and will be posted on the website as well.

The events will be: —

MK – Singles and Doubles 1000m and 500m

WK – Singles and Doubles 1000m and 500m

MC – Singles and Doubles 1000m and 500m

All athletes must meet the ICF Junior age requirements — the first year a competitor can compete is the year that his/her birthday falls and the last year s/he can compete is the year that his/her birthday falls – 1990 – 1993.

Athletes will be asked to check in at the Chesapeake Boathouse on Saturday August 2 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. Boat control will be open that same day from 1:00 to 6:00 pm. All boats must complete Pre Competition Certification. Boat Control will open at 7:00 am on race days.

The scratch meeting will be held Saturday, August 2 at 6:00 pm in the Chesapeake Boathouse.

The 1000m singles events will begin at 8:00 am on Sunday, August 3 with the doubles events following at 10:00 am. The 500m events will begin at 8:00 am on Monday, August 4 with the doubles events following at 10:00 am. Preliminary numerical entry tallies as of June 11 from the club coaches, indicate that there will be heats in the MK, while WK and MC will be direct finals.

From the posted Selection Criteria — nomination fee — all athletes named to the 2008 Moscow Junior Test Team (MJTT) must provide the USACK office with a \$1000.00 nomination fee by Friday, August 29, 2008, 5:00 pm EDT. Although the majority of the cost involved with being a member of the 2008 MJTT will be covered by USACK, nominated athletes will be required to provide the \$1000.00 fee to assist in the extensive cost of food, airfare, accommodation, boat rental and accreditation fees during the period of August 30 to 7, 2008.

The minimum time standards as posted on the USACK website are as follows:

MK1 500 1:46.0 MK1 1000 3:50.0 MK2 500 1:36.0 MK2 1000 3:29.0  
MC1 500 2:03.0 MC1 1000 4:20.0 MC2 500 1:55.0 MC2 1000 3:59.0  
WK1 500 2:01.0 WK1 1000 4:15.0 WK2 500 1:53.0 WK2 1000 3:57.0

### Moscow Pre World Junior Championship Regatta



**Date:** September 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Place:** Moscow, Rowing Canal “Krylatskoe” (west district of Moscow)

**Age group:** 15-18 years old (born 1990 – 1993)

**Events:** Men: 1000 / 500 m K1, K2, K4, C1, C2, C4

Women: 500 m K1, K2, K4 / 1000 m K1, K2

Each team **may enter two crews** in each event indicated in program.

#### **Preliminary time schedule**

Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 – heats 1000 m

MK1, MC1, WK1, MK2, MC2, WK2, MK4, MC4

16:00 – heats 500 m

MK1, MC1, WK1, MK2, MC2, WK2, MK4, MC4, WK4

Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 – semi-finals 1000 m

16:00 - FINALS 1000 m

Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 – semi-finals 500 m

16:00 - FINALS 500 m

### ***2008 National Championships – August 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> – Oklahoma City***

#### **— IMPORTANT NOTICE from Chief Official—**

The USACK membership deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>. All US Participants in the USACK Sprint National Championships must be a current registered member of USACK on June 30, 2008.

Club membership will be determined by the athletes listed on the USACK roster of each club on June 30.

USACK will supply the organizing committee a list of all US athletes eligible to compete by July 2. This roster will determine club membership AND ELIGIBILITY for the 2008 National Championships.

NOTE: You will not be able to update your USACK membership at Nationals you must update your membership prior to June 30, 2008 to be eligible to compete.

## **Jack Kelly Fair Play Award**

The Jack Kelly Fair Play Award was established by the United States Olympic Committee in 1985 to honor the late USOC President John B. (Jack) Kelly Jr. *The award is presented to an athlete, coach or official in recognition of an outstanding act of fair play and sportsmanship displayed during the past year.*

Fair play can be described as an athlete who is dedicated to playing fair, obeys the rules, and upholds the spirit of the game. Sportsmanship is an athlete whose conduct and attitude demonstrate gracious behavior before, during, and after competition.

Nominees are now being sought for this distinguished honor, which will be officially presented during the October 10-12, 2008 Olympic Assembly Meeting in Orlando, Fla. Please contact M.Hickox for the nomination form. Nomination deadline is **Monday, June 16, 2008. NOTE: This information was just received June 9<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Paddle All – First Ever International Conference**

The 1st International PaddleALL Conference was held in Montreal, Quebec from March 27-30th. Nine countries representing four continents were in attendance for this historical and pivotal moment in the adaptive paddling movement.

Countries participating included: Canada, US, Brazil, UK, France, Italy, Hungary, Ukraine, and New Zealand. **Mr Gerald Babao**, USACK Director of Development, Membership and Events, attended on our behalf.

**Mr. Francesco Conforti**, International Canoe Federation Treasurer and Executive member attended the conference. He brought warm greetings from the ICF and indicated that this first ever conference for paddlers with disabilities was especially welcomed by the ICF due to the ICF's goal of applying to the IPC to include canoe / kayak events on the 2012 Paralympic program as exhibition events.

The first day of the conference featured presentations from key note speakers. **Patrick Jarvis**, of the International Paralympic Executive Committee, delivered an insightful, eloquent, and entertaining presentation which educated the audience on various aspects of the Paralympic Games. **Ray Allard**, former Vice-President of Sport for Special Olympics Canada and former Senior Consultant for Sport Canada, shared his lessons on developing successful programs and competitions for persons with an intellectual disability. With its recent inclusion into the Paralympic Games, rowing has a successful and well established set of classifications and categories for disabilities. **Allison Sheard**, coordinator of the National Adaptive Rowing Team for Rowing Canada Aviron, shared rowing's experiences developing an adaptive program and preparing for the 2012 Paralympic Games in London.

Countries shared ideas on how our sport can develop the best adaptive paddling programs possible. All Federations involved in these programs are using a wide variety of boats to make it happen including; flatwater canoes and kayaks, sit-on-top kayaks, outrigger canoes, sea-kayaks, dragonboats, etc. **Heather Robertson Corrigan**, CKC-Atlantic PaddleALL Coordinator, said *'PaddleALL' has sprung from a grassroots movement onto the international competition scene. The planned inclusion of events at the Milan competition in May 2008, Canadian Nationals in August 2008, and the Senior Worlds in Dartmouth 2009 will provide the necessary goals for our athletes.* An inspiring presentation by **Jan Whitaker of the USA** described how she is using outrigger boats to work with amputees of the "Wounded Warrior" program of the US military.

Arising from the conference discussions, Federations, including USA, sent adaptive teams to the Milano World Cup in May, as a first step to inclusion in the 2012 Paralympic Games. This participation is important as it will be used in the submission to the IPC which will be done in early 2009. See photo accompanying this article.

The main outcomes of the Conference include guiding Principles, Goals, Events and the Classification System for the long term international PaddleALL program. Specifically, this event schedule is to be recommended to the ICF for the IPC application includes four kayak races and one canoe (sitting) race, which will be divided into three disability classifications: leg, trunk and arms (LTA), trunk and arms (TA), and arms only (A). To view the Final Report of the Conference and all the presentations, please go to:

<http://www.canoekayak.ca/pages/eng/790/>

Countries are encouraged towards the following principles: both canoe and kayak events need to be included, a gender-balanced approach is important and, paddlers with intellectual disabilities need to be addressed as well as paddlers with physical disabilities. The Conference left individuals with a sense of optimism and hope for the future of adaptive paddling. Many Federations remarked how PaddleALL programs enriched not only their national federations but also their member clubs due to the opening up of our sport to broad new communities which also now enjoy paddling. The steps made during the Montreal conference makes inclusion into the 2012 Paralympic Games look more promising.



L to R: Gerald Babao, Tammy Jopson, Jan Whitaker, Xavier Major

Racing in the first ever ICF sanctioned PaddleAbility events at the European Canoe Sprint Championships, Team USA performed beyond expectations. Congratulations to Team USA for their participation in Milan. Job well done!

The following athletes represented Team USA on May 15-18, 2008 in Milan, Italy.

Tammy Jopson, Rochester, NY (“LTA” paddler with below knee amputation)

- Teacher aide in Rochester area school district • Outrigger canoe paddler since 2001.
- Member of team of mainland U.S. paddlers who competed in exhibition outrigger canoe sprint races in 2004 IVF World Sprints and 2006 IVF World Sprints
- Member of winning mixed team in V6 500-meter division in 2006 IVF World Sprints in New Zealand.

Xavier Major, Rochester, NY (“A” paddler with spinal cord injury at the T10 level)

- Engineering technician for FRA Engineering in Rochester, New York
- Outrigger canoe paddler since 1998.
- Wheelchair basketball player: National Wheelchair Basketball Association
- ESL Jefferson Award Winner for Outstanding Community Service

Jan Whitaker, Rochester, NY (Volunteer Coach)

- Retired teacher of health and physical education United States Canoe Association, Adaptive Paddling Chairman since 2001, prior International Chairman and Youth Chairman; established exhibition outrigger canoe sprint races and national championship sprint races for paddlers with physical disabilities; established exhibition outrigger canoe sprint races for paddlers with intellectual disabilities

- International Va'a Association, member of Adaptive Paddling Committee and 2008 paddler classification panel
- Cape Ability Outrigger Ohana, President; CAOO is an all volunteer chapter of Disabled Sports USA, organized by Jan in 2005 with a focus on paddle sports
- Empire State Games (New York State), State Chairman for masters marathon canoe and kayak races for the past five years
- Coach of 2008 IVF World Sprints Adaptive Paddling Team, a 6-man and 6-woman team
- Author of numerous articles on adaptive paddling published in Kanu Culture, Challenge Magazine, USCA's Canoe News, currently writing an adaptive outrigger canoe instructional manual
- Race director of the Rochester River Challenge Outrigger Canoe Sprint Races (since 1997), an inclusive community event for paddlers with and without physical and/or intellectual disabilities; the RRC has been a Wounded Warrior Disabled Sports project event since 2005.

Debbie Page has agreed to assist Gerald Babao in moving Paddle All programs forward in the USACK community. If your club would like more information please contact [gerald@usack.org](mailto:gerald@usack.org)

### ***NACCK Meetings —2008 Nationals***

On Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> the National Association of Coaches in Canoe/Kayak will hold a noon hour meeting to elect its 2009 Board of Directors, review events of this past year, distribute copies of the constitution and discuss directions for 2009. The meeting will begin 30 minutes following the conclusion of the morning events and will be convened inside the Chesapeake Boathouse. Each meeting will last 30 minutes and is for club coach members.

### ***Volunteerism***

A huge thank you to Debbie Page for driving the truck and trailer from Lake Placid to San Diego following the Pan Am Championships and Continental Olympic Qualifier. This is not a small feat! Also a thank you goes out to Newport Aquatic Club and Billy Whitford for the use of their trailer.

“Friendships through paddling”

*Mac*