



龍舟 LONGZHOU

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION

SEASON'S GREETINGS

WISHING YOU A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON
AND A SAFE NEW YEAR



MESSAGE FROM MIKE

On the evening that we would have all been together celebrating the end of the championship and the 30th Anniversary, instead we held a virtual celebration online.

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IDBF30 CELEBRATIONS

The special one hour Facebook Live celebration showcased a collection of messages of congratulations, birthday cakes, lion dancing and speeches from esteemed dragon boat dignitaries.

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18TH ORDINARY CONGRESS - PART 1

The 4th December saw part 1 of the 18th IDBF Members Ordinary Congress held by video conference. Read the summary.

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HOW THE IDBF BEGAN

For 2,400 years dragon boat racing had been an annual festival, not a recognised sport. Hong Kong changed that and the story of the founding of the IDBF began in 1976, in the Chinese 'Year of the Dragon'.

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2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Congratulations to this year's International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame winners. See the full list of inductees and their highlighted achievements.

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DID YOU MISS?

- Help support paradrasons team PADs to rebuild
- CCWC2022 Bulletin 1 and Official Invitation

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facebook.com/idbf.dragonboat.sport/



twitter.com/idbf_dragonboat



@dragonboat.sport

SEASON'S GREETINGS



This message comes to you during the holiday period of Christmas and the calendar year 2021 will shortly draw to a close.

Again, this year, there has been no IDBF World Championship due to the worldwide pandemic. We had hoped to celebrate our 30th Anniversary Year during the world dragon boat championships in Hong Kong. On the evening that we would have all been together celebrating the end of the championship and the 30th Anniversary, instead we held a virtual celebration online.

One of the 30th Anniversary events was to establish the IDBF Hall of Fame. My very warm congratulations to all of the inductees to the Hall of Fame.

The book that we are producing to celebrate the first 30 years of the International Dragon Boat Federation is nearing completion and it will soon be available for purchase in 2022.

The first bulletin for the Club Crew World Championship to be held in Sarasota during 18th to 24th July 2022 has just been published. I sincerely hope that many of us will be able to meet again where the spirit of the dragon will enable us all to share our love of the sport together.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season and I look forward to a positive year for dragon boating in 2022.

Mike Thomas

President IDBF



HOW THE IDBF BEGAN

BY ROBERT WILSON, IDBF FOUNDING PRESIDENT

For 2,400 years dragon boat racing had been an annual festival, not a recognised sport.

Hong Kong changed that and the story of the founding of the IDBF began in 1976, in the Chinese 'Year of the Dragon', when John Paine, Executive Director of the Hong Kong Tourist Association, invited a crew from Nagasaki, Japan to compete against nine fishermen's crews during the annual dragon boat festival in Shau Kei Wan, a small fishing port on the eastern side of Hong Kong Island.

The object was to promote Hong Kong as a tourist destination during the summer low season.

Nagasaki returned in 1977, joined by a team from Penang.

In 1978 the races moved to the Central Harbour's East Tsim Sha Tsui waterfront, with overseas entries from Nagasaki, Penang and Singapore.

The races were being televised live across Asia but after a collision in the Grand Final a brawl erupted between a Hong Kong crew from Saikung and Nagasaki, the previous year's winner and favourites to win again, and then between the Saikung crew and the winning Hong Kong crew from Aberdeen. This wasn't the kind of publicity wanted by the Tourist Association.

The races had been managed by one of Hong Kong's fishermen's associations, but a few days earlier the Hong Kong Amateur Rowing Association (HKARA) had been formed to develop rowing. Bob Wilson was its President and, seeing an opportunity to establish the HKARA's credentials as an organiser of water sport, he approached the Tourist Association.

His offer of help was accepted and for the next 18 years the Rowing Association managed the Hong Kong races.

The HKARA took the view that the races should be organized like a serious sport so they drafted rules of racing and trained dragon boat race officials. They ensured that the boats started level and installed photo-finish equipment. The full length of the waterfront promenade was used and when the finish line was set the course distance was found to be 640 metres. This was longer than usual for dragon boat races, but being more challenging it helped establish the Hong Kong races as something special.

In 1978 Singapore established its own international races, followed in 1979 by Penang and these three regattas, together with Macau, made for an attractive circuit for visiting crews.

Invitations to compete were issued in the Tourist Association's target countries around the world and in 1980 three dragon boats were sent to London to race on the Thames in a Hong Kong promotional festival.

The HKARA officials took the view that race management and officiating had to be ahead of the standard of the competing crews. Competitors responded to this and there were very few protests.

Wilson, as Race Controller, briefed the overseas crew representatives before the races and met with them afterwards to discuss how the races had gone and to hear any suggestions for improvement.

In 1995 some 4,300 competitors took part and the Hong Kong races had become the world's biggest international dragon boat regatta and the de facto world club championship. By promoting the races the Tourist Association had stimulated the formation of more than a hundred dragon boat clubs around the world.



Image: John Paine. Photo credit: Bob Wilson.



Image: Bob Wilson.

HOW THE IDBF BEGAN

During the 1980s a number of national dragon boat associations had been formed and on June 4, 1990 Wilson chaired a conference of 35 dragon boat race organisers and team representatives from 15 countries. The state of dragon boat racing in each country was reported and the need for an international federation was agreed. Wilson summarized the proposed purposes of the federation and said that a steering committee should be set up to prepare a draft constitution and that a foundation meeting should be convened within 12 months. A seven member steering group was then appointed under his chairmanship.

In the following months Wilson drafted proposed statutes and on June 24, 1991 he chaired the meeting in Hong Kong where twelve national associations founded the International Dragon Boat Federation, adopted its first statutes and elected its first Council members. Wilson became President, Mike Haslam, from the UK, became Secretary-General and Lu Jin-dong, from China, became Honorary President.

The Tourist Association offered secretarial support and the IDBF became the first and only international sports federation to be headquartered in Hong Kong.

Wilson served as President until 1994 then stepped down because, he said, the role really needed someone who could devote more time and do more travelling than he could, given his other sports commitments in Hong Kong. He emphasized that a lot of the credit for making dragon boat racing into a successful sport should go to his HKARA colleagues and to people at the Hong Kong Tourist Association who first got the ball rolling and then wholeheartedly supported the development of the sport.



IDBF 30TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

MODERN DAY DRAGON BOAT RACING

- Lavishly illustrated coffee table style book.
- History of the sport.
- Memories from every Worlds and Club Crew Championships.
- Interviews with notable dragon boat individuals.
- Available to purchase online or at the CCWC in Sarasota.
- Must have dragon boat item for 2022!

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN 2022

Book proudly sponsored by



30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Online Celebration Event

Reaching almost 11,000 people on Facebook, the special one hour online celebration event saw speeches from Current President Mike Thomas, IDBF Founding President Robert Wilson and IDBF Founder, Honorary President Mike MacKeddie-Haslam. A special lion dance performance from Sydney, Australia as well as video messages of congratulations from international race officials, Singapore Dragon Boat Association and paddlers from around the world were shared online. Everyone enjoyed the presentation from the Chinese Dragon Boat Association presented by Wei Wei. The event concluded with the inaugural International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame announcement of inductees, where sport developers, and athletes were acknowledged for their significant contribution to the sport. The video is available on the [IDBF Facebook page](#).



30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Video messages of congratulations from member federations

A big thank you to all the dragon boat member federations who sent through their video messages of congratulations. The videos are available on our [IDBF Facebook page](#) or [Youtube channel](#).

- Chinese Dragon Boat Association
- Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association
- Argentina Dragon Boat Association
- Australian Dragon Boat Federation
- British Dragon Boat Association
- Dragon Boat Canada
- Czech Dragon Boat Association
- Dragon Boat Egypt
- Irish Dragon Boat Association
- Akko Dolphins (Israel)
- Italian Dragon Boat Federation
- Japan Dragon Boat Association
- Russian Association of Paddle Sports
- Singapore Dragon Boat Association
- Swedish Dragon Boat Association
- The Rowing and Canoeing Association of Thailand
- Ukraine Dragon Boat Federation

Thank!
You!



Message of Congratulations

Mr. Fan Guangsheng
President of ADBF
President of CDBA
Vice President of IDBF



Message of Congratulations

Arnold Chung Chi Lok
Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association



Message of Congratulations

Liu Jingang
Asociación de Botes Dragon Argentina
阿根廷龙舟协会



Message of Congratulations

AusDBF Board of Directors
Australian Dragon Boat Federation



Message of Congratulations

Neil Pickles
British Dragon Boat Racing Association



Message of Congratulations

Scott Murray
Dragon Boat Canada



Message of Congratulations

Petr Klimr
Czech Dragon Boat Association



Message of Congratulations

Ehab Gouda and Mary Lai
Dragon Boat Egypt



Message of Congratulations

Dympna Watson
Irish Dragon Boat Association



Message of Congratulations

Gal Indyk
Akko Dolphins (Israel)



Message of Congratulations

Antonio de Lucia
Italian Dragon Boat Federation



Message of Congratulations

Makoto Shobu
Japan Dragon Boat Association



Message of Congratulations

Vitaly Smirnov
Russian Association of Paddle Sports



Message of Congratulations

Florian Konsertbutiken
Swedish Dragon Boat Association



Message of Congratulations

Capt. Wiwat Khwansongnern
The Rowing and Canoeing Association of
Thailand (R.C.A.T.)



Message of Congratulations

Valerii Morgun
Ukraine Dragon Boat Federation

2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

 International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

Lu Jindong 路金栋 China

- IDBF 1st Honorary President
- First Chairperson of the Chinese Dragon Boat Association
- Campaigned for and hosted the first IDBF World Championships in China

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



 International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

Mike MacKeddie-Haslam Great Britain

- Leader of the IDBF for almost 25 years
- IDBF Founder and Honorary IDBF President
- Championships Director 1999 IDBF World Championships

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



 International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

Mike Thomas Great Britain

- Current IDBF President
- Chief Official at many IDBF World Championships including the first
- Advocates tirelessly for the IDBF with the international sport community

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

Robert Wilson

Hong Kong, China

- First IDBF President
- IDBF Honorary President
- Organised the Hong Kong International Dragon Boat races from 1979 - 1997

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

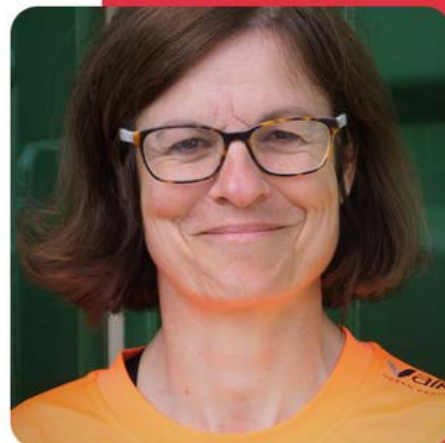
Julie Doyle

Ireland

- Member of British Dragon Boat Team for 16 years
- Established the Irish Dragon Boat Association
- General Secretary EDBF and Vice President IDBF

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

Bob and Peggy Morro

USA

- Chief Judge at the first IDBF World Championships
- Both were international officials for two decades
- Created the IDBF Officials License Book
- Organised the first World Championships held in the USA

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Peter Jarosi

Hungary

- Chief Organiser of two IDBF World Championships
- Vice President EDBF and IDBF
- Engaged in dragon boat development from club to national team level

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



Don McKenzie

Canada

- Professor Emeritus Sport and Exercise Medicine at the University of British Columbia
- Spearheaded the development of dragon boat for breast cancer paddlers
- Passionate advocate for the benefits of sport for health

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



Jonathan Taylor

Australia

(Awarded posthumously)

- Driving force behind the development of dragon boat sport in Australia
- Promoted dragon boat throughout Oceania particularly New Zealand
- Instrumental in Australia's successful 2007 IDBF World Championships

Category: Developer

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



2021 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

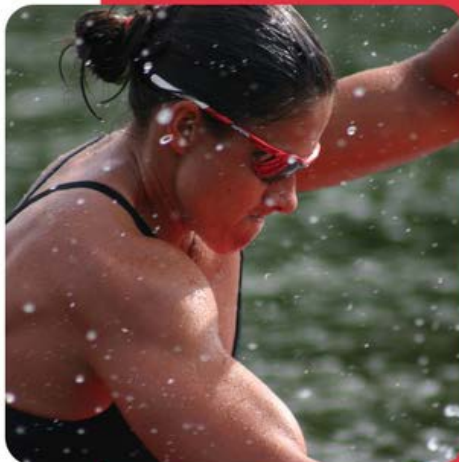
Kamini Jain

Canada

- First international competition was in 1990 in Hong Kong
- First Gold medal was at the 1996 IDBF World Championships followed by two decades with Canada's Premier and Mixed Teams
- Never missed the podium in 30 years

Category: Athlete

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

Kevin McFadden

USA

- First IDBF World Championships 1995
- Co-captain of Team USA 1995 - 2013
- Medalled in 10 out of 11 World Championship appearances

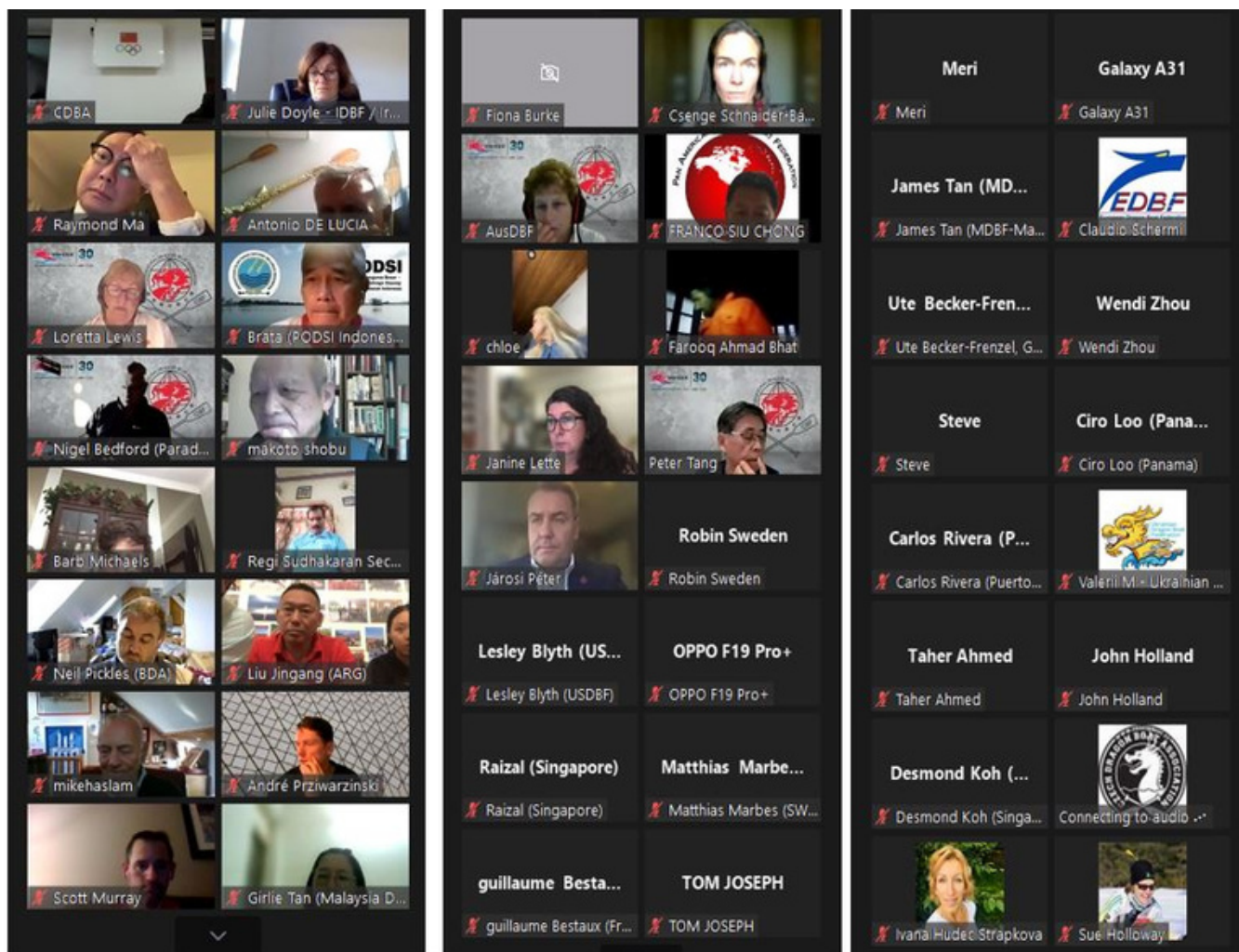
Category: Athlete

Congratulations on your induction into the IDBF International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame for 2021.



IDBF - International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame

The International Dragon Boat Hall of Fame aims to recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of the men and women who have made a significant contribution to the sport of dragon boat. Whether it is their excellence on the water or their efforts behind the scene, they have demonstrated their commitment to building our sport and inspired others to achieve their best.



The 4th December saw part 1 of the 18th IDBF Members Ordinary Congress held by video conference. Part 2 will take place on Saturday, 15th January 2022 where bids will be received for World Championship regattas 2023 - 2025. In summary:

The following people were elected to the IDBF Council.

- Matt Smith (CAN) - Vice President
- Claudio Schermi (ITA) - Vice President
- Julie Doyle (IRL) - Vice President
- Raymond Ma (HGK) - Vice President
- Dr Liu Aijie (CHN) - Vice President, nominated by China
- Peter Tang (MAC) - General Secretary
- Loretta Lewis (AUS) - Deputy Treasurer
- Sue Holloway (CAN) - Athletes Commission Chair
- Wendi Zhou (CAN) - Youth Commission Chair
- Nigel Bedford (GBR) - Paradrasons Paddlers Commission Chair
- Li Hanjie (CHN) - Sport For All Commission Chair
- Gitta Weberi (GER) - Women Athletes Commission Chair

New full members joining the IDBF in 2021 included the re-organised Malaysian Dragon Boat Federation and the Panama Chinese Cultural Centre.

Membership for 2022 was agreed at:

- US\$500 - Full Members
- US\$100 - Ordinary Members

There also included a number of IDBF Statute and Bye-Law changes.

Much needed help required for our dragon boat community

As some of you may or may not be aware super Typhoon Odette ripped through the Philippines recently causing much human and economic destruction in its path. Unfortunately the PADS (Philippine Accessible Disability Services) Dragon Boat Club have lost everything with their club house and equipment being totally destroyed by mother nature. As well as its members now homeless.

This paradragon club was formed in late 2016 with a mission to:

- To work for an inclusive compassionate society where Persons with Disabilities (PWD's) can realise their full potentials as co-equal partners in nation-building.
- To serve as an advocacy arena where concerned individuals and institutions work together to promote the rights and entitlements, as well as issues and concerns of the disability community.
- To function as a knowledge and resource centre for the disability community and their families.
- To allow the disability community to act as advocates in the areas of disability inclusion.
- To operate as a volunteering platform where national and international volunteers can be involved in promoting and realising the rights and entitlements of the disability community.

For five years, by being part of PADS, a disabled person could find hope and a reason to live - today that has all gone. Everything has gone.

We would like PADS to know that as dragon boaters we are a community and as such are here to support one another in times of hardship. If you feel you can help with establishing a new club house and equipment, please visit their website and make a donation.

<https://pads.org.ph> | [Paypal donations](#)





The United States Dragon Boat Federation (USDBF) and the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF), cordially invite Club Crews from around the world to participate in the Club Crew World Championships. (CCWC).

Date

The 13th IDBF Club Crew World Dragon Boat Racing Championships will be held in Sarasota, Florida, USA. Team arrival and training will be held Thursday, July 14th to Sunday, July 17th. Competition will be held from Monday, July 18 to Sunday, July 24, 2022.

Regatta course

- Address: 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota, Florida 34235
- Width: 130 meters
- Depth: 3.5 meters minimum
- Racing Lanes: 9 lanes each of 13.5 meters wide
- Docks: multiple – and will be positioned for greatest flexibility and ease of loading
- Water Quality: healthy quality and tested monthly; the lake is part of an overall water system which feeds into the water supply for the City of Bradenton
- Avg Temp: July average temperatures are a low of 73° F (23° C) and a high of 93° F (34° C)

For more information regarding the event site, please visit <https://nathanbendersonpark.org>

Tentative schedule

It is expected that most Teams will arrive during the period of July 14th – 17th 2022. Crews are advised to arrive in Sarasota no later than Sunday, July 17th.

Vaccination requirements

Information about COVID-19 and travel to the USA and Florida can be found at www.floridahealthcovid19.gov/travelers/. The local organizing committee is committed to providing a safe environment for event participants. In coordination with the Florida Department of Health and local emergency management, COVID mitigation protocols will be implemented throughout the event. Additional information about these protocols will be provided in future bulletins.

[Bulletin 1](#) and the [Official Invitation](#) is available on the IDBF website.



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