

## STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUNDUP

It seems hard to believe that the season is nearly over with only the Australian Championships remaining.

Our competitors in both the State Masters and Open Championships produced wonderful results for our club and indicated to the other clubs in the State what a strong competitive club Redhead is. The masters had many wonderful results with the most outstanding being the club finishing in fifth spot with 137 points behind Queenscliff, Manly, Swansea Belmont and Newport. Individually Mat Kent, Michelle Kent and Ross Blatchford won their iron man events and the ski section were extremely strong winning a number of ski relays and double ski events.

In the open category our club finished 8<sup>th</sup> with 130 points, which was a tremendous effort when you consider that our only sand competitor was Boyd Conrick who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the open 2k run. The shortened course did not suit Boyd who was chasing a hat-trick in this event after winning 2008 and 2009 titles. Whilst speaking of hat-trick's Stewart McLachlan was also chasing a hat trick after victories in the 2008 and 2009 open board race however he had to be content with second place, being beaten by less than 300 mm in a run-up the beach after eight competitors were on lead wave **Congratulations, Boyd and Stewart a wonderful effort.**

Whilst talking about efforts, how good was the paddle Peter Scott, who won the open ski race by a wave, towelling up the young gun Murray Stewart from Manly, who took all before him in the lead up races. Peter seems to get better with age so we expect him to be around for a few more years yet. Special mention should also be made of the performances of Cherie Smith at the Masters and Open events. Cherie has just joined our club and her swim in the open ladies was a great result, welcome and congratulations Cherie.

The victory in the U/19 ladies tube race was particularly satisfying at all of the girls at progress from our junior ranks to the senior ranks and all are committed trainers and loyal club members, congratulations Maddy, Jess, Allannah and Laura a truly wonderful result.

The strength in our club at present is definitely in the under 17 division where a number of fantastic results were obtained. Jess Collins, Zoe Kemp and Allannah Luttrell finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the U/17 taplan relay was unexpected but very rewarding to these competitors who have trained very hard all season. Jess also took out the U/17 board race and a close second in the under 17 swim race.

Rory Tanner and Brendan Pullan took out a gold medal in the U/17 board rescue event, with Isaac Morgan and Jay Sullivan in 5<sup>th</sup> place and Mat Fairbairn and Michael Reilly 6<sup>th</sup>, a dominant display by the age group but also a satisfying result for Rory and Brendan.

The U/17 swim team of Isaac, Jay, Mat and Rory finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and Isaac was a close second in the U/17 board race.

The U/15 division also had success with Hannah Trypas finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U/15 diamond lady event and combining with Hannah Ward to gain second place in the board rescue event. Hannah, Hannah, Alex and Maddy also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U/15 Cameron relay.

The under 15 boys suffered a couple of injuries which depleted their teams but James McMorland grabbed 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the under 15 board race which was a very satisfying result. James came to our club a couple of years ago from Caves Beach and despite limited team opportunities James has stayed with our club and in doing so has developed his skills considerably. James is a valuable member of our club and few are more deserving of a medal than James, congratulations on your first senior medal.

## **BOATIES**

Several years of building from the bottom is starting to pay dividends for boat captain Stew, the under 23 girls made it to round 3, just failing to move into the semi finals and the under 19 boys after winning 3 races on the final day finished a gallant 4<sup>th</sup> in the finals after looking set for a medal the surf God was not kind allowing a number of boats to jag a wave from behind. The boys are pumped for Aussies and consider themselves a dark horse for the event.

## **STATE ACCOMODATION CUDGEN HEADLAND 2011**

The State Championships will be held at Cudgen Headland in 2011 and 2012. In 2011 the masters will be held on March 17 and the open championships from March 18-20. The club has secured 10 x 2 bedroom units in the Mantra complex and 5 x 2 bedroom units in the Ocean Plaza complex directly opposite Coolangatta Beach. This accommodation is 15 minutes from the venue and located in the heart of the shopping and restaurant precinct of Coolangatta, yes you will probably need a car for transport to the carnival but there is little accommodation remaining within walking distance of the championship venue. The cost of the two-bedroom units is \$180 per night and at present the club has blocked the units for six nights. Should you wish to avail yourself to one of these units please contact Deb McLachlan 49460581 and pay a \$100 deposit to the club. Deb will also require your phone number and e-mail address. Get in early because I'm sure that the units will not last.

## **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS AND AUSSIE TRAILOR PACKING**

The club championships will be held on Saturday the 14th of March commencing at 1.30pm. At the completion of the Championships we will load our equipment onto the trailer so that it can be transported to Queensland for the Australian championships. We also intend to have a barbecue after packing the trailer.

## **CLUB SWIMMERS**

Competitors who require swimmers for Aussies or just want a spare pair, boys contact Sharon Morgan and girls Sandy Collins.

## **REDHEAD SURF CLUB GOLF DAY**

The annual golf day will be held this Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March at Charlestown Golf Club with a shotgun start at 8am. This day raises valuable funds for our competitors so if you can get there or assist please contact Tony Greenland.