



## From the Bow of the Boat

*Richard Cole, President*

As DragonSports moves into the post-Rose Festival Race period, it is time to review how we are meeting our goals and what we could be doing about our future. Hundreds of DragonSports members volunteered and assisted in June's Portland Kaohsiung Race. Each one deserves a huge **Thank You!** The 12th annual race was one of the best ever. It began right on time (not very common in dragon boat racing) and despite the rain everyone seemed in high spirits. It is impossible to list all volunteers but I trust each of you will take pride in a job well done. Race Director Joel Shilling and his steering committee did an excellent job organizing the many complex activities for the PKSCA Dragon Boat Races. Just as important, each of us that benefited this year, need to become more active in future events. When the call goes out for your involvement, please do your best to join in the efforts.

DragonSports "regular club" practices have resumed this summer and we are in need of experienced callers and tillers for our Tuesday, Thursday (6 PM), and Saturday (8 AM) practices. Please contact Tina Lyons to volunteer as a caller and/or tiller at (360) 892-2677 days, (503) 777-5527 evenings, or her e-mail at: [tlyons@profood.com](mailto:tlyons@profood.com). After calling or tilling six full regular practice hours, those members will receive one quarter dues free. Contact Gloria Jones for information about this incentive program.

Many teams are using the boats for "closed team practices" as they prepare for racing this summer and fall. Teams interested in racing in the local area, make plans for the **DragonSports, Vancouver Lake Race Sept. 9, 2000**. This is the end of the season fun race and family picnic. Teams are welcome to stay and picnic until dark.

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## Wasabi Qualifies 3 Teams for the 2001 World Championships

*Carol Battan and Doug Schryver*

Wasabi Paddling Club will send 3 dragon boat crews to the 2001 World Dragon Boat Racing Championships, hosted for the first time by USA. Wasabi competed in the first United States National Championship, hosted by the United States Dragon Boat Federation, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on June 17-18, 2000. They took home a gold medal in the Mixed Division and 2 silver medals in the Women's and Masters Division, qualifying all three crews for a position on Team USA at the World Championships to be held in early August, 2001 in Philadelphia. The mixed team won all four of their races: the 250 meter preliminary and final and the 500 meter preliminary and final. They received two trophies for each distance and individual gold medals for each team member.

The women's team won two of their three races: the 250 meter final and the 1000 meter final and finished second in the 500 meter final. Because of a bizarre weighting system in place for this event, even though this great team beat the only other competitive team, Women in Canoe from NYC, in two out of three races (by nearly 8 seconds in the 1000 meter event), and won two of the three available trophies, all team members received silver medals. But trust me, this team was fantastic. **Hot, Hot, Hot Babes in a Boat!**

The master's team won their first race, the 250 meter final by 4/100th of second over an extremely strong Philadelphia team. We finished second by a narrow margin in the 1000 meter final behind Philly again. We finished third in the 500 meter final. Our combination of one first place and one third place was just good enough to get us second place overall with silver medals going to all team members, plus one trophy for winning the 250 meter event.

Wasabi's first place mixed team, second place women's team, and second place masters team all qualified to compete as part of **Team USA** in the 2001 World Championships to be held in Philadelphia. This was the primary goal of Wasabi, so it's **Mission Fully Accomplished!!!** Congratulations to all members of all three teams, but especially the mixed and women's teams who worked tirelessly for months to reach this goal. The masters did extremely well too, for a team which had never really practiced together completely before our first race on Saturday. In summary, 7 wins out of 10 races, two seconds and one third place; five trophies and three teams qualified for the 2001 World Championships. Not bad for a weekend's work (plus months of grueling preparation for the mixed and women's teams). **Hot, Hot, Hot!!!**

The World Championships will be conducted over 250, 500, and 1000 meters with Competition Classes for Open (Senior, Premier, and Junior), Mixed and Women crews. This will be the second time the event has been held outside of Asia, the birthplace of the sport: the Championships were held in Nottingham, England in 1999, in which Wasabi members competed as part of Team USA placing 4th in the 250 meter event and 6th in the 500 meter event. The prior championships were held in Hong Kong in 1997, and Yue Yang, China in 1995. Wasabi will attend this event as part of Team USA along with crews from Iowa, Philadelphia, and New York.

Wasabi is seeking sponsorship to help defray costs and further public recognition of this wonderful team sport. For more information, visit the Wasabi website at: [www.wasabiusa.org](http://www.wasabiusa.org)

*Please turn to Wasabi Qualifies, Page 3*

# Promoting fitness and friend

## DragonSports USA Open Practices

Mon., Wed., and Fri. .... 9:00 AM  
Tuesday ..... 6:00 PM  
Thursday ..... 6:00 PM  
Saturday ..... 8:00 AM

All evening practices  
should be using lights.

**Notice: Be considerate to other teams  
by bringing the boats in 5 minutes  
before your practice ends.**

For information concerning fees,  
please call the information line  
(503) 639-2799, ext. 2. Checks for  
dues or new memberships should be  
mailed to **Bill Collet, Treasurer at:**

3809 N.E. 35th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97212

Please visit our website at:  
[www.dragonsports.org](http://www.dragonsports.org)

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## From the Bow *cont. from page 1*

As final news, the City of Portland is planning to create an East Bank Non-Motorized Water Craft Facility right across the Willamette from our present dock. The more of us that voice our opinions, the better chance our needs will be addressed. These include such things as boat storage and repair facilities, meeting rooms, snack facilities and showers, an enforced no-wake-zone between the Steel and Marquam Bridges, and any other items you can think of. The East Bank Project Managers are: Michael McElwee, Portland Development Commission, 1900 SE 4th Ave. #700, Portland, OR 97204, and George Hudson, Portland Parks and Recreation Bureau, 1120 SW 5th Ave. #1300, Portland, OR 97204.

## Lets get involved!

### Fran Palk a Pioneer Paddler

*Shirley Ewart*

In the beginning, there was Fran! In 1989, Fran Palk was doing an Asian outreach project for PCC and met Dr. En Lok Koo who told her that Portland's Chinese community were bringing in dragon boats and sponsoring dragon boat races. He invited Fran to form a team at PCC. That first year was rough. Fran was able to persuade the Associated Students of PCC to sponsor the team, and advertised for faculty members and students who would like to paddle. Most of that first year team had never even paddled a canoe, let alone raced in the big, heavy Kaohsiung boats and using the huge unwieldy paddles (that have long since been replaced) seemed a daunting task. Nevertheless, they did well and several of those original paddlers came back again in 1990. Fran is proud of having been staff advisor to the team for all of the years since and proud of having paddled for many years with the team. In the Fall of 1997, several former members of the PCC team joined with others to form "Stumptown Paddlers" and Fran was happy to put her talents to work for the new team. She is not only a good, strong paddler, but

every team member will tell you, she's truly the heart and soul of Stumptown. A ritual has developed. Before a race, Stumptown Paddlers "stomp" their team cheer, then Fran runs down the length of the team, and everyone pats her on the head for luck! No one is quite sure how this ritual started, but it certainly spreads Fran's cheerful spirit throughout the team.

Three highlights stand out in Fran's memory. In 1998 she went with DragonSports USA to New Zealand. She recalls a forty mile an hour gale and a boat that tipped over and left the crew swimming in shark infested waters. Nevertheless she loved New Zealand. She especially remembers the grace and beauty of the Maori dancers, and the thrill of "black water rafting" through underground caverns lit only by glow worms. The third highlight during Fran's nearly eleven years of dragon boating was Stumptown Paddler's 1999 trip to Honolulu. The warm waters, the flowers, and the spirit of Aloha all captured her heart.

Fran, who is the English Skills Coordinator for PCC's Student Success Center, graduated from Oregon State University, and received her Master's Degree from the University of Oregon. She is a talented photographer and many dragon boaters cherish pictures she has taken of paddlers and teams.

As we move into the New Year, she hopes to celebrate "The Year of the Dragon" by participating in Stumptown Paddler's busy schedule which once again includes races in Portland, British Columbia, Washington State, and Hawaii.



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# Friendship through paddle sports

## Wasabi Qualifies *cont. from page 1*

Below are the final times from the Philadelphia races:

### Mixed • 250 final:

1st: Wasabi	59.30
2nd: Solid Steel	1:00.10
3rd: DCH	1:00.70

### Women • 250 final:

1st: Wasabi	1:07.07
2nd: Women in Canoe	1:07.74
3rd: Phila	1:13.06

### Masters • 250 final:

1st: Wasabi	1:03.05
2nd: Phila	1:03.09
3rd: Cedar River	1:04.06

### Women • 1000 final:

1st: Wasabi	4:49.50
2nd: Women in Canoe	4:57.60
3rd: Phila	6:03.70

### Masters • 1000 final:

1st: Phila	4:35.50
2nd: Wasabi	4:36.70
3rd: Cedar River	4:43.10

### Mixed • 500 final:

1st: Wasabi	2:02.00
2nd: MAD	2:03.00
3rd: Solid Steel	2:05.00

### Women • 500 final:

1st: Women in Canoe	2:06.06
2nd: Wasabi	2:07.06
3rd: Phila	2:25.08

### Masters • 500 final:

1st: Phila	2:04.28
2nd: Cedar River	2:08.07
3rd: Wasabi	2:08.63

Congratulations to all Wasabi paddlers and to their teams!

## PKSCA Dragon Boat Results Rain, Rain, and More Rain

### Mixed Tier 1

1st: Wasabi Boat 4 Fun	2:47.45
2nd: Draggin' Bottom	2:58.49
3rd: Kai Ikaika (NOHO's)	3:00.63
4th: CCBA	3:01.95

### Mixed Tier 2

1st: Cascadia Canoe Club	2:55.48
2nd: Prudential Power Dragons	3:01.33
3rd: HWCC Karashi Xtreme	3:02.29
4th: Crew's Control	3:02.75

## DragonSports USA

# 2000 Vancouver Lake Regatta

Race Director: Dan Winkler

Come join the fun on **September 9th**. Vancouver Lake has a great picnic facility, so bring the family and spend the day!

Early registration fee is \$250 until August 30th, \$300 after September 1, 2000. Included in the fee are two free practices before the race.

- Maximum 28 teams
- No refunds after August 30, 2000
- Each team should have at least one volunteer. Please contact Maureen Brown at (503) 244-6879.
- Register and pay online at: [www.dragonsports.org](http://www.dragonsports.org) or by check to DragonSports USA at P.O. Box 23502, Tigard, OR 97281-3502

### Mixed Tier 3

1st: Freightliner	3:01.14
2nd: Protocol Monitors	3:02.38
3rd: Spirit of Vancouver	3:07.78
4th: Java Port Dragons	3:09.72

### Gorman Cup

1st: Tamoxifen Taxi	3:42.95
2nd: Chemo Cruisers	3:43.38
3rd: Radiation Rockets	3:46.17
4th: Survivors Shuttle	4:09.11

### Women's Race

1st: SSPMS	3:15.11
1st: Dragon Rose	3:15.11
3rd: Snapdragons	3:17.38
4th: Dragon Flies II	3:21.41

### Friendship Race

1st: Shu-Te	3:37.25
2nd: Team Plog	3:37.52
3rd: Catholic Cruisers I	3:37.77
4th: Catholic Cruisers II	3:38.30

### High School

1st: Franklin High School	3:02.39
2nd: Sunset High School 1	3:03.98
3rd: Cleveland Dragon Tails	3:05.26
4th: Water Walkers	3:10.51
5th: Centennial High School	3:12.18

### Grand Masters

1st: Golden Dragons	3:15.33
2nd: Sierra Springs DB Team	3:18.55

### Masters Race

1st: B-55's	3:08.33
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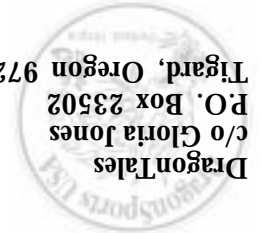
### Hospital Cup

1st: Tsunami USA	3:03.08
2nd: Willamette Five 0	3:03.41
3rd: Precision Dragons	3:13.70
4th: RCH Wave Runners	3:14.34

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## Advertising in DragonTales

Readers who are interested in placing an advertisement in DragonTales are welcome to do so as follows:

### Rates:

\$10 for active members

\$20 for corporations or nonmembers

### Ad Format:

2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" x 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub>"

Advertisers should furnish either electronic files, camera-ready art, or a proof copy. Advertising copy acceptance is subject to space availability and approval by DragonSports USA. For more information please contact Stephanie Travis at (503) 283-6450.

Do you have any ideas or topics you'd like to see covered in DragonTales? Comments and article inspirations are always welcome.



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### North American Dragon Boat Races for 2000

Pacific International Dragon Boat Festival Seattle, WA	July 9
5th Annual AT&T Hawaii Dragon Boat Festival Honolulu, HI	July 22
Long Beach Dragon Boat Races Long Beach, CA	August 5-6
California International Dragon Boat Festival Oakland, CA	August 12-13
Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Victoria, BC, Canada	August 19-20
International Festival Dubuque, IA	September 9-10
DragonSports USA Vancouver, WA	September 9
Northern California International Dragon Boat Championship Foster City, CA	September 16-17