



Coach's Report



This year for me was mainly focused on testing the waters, and seeing how far and what it really did take to turn this group of social paddlers into a mean, keen paddling machine. Well, that was quickly answered when I introduced a new stroke technique to the team. I wondered just how well the team would pick this up and 'run' with it. I can honestly say that there is room for improvement. However despite this our team performed very well at all of our major regattas. I was very impressed with the way many of our senior paddlers stood up and showed leadership where it counted...on the water. We will again be looking at this technique, kindly named the 'J' stroke.

I would like to acknowledge the effort that you, the 'team' put into trainings and regatta's, it is because of guys like you that I love this sport so much. I would like to especially mention those who worked diligently behind the scenes, to ensure that all of the bookings and finances were in place, "you guys rock". To Mr Williams who assisted me in training/coaching thanks mate. And finally to those who have been great ambassadors for the EW dragonboat team and who have departed our friendly shores (Cirina) bon voyage and keep paddling hard.

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To our new and improved 2008/09 team, I can't wait to see what you guys are made of. Good luck for the upcoming season team
- Jimmy Heta

If you could change something for next season, what would it be?



Team spirit....all the way -KH

- Sweep needs a bigger oar -RW
- Airforce would get some planes and fly away. -SM
- Not paying \$12 for a sandwich (Nationals) -SO
- Everyone in costume, more often. -DH
- I would get rid of Cirina from the team, send her back to ozzie I say! -MH
- The Auckland Nationals. Poorly organised, minimal services, no beer discount, and cardboard certificates!!! -TP
- The girls wouldn't use mace on me when I try to kiss them. -DP

I promise I won't drop my paddle. Ever again. Cross my heart and hope to die. -EW
Winning gold in a corporate grand final at a regatta -KH
More socialising after trainings and more big events (come see me in Oz for a regatta!)
-CDP

....and anything else?

It's better to be a REAL team member. Thanks everyone for a fabulous season! -DH
Thanks for the good times everyone, I was maybe thinking of making this my last season, but having this much fun, how could I stop! -MH
Just thanks to the fantastic photography support and everything else Tery and Debs bring to the team -KH