

To the Swan Canoe Club Executive and members

Thank you so much for allowing me the opportunity to present at your AGM.

As requested, I will attempt to dot point some of the areas covered on Tuesday evening.

- When a new senior member or renewing senior member signs up through GoMembership, there will be three components shown at signup:
 - Your Club fee – which your Club determines, and all clubs charge different amounts in WA
 - PWA fee of \$50.00
 - PA fee of \$40
 - Paddle WA until this year charged \$60 per senior member; from this \$60 PWA paid affiliation to PA (\$17)
- Not all States pay the same senior affiliation fee to Paddle Australia; for example, SA pays \$42.00; Queensland \$33; NSW \$28 and Vic \$27, and WA has been paying \$17; this pricing has been in place ten (10) years
- PWA has not increased membership fees since 2017, at which time the increase for Seniors was \$10, increasing from \$50 to \$60
- Going back eight (8) years, Canoeing WA (previous name of PWA) dropped their membership fees from \$80 to \$50
- Until now, PWA has absorbed the payment of the national fee component within the \$60 per Senior member. However, this is no longer sustainable to support the many and varied services they offer members and the paddling community of Western Australia

Services that Paddle Australia provide:

Insurance:

- Management Liability for your committee of volunteers, Professional Indemnity, Public Liability these policies cover your Club, members, coaches, instructors, guides, temporary or trialling members and volunteers
- Personal Accident (whether paddling alone or with a group), as an optional extra, you can now have personal craft insurance

PAQ's (Paddle Australia Qualifications)

- This is the education arm of Paddle Australia, and over the last three years, this has improved immensely; we also have our own Education Officer in WA, Leonie Cockman, who is readily available for any queries and assistance in this area.

Governance:

- Over the last two years, Paddle Australia and the State bodies have worked closely together to align all our policies, which filter down from PA to the State bodies and our affiliated Clubs, so this saves so much time for Club volunteer committees having to do their own.
- As we are all well aware of the Child Protection Royal Commission and the findings from that Commission, it is now mandatory for all sporting clubs to be policy compliant. So all of this has been done for the clubs.

Paddle on Foundation

- Paddle Australia and the State bodies set this up to support people during COVID-19. At the beginning of this year, a decision was made to continue the support. So if you know anyone struggling to renew their membership or join, please get them to use the Paddle on Foundation.

Website:

Your club website is provided free of charge by Paddle Australia.

Services that Paddle WA provide:

Advocacy:

- The Paddle WA Executive Officer was asked to sit on the External Review Group with the Department of Transport to review safety equipment for recreational vessels. I was on this group for over three (3) years, and the outcome was exactly what we wanted for our members who like to paddle in the ocean, whether in a sea kayak or on an ocean ski. The Department put out a survey, and with encouragement from the PWA office, over 150 members did the survey.
- Paddle WA lobbied the Government to overturn the decision to allow PWS (jet-skis) to operate above Windan Bridge; once again, our members were out in force with a loud voice through the survey that was sent out. The Executive Officer also gave several radio interviews regarding not allowing access to these crafts, which would be detrimental not only to paddlers but also to the environment.

I have only mentioned the last two (2) wins as they were the most recent.

Support:

- Paddle WA has two full-time staff, and we are here to assist members and clubs in any way that we can.
- We have our annual AGM and Awards day, where we celebrate the great things we have achieved during the year and acknowledge our fantastic volunteers.
- Comprehensive [website](#) and Facebook page
- Weekly newsletter
- PWA has a hard-working Board that your current President Marion Ewing was on for four years and also had a term as the Chair. Currently, we have Swan member Amanda Simper on our Board.

I am sure that you know from Tuesday night how passionate I am about paddling, and being the EO is not a job for me but an honour.

As I say to anyone I meet (after about five minutes), "I can't believe everyone doesn't paddle"!

Thank you for your time

Rosalie Evans (JP)

Executive Officer
Paddle WA