



Seattle SAKE Dragon Boat Club

Club Newsletter

May 24, 2011

Submit content or ideas for the next newsletter to comm@clubsake.com

WINDY WINDERMERE 2011 – MAY 7th

What better way to kick off the season than with the entire Seattle-area boating community! Thanks to everyone who came to Leschi at 6:00am to prep and move the boats. Moving the boat was an entertaining event in itself: from getting the gas, adding the dragon heads and tails to bailing (and bailing... and bailing...) the boats during the return paddle to Leschi.

Both Sake boats showed off their strength and sportsmanship in true Club Sake fashion. We paddled hard and fast, maintaining much restraint against the Flying Dragons.

Thanks to Tavo for organizing the boat parade to the actual event location, Stephanie and Dena for making sure all our gear and food was safe, Joan Poochoon and the food committee for providing snacks and coffee. And how about those free club t-shirts! Thank you to everyone who participated including the Spitfire Juniors who were not really awake until we warmed up! We had representation from every Sake Team. Way to go Sake!

King5's video including dragon boats (1:45): <http://www.king5.com/video?sec=891539>



ST. MARTIN'S OLYMPIA FESTIVAL – APRIL 30

Congrats to Survivor, Absolut, Team Spitfire and KT Family Feud (a team of mostly Team Spitfire Junior paddlers) for a great showing at the first race of the season for Club Sake. You did us proud by getting into the finals!

In the Division 1 championship heat, Team Spitfire took 2nd, Absolut took 4th
In the Division 2 championship heat, KT Family Feud took 2nd

From what I heard, all teams had a great time and, now that they have their first "warm-up" race under their belt, they are primed and ready... so watch out!

Here's a link to "The Olympian" story about the race and they reference Club Sake several times: http://www.theolympian.com/2011/05/01/1636031/dragon-boats-invade-budd-inlet.html?story_link=email_msg

Here are some links to various videos of the race so you can watch them in action:

Absolut: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sewrKAW4gsU>

Absolut: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJE3jFcv-zU>

Team Spitfire: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dp13hJaEXTo>

SAVE THE DATE

>June 18
Boat Maintenance Party
South Dock, Leschi Marina
Contact Tavo to sign up at equipment@clubsake.com

>July 17
Club Sake Picnic
10:30am – 4:00pm
Newcastle Beach Park
Don't miss out on the annual Club picnic! To help, contact Ilana at pr@clubsake.com

KUDOS CORNER

GORDON HOM – HAS A NOSE FOR SNIFFING OUT A GOOD DEAL

Four Sake teams are headed to Alcan in mid-June: Absolut, Hot, Spitfire and Vintage. And, thanks to Gordon ferreting out all the latest dragon boat news, **each of the four teams is saving \$333 for a total savings of \$1,333!**

Gordon located information about a special Facebook discount, available to three or more teams registering from the same dragon boat club, and rallied the teams to get onboard and take advantage of it.

Thanks, Gordon, for the savings you shared with over 80 Sake members!!

Steve & Edwin (Absolut),
Danny & Saki (Hot),
Anita (Vintage), and
Chrissy & Pam (Spitfire)

FEEDBACK WANTED: NEWSLETTER SURVEY

We would like to get your feedback on the newsletter to make sure it's not only beneficial but relevant and suits the Club members' needs and/or preferences. It's only 6 questions, so no excuses!

You do have to log into Team Cowboy in order to take the survey... but you should already have an active account... RIGHT? If not, you should! It's a great way to stay informed and in touch with the Club at large.

In order to respond to the survey...

> log into Team Cowboy
> go to the Club Sake instance
> click on the "Surveys" tab
> to the far right of the "Club Sake Newsletter Survey" listing you'll see a "Take survey" link. Click it and take it!

2011 RACE SCHEDULE

False Creek (5/28)

Survivor Sake

Vancouver Alcan (6/11-12)

Absolut, Hot, Sakeccino (?), Team Spitfire, Vintage

Salem World Beat (6/26)

Survivor

Kent (7/9)

Absolut, Habu (?), Hot, Sakeccino, Survivor, Team Spitfire, Vintage

Harrison (7/23)

Vintage

Victoria (8/13-14)

Habu (?), Hot

Celebrating Life! (9/3)

Hot, Sakeccino, Survivor

Portland (9/10-11)

Habu (?), Team Spitfire

San Francisco (9/17-18)

Hot

Las Vegas (10/8)

Absolut

San Diego (10/22-23)

Hot

PRESIDENT-ELECT BOARD POSITION – NOW OPEN

Colleen Ferris, our recently elected President-Elect, has sadly resigned from the Club Board due to unforeseen personal conflicts. So! We are in the hunt for her replacement... know anybody who might fill her shoes? Or, better said, are YOU looking for a great way to give back to the Club Sake? Then the Club Sake President-Elect role may be right for you. What does it mean to be Prez-in-Waiting?

- Attend monthly 1.5-hour Board Meetings
- Plan and coordinate the annual Picnic
- Stay connected and interact with the club teams
- Work with a great leadership team
- After one year you get to be President!

If you are interested or want to nominate someone who you know is a natural leader, please contact Dena Singleton (president@clubsake.com). If you are even remotely interested, feel free to grab 5 minutes with a current Board Member or email them directly with any questions. We'd be happy to convince you, er, I mean chat with you about the position and give you the skinny on what it means to be a Board Member.

DO YOU BELIEVE? RAINIER FESTIVAL: TACOMA, MAY 14th

Not only did we have surprisingly nice weather, but the race was actually *ahead* of schedule... well, until a Portland women's team (WOW) got swamped by the wake of an errant 78-foot training vessel. But Sakeccino took advantage of the downtime by performing their own spontaneous air-guitar contest to none other than Cher's "Believe" which only served to spark a veritable "flash mob" (if you will) of like 100 paddlers dancing to things like, yes, the Macarena.

So yes, Sakeccino, Hot, Habu and Spitfire Juniors, had a lot of fun. And congratulations to the Spitfire Juniors for tearing it up and winning their final! They are definitely the team to watch. We are so proud of you! <http://www.washingtondragonboat.com/>

Habu produced their own slideshow/video where you can see some of the crazy entertainment: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZWWhHh1cJJs>

Hot Sake actually had a head-cam on their callers' heads which not only made them look a little like a teletubby science experiment, but also captured an interesting perspective of a race: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQp8-6TVc6k>



TURN AND BURN: FIRST INAUGURAL INTRAMURAL RACE

What a wonderful way to spend the day... out on the water razzing your fellow club members and local visiting teams! The first intramural race event was a big hit! Representatives from every team in the Club (some more than others) as well as Dragin' Tails from Kent and Tacoma Nagas all joined in the fun. With two 500m races and one mystery 600m "fun" race, there was plenty of action for everyone.

The 600m "fun" race started off with blindfolding the caller and having the tiller out of the water which means, yes, the paddlers were in charge of navigating the boats out of the narrow buffer surrounding the marina. Unfortunately, two boats (whose teams will remain anonymous) "kissed" the outlying metal barrier (see bottom middle photo). Luckily, one of the boats contained our Equipment Manager so nobody got in trouble!

The Dragin' Tails had such a good time that they sent the following to the organizers: *Thank you so much for a truly outstanding and fun event today! The Kent paddlers had a blast! Would you also kindly extend our sincere gratitude to the other volunteers and organizers who helped you pull this together... including Curtis who acted as tiller for us every race! He was outstanding - as was the entire event!*

The suspense surrounding the "fun race" added excitement to the day---the teams were so creative negotiating the challenges. We will plan to be BACK next year for another race day hanging out with a bunch of terrific paddlers!!!

Heat One

1st – Team Spitfire
2nd – Kent Dragin Tails

Heat Two

1st – Survivor/Nagas and others (by a whisker)
2nd – Team Spitfire Juniors

Heat Three

1st – Absolut
2nd – Hot
Nearly a photo finish among the top 3

Heat Four

1st – Nagas/Survivor/Absolut/Hot/Vintage/Sakeccino
2nd – Team Spitfire Juniors (by a whisker over Team Spitfire Seniors)

Special Race

1st – Hot
2nd – Absolut
3rd – Kent Dragin Tails
4th – Team Spitfire
5th – Team Spitfire Juniors

Many thanks go out to Dave Mentz, Koichi Kitazumi, Anita Steele, Cheri Rutherford, Mark Schubert and all of the various volunteers for their hard work in making this such an incredibly successful event! I think all teams would agree that this is definitely the beginning of something great!



MERCHANDISE CORNER

gordhom@yahoo.com

STOHLQUIST: Anyone wanting a new PFD, paddling gloves, drytop and/or dry pants from Stohlquist, now is the time to order and save up to 30% off MSRP. **Order will be placed at the end of May.** Email Gordon with your order (please include item name, color and size).

Dragon Z Carbon Paddles: Limited time super low price on Dragon Z carbon paddles. Club Sake is helping a few local clubs by combining an order for the ZRE Dragon Z to get the discount pricing. **The Z is regularly \$235 and the Sake price will be \$180-185 (or lower based on order size).** The Z weighs 13.5 oz and comes in your choice of the traditional T-grip or palm grip and size (42" to 51"). Email Gordon with your size and grip preference and include your team name. Please verify your size with your coach or captain because there are no refunds or exchanges. Order needs to go out soon, so don't wait!

BOARD MEMBERS

- **President**
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- **Treasurer**
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