



A 4.6 Km Time Trial Rowed in Quad Sculls

Maribyrnong River Melbourne
Saturday 12th September 2009

BULLETIN 1

Essendon Rowing Club extends a warm invitation to all quad scullers to participate in the 2009 Saltwater Challenge to be held on the Maribyrnong River Melbourne.

The 2009 event incorporates the same split race program that has been successfully introduced since 2007. It facilitates boat sharing and permits scullers to race a second time. E.g. male and female masters and club crews racing in the morning are encouraged to race as mixed masters and mixed club crews in the afternoon. Refer to the Race Program on page 3. Other popular features of the event include:

- Medallions and T Shirts for all race winners
- Perpetual shield presentation for the male and female crews with the fastest time

The event will commence at 11.30 am but please note the compulsory competitors' briefing at 10.20 am sharp (refer timeline on page 3). Presentation will conclude by 4.00 pm.

Entries

Entries for the regatta on ROMs will **CLOSE 7.00 pm on Sunday 6th September 2009**.
Entry fee via ROMs: \$15 per seat (incl. GST) [coxswains are free].

The Hosts

Essendon Rowing Club Inc is the host of the 2009 Saltwater Challenge. The Club is located at 48 The Boulevard, Moonee Ponds Vic 3039. Telephone: 03 9370 1973. Fax: 03 9370 1979. Website: <http://www.essrc.com/> Melway ref. page map 28 D7.

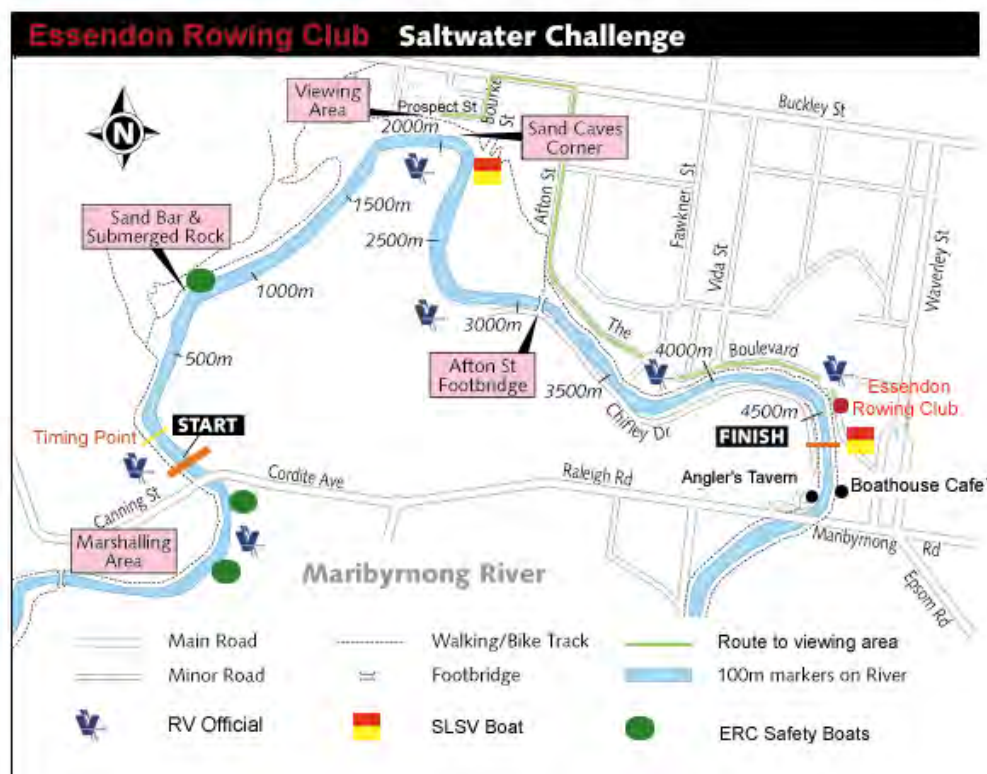
The club has been established since 1880 and has consistently been judged by Rowing Victoria as one of the best regatta hosts in Victoria.

Essendon Rowing Club from the river



The course

The Saltwater Challenge is a series of time trial races on the Maribyrnong River, Melbourne. The course is 4.6 Km long; commencing upstream at the Tea Gardens reserve near Canning Street Bridge Avondale Heights, and finishing close to the Essendon Rowing Club, located corner Holmes Road and The Boulevard Moonee Ponds. Refer to the map and picture below.



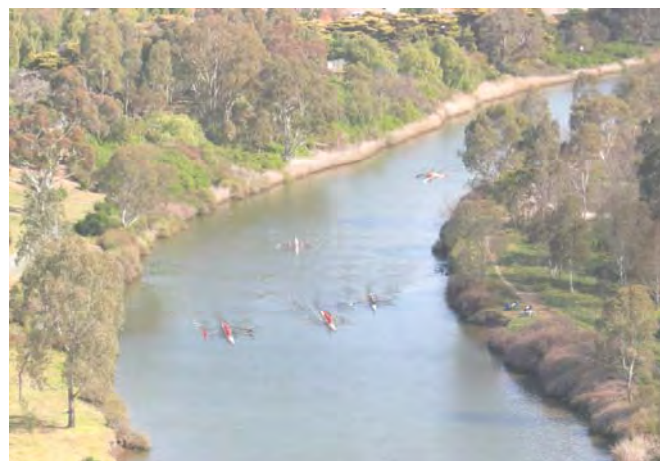
Event History

Back in 2002 long time ERC member Frank Camiller proposed and sponsored the first Saltwater Challenge as a 4.6 Km time trial for quad sculls on the picturesque Maribyrnong River. He envisaged that the event could grow to favourably compare with the famous Head of the Yarra sweep oar race for eights.

The first SWC was run in 2002 with 21 entries and every year since then the event has increased in popularity and has been conducted with increased professionalism. Recent SWC events have attracted elite State crews and former Olympians. This year we're expecting to see some very competitive racing between the Victorian Institute of Sport and the Tasmanian Institute of Sport top crews. Last year 90 quads competed and 2009 looks set to build on that number.

Pre-event training

Competitors will be able to access the course for training at any time up to 15 minutes prior to competitors' briefing for Bracket A. Boats on the water before sunrise and after sunset are required to be equipped with lights.



Five quads approaching Sand Caves 120° Corner

Rules

The regatta will be conducted according to the rules and laws of boat racing of Rowing Australia Inc. so far as they apply to the Saltwater Challenge event. The Rules may be downloaded from http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/about_ra_rules.shtm

Also the Rules as promulgated by Rowing Victoria apply so far as they are applicable. Refer http://www.rowingvictoria.asn.au/html/s02_article/default.asp?nav_top_id=92&nav_cat_id=267&dsb=3011

Event programs

Event programs (\$2) with crew lists and other essential information for crews and spectators may be purchased from the bow numbers desk located in the gym downstairs.

Spectator facilities

Spectators can view the finish from the excellent facilities of the Club's bar and function area on the upper floor of the clubhouse. Alternatively excellent viewing can be had from:

- Lily Street Park overlooking Sand Caves' corner. (Melway ref. map 27 JK4) Car parking is limited
- Tea Gardens Reserve to view the start. Ample provision exists for car parking. (Melway ref. Map 27 G8);
- Riverside Park, (Melway ref. Map 28 B7);
- Afton Street bridge (Melway ref. Map 28 A6);
- Any of the other parks and pathways on either side of the river.

Competitor facilities

Essendon Rowing Club provides toilets, showers, and change room facilities for men and women, good food, wines, and usual bar facilities including a variety of sports drinks.



Post race pack-up. The last 10 to finish

