

Canoe Marathon Championships in our Nation's Capital

10-13 April, 2026
Molonglo Reach, Canberra



hosted by PNSW and
Burley Griffin Canoe Club
(events@paddlensw.org.au)



CALLING ALL PADDLERS to Canberra in APRIL 2026

BGCC is famous for its STATES with MATES philosophy - we celebrate Marathon Paddling across all ages, all abilities and all boats.

**There are NO requirements limiting you
from being part of the
2026 PA Canoe Marathon Championships**

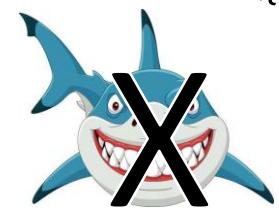
At the PNSW STATES with MATES, BGCC introduced a very popular Novice class to encourage newbies to our sport to try their hand at competition. We will continue this tradition at the PA Canoe Marathon Championships in April 2026. There are four Novice events ... women in the Novice Class will paddle 11.75 km (all kayaks & ages) and 8.15 km (all canoes & ages) and men in the Novice Class will paddle 15.35 km (all kayaks & ages) and 11.75 km (all canoes & ages). There are no portages and all boat types (both ICF and General Class) are welcome to enter into the Novice races. To qualify for the Novice Class, participants need to have started paddling after 31 March 2025.

If you have been paddling for longer than 1 year, racing at the PA Canoe Marathon Championships will be by gender, age group and boat type (ICF and General Class). For Masters, racing will be in 5-year age categories if there are three or more entrants per gender-age-boat class. Anyone who has their 35th birthday in 2026 or who is older than 35 years, can race in the Masters classes.

As per the PA Competitions Policy ([20180617-POL-Competitions-Policy.pdf](https://paddleaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/20180617-POL-Competitions-Policy.pdf)) Section 8. Awards, page 8), a paddler must beat someone to win a medal (gold is awarded if there are 2 boats starting the race; silver if there are 3 and bronze if there are 4 starters in the race). For a class to be contested, there must be a minimum of 3 entries and two starters. Given that we will have awesome prizes for anyone who comes 4th, round up your mates and encourage them to enter so that there are at least 4 boats in each gender, age and boat class. That way, PA will award a gold, silver and bronze medal in your event and 4th will win something even cooler!

PA is committed to supporting our Junior and 65+ Master Paddlers. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to U10-U18s and 65+ finishers, regardless of how many boats enter each category. But don't let this stop us from having as many boats in these classes as possible. Let us CELEBRATE those who are young and committed to Marathon Paddling and those who are still paddling at 65+.

Bull Shark Guarantee



When you paddle in the ACT

2026 PA Canoe Marathon Championships is a CELEBRATION of Marathon Paddling.
We invite all marathon paddlers to come and join the PARTY.