

Guppy/Junior Paddler Report

We currently have 13 guppy/junior paddlers who regularly come to Thursday afternoon training sessions

Of these, 6 have started since the 2011 AGM. Four other paddlers have joined us in that time but have since had to leave due to other commitments. Most new members have joined as a result of either word of mouth or just seeing the action at the club

Six paddlers have also begun training with Amanda's squad so there is now a definite progression happening from Guppies to more advanced squads

This year we have purchased a second-hand "GT Aero" from Canoeing Downunder. This has been invaluable for beginners whose size prevents them from paddling a Guppy craft. A second craft similar to this would be desirable in the near future

The Guppy/Junior program continues to operate with invaluable assistance from volunteers, Peter Kuhne, Daniel Smee, Laurie and Louise Carbone and Fiona Scarffe. Going forward however, we would definitely embrace the assistance of another coach as current coaches have other commitments which mean they cannot always be on the water on Thursdays

This year we have introduced "Celebrity Sessions" during which we invite paddlers with better skills than ourselves- ie Jenny Bateman, Daniel Bowker, Ramon Andersson, Jesse Phillips and Steve Bird, to take a session with the kids. We aim to have these sessions once a month, followed by a BBQ dinner at the club- very popular also with the older paddlers who have just come in off the water!