



BUSINESS HOUSE REGATTA '11

UPDATE

Issue 1: June 2011

Business Houses gets paddling!

The Sportszone 2011 Business House Regattas are back once again with teams from all realms of the business sectors ready to stake their claim on the title of King of the Water. This is the 4th year in a row that the Business Houses will be battling it out on the water with the popularity of outrigger paddling amongst the business community growing and growing every year.

Announcing the launch, Fiji Outrigger Business House Committee Chair, Sheena Hughes said, "the Sportszone 2011 Business House Regattas offer a great opportunity for businesses to get their staff out of the office and into a competitive team environment. All the Suva business houses from last year are back again to take up the challenge and will join us for two weekends of fun and competition on the water".

Fiji Outrigger has been running these events since 2004 as a way to promote healthy living, staying fit and team building. "For businesses these regattas really provide a unique opportunity to develop a strong bond amongst their staff that then translates to the sort of dynamic working environment that all businesses are looking for in today's competitive economy," Hughes said.

26 teams have registered and some started training as far back as May for this year's business house event, which shows how serious the business house teams are about winning. Fiji Outrigger says this Business house regatta will be one of the biggest so far held in Suva.

Teams are from all across the business community including participants from ANZ Bank, ANZ Pacific Operations, B.S.P., Total, the U.S. Embassy, F.N.P.F., Fiji Gas, Clay Energy, SOPAC, TFL, Software Factory, SPC, APM, Connect, PBS, Team Maliha, Prisons and Corrections Service, Telesource Fiji, the European Union, Forum Secretariat, Munro Leys and Pacific Energy.

The Sportszone Business House Regattas will be held in Suva at the U.S.P. Foreshore on June 25th and July 16th. Races will include 250m sprints; as well as fun races. After functions will also be hosted after the regattas to allow the paddlers to debrief, network and unwind. A prize giving function is also planned for the last regatta; trophies and prizes will be awarded to teams in 3 divisions – Cup, Plate and Bowl competitions.

More information about outrigger paddling here in Fiji can be found at www.fjioutrigger.com

Teams



Farewell Cleo – Paddlers mourn

Outrigger paddlers around Fiji and abroad joined family, friends and colleagues in April this year to mourn the passing of Kelera Bucobuco Finau Elder, or Cleo as everyone knew her.

Paddling was not Cleo's first sporting passion, that was basketball. She excelled at both. Cleo came to paddling late but fell in love with the sport and was soon encouraging as many of her friends to start paddling themselves. It's healthy, fun and part of our Pacific culture, she would say. For sure, many people can say that they started paddling because of Cleo.

No words can properly describe Cleo's passion for life and many pages would be needed to cover all her achievements, both on the water and in all the other activities she immersed herself in. Paddling was just one of many activities she was involved in and contributed her unending enthusiasm.



Her paddling club, Taf'aga, and indeed the rest of the paddling community will sorely miss this wonderful, strong woman. Thanks Cleo and keep us safe on the water from up above.

Sponsors



Paddler Profile



Susan Vocea Risk Reduction Officer at SOPAC

Susan Vocea (second from left) paddled for SOPAC during the 2010 Business House and now a National Representative trying out for the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia!

What made her take this big step? *'I really enjoyed the taste that business house gave me and I wanted to challenge myself to excel at this new sport. I thought I could be good at this. I also like the ocean so it made sense to take up paddling!'*

Susan has become one of the country's newest, committed and driven paddlers and definitely shows us that anything is possible!

Team SOPAC

The SPC Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC) joined forces with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) on 1 January 2011.

The goal of SOPAC is to apply geoscience and technology to realise new opportunities for improving the livelihoods of Pacific communities.

In the SOPAC context, geoscience means any science concerned with the Earth. This includes geological, physical, chemical and biological processes that occur at the earth's surface or in its interior. It includes the tools used in SOPAC to assess whether the use of resources is viable, and to study natural disasters and their impact on island communities. The division has 3 technical work programmes, Ocean and Islands, Water and Sanitation and Disaster Reduction as well as the technical Support Services team that caters for the 3 programmes.

The SOPAC paddling team has done well in the past and is looking at this year's regattas as a fun-filled, stress-free, physical challenge to promote team building, networking and healthy living. This year's team is made up of representatives from each of the working programmes as well as different nationalities with paddlers from Germany, Australia, Tuvalu and Fiji.

A day in the life of a BSP Paddler

At the Call Centre, all operators are busy rattling on the phone. Half past seven on an early Monday morning Lahaina is logging on the network to chat with the early birds. Ereti aka 'Sweet as' answers her extension, "It's not yet 8 on the dot doll and you want to know whether training is on. Am I the coach?" Phone goes dead. Dials another extension, "Projects Office, Veniana speaking; how can I help you?" Lahaina enthusiastically quips, "Benny, it's me. Are we training today?" "Oilei Lahaina e se qai cabe mada ga mai na matanisia... e cava tiko mada? No, I think you might have to call Mere and let me know please." Lahaina thinking aloud, 'ok who shall I call next...aha...gotta call this one now and maybe...eyes glued on the screen and fingers tapping the keyboard....

Before the recipient can answer, "Sheetal it's me, would you or Reginald have any idea whether we'll be training today?" Sheetal without answering, puts her hand over the mouth piece and whispers to Reginald. Meanwhile, Reggie still reeling from the effects of strong grog the night before retorts, "oh what! training now? You must be joking. No, not for me I pass..." Sheetal rolls her eyes and remembers that she's holding onto the receiver, "oops..." "Lahaina, I think Alesi would know better. Hold on, I'll transfer your call." Lahaina to herself, "oh no! What next?" "Welcome to Finance department Alesi speaking, how can I help you?" "Hi Alesi, it's only me." "And who are you?" you could even "hear' her smiling..." "It's me!"

"And you are..." Alesi still can't make out the voice

"Lahaina"

"Ahhh, I thought so! So what can I do for you this lovely morning?"

"Doll, are we training today?"

"My goodness gracious me, it's only 7.45am and you're asking me for training? Try Peter Paul's extension, he should know doll."

Tempo speed is on the rise... "hmmm Peter Paul's email address where are you...ahh here we go - oh!"

Out of office message prompts up on the screen - damn...looking at her watch...still have time...tears welling up...hold on! Let me try Melanie Lovo. Ok here goes - "Hi! Mela...oh! Is she there? Can you tell her it's Lahaina?"

Mela on the other hand busy with her make-up. Nudged by Seru Daunivuka, "what the *(&^% is wrong with you? Can't you see I'm busy applying make-up on my face?"

'Yeah! Whatever? It's not make-up it's what I call painting!...tongue out.. "Call Lahaina when you're done." replies Seru. In his anger Seru puts the phone down. Mela lowers her eyelashes and says, "Your phone manners. Where has it gone this morning?"

Shrugs his shoulders...Minus!

Blistering barnacles, it's almost ten minutes to the hour and no one has given me an answer. Sitting, pondering, fingers tapping the keyboard when her extension rings.

"Good morning, welcome to BSP, Lahaina speaking...how can I help you?"

"Good morning Lahaina, it's Pate. Do you know whether we are training today?"

"I've called almost everybody and they don't seem to know."

"Ok wait...let me speak to leli and I'll call you back!"



"ok...how long will you take?"

"I said I'll call you back."

"Setto!"

Alipate signals to leli for a cuppa. They chat as they walk to the kitchen. "Well I'm just hoping that BSP will give us a canoe so that we can train whenever we want to. And not only that, it's also our way of keeping fit." "Yeah man! The last time they said they were going to give us one canoe I think Santa is still building it."

They burst out laughing.

Back at his desk, Alipate dials an extension and phone is picked up by Waisea. "No, I have no idea. Steven too doesn't know."

"Can you see Keresi where you're sitting?" "Hey brother, we've relocated to the fifth floor. She's one floor up. Ok set bro!"

Alipate on the keyboard and yelling to leli at the same time, "what's Keresi's extension? Set bro, I got it!" Dials but alas! Phone message comes on... damn! Who else?

While still drumming his fingers on the keyboard, message prompts up on screen from Mere...finally my prays have been heard!...lol

Training is on this afternoon. Please confirm your attendance.

Alipate, Lahaina and Robert reply - Bring it on!

Introducing the FNPF-Holiday Inn Paddling Teams

The Fiji National Provident Fund is a social security savings scheme jointly supported by employees, employers and government. It was set up in 1966 to provide financial security for workers when they retire at the age of 55. It also provides two other main contingencies prior to retirement when the member is incapacitated and is not able to work, and for the financial support of survivors in the unfortunate event of death.

After a successfully participating in the 2009, and 2010 Fiji Outrigger Business House Canoeing Regatta with two teams, and winning some awards, this generated an overwhelming interest in the sport forcing the Fund to register another two teams to participate at this year's BHR. The 2 FNPF teams registered are as follows;

FNPF – Holiday Inn Team 1 (a.k.a THE WOODSTOCKERS)

The Woodstockers with links to the Royal "Frendz" bloodline and ties to the TAPIONZ clan is engineered by four Marines. Chief Marine Engineers Tevita Finau, and 'Russians' Barry Jione, Rudolf Fonmoa, and James Tara.

Speed merchants are, Mataiasi Daulako, and Matelita Torocake from the Garden Island now residing next to the Famous Suva "Garden" in Del Air.

Anchoring the team, our back blazers are the lovely ladies of the marine; Katarina Bulavakarua, Ulamila Delana, and new recruit Sereima Rakavono; and last but not least, is Chanel Autar Watta. A very tough Big Mama with maternal ties to biscuit planters, and wiliness ancestors in 'Russia'. She is the backbone and Manager of 2 FNPF-Holiday Inn Teams.



FNPF-Holiday Inn Team 2 (a.k.a THE TAN PEPES)

Tan Pepes – English Version (Water Babes) this year will be captained by Tomasi Vakatora with his support engineers, Junior Watta, Joape Kuinikoro, and ever powerful Mereia Shaw.

Front liners Seini Dobui (a sweet looking girl... but if you ever try to cross her path better start running), 'Russian' Richard Marseu who is the Carry boy for Miss Hibiscus 2010!

The back engines, our novice paddlers Krystle Gavidi form the United States of

Nadroga, Marica Waqavakatoga and their psychic and song bird, Bai Vito Rabali (who sings only at the after function) - what can I say or more like where can I start, he is supposedly the innocent family man... so it seems, but meet him at the after function and things start to get very interesting!

And there you have it the 2 FNPF-Holiday Inn dream(y) teams - well blended, well mixed, well groomed, well oiled and ready to rumble!!

We the FNPF-Holiday Inn team would like to acknowledge the dedication, commitment of Tafaga Outrigger Canoe Club towards our training and other facilitation since joining the BH in 2009. Special commemoration to our late Mentor and Team 2 Captain, Kelera Finau Elder (aka Cleo) passed away on 17 April 2011. "May her soul rest in peace"!



Pacific Energy Team Profile

On 25 May 2010, Pacific Petroleum Company (PPC) acquired the business of BP South West Pacific Ltd which was commonly known as BP OIL. Pacific Petroleum Company (PPC) was founded in 2006 as the vehicle to purchase the Shell companies operating in New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Vanuatu. PPC's founder and CEO, Albert Moux, had been managing the Moux/Shell JV 50/50 in Tahiti since 1987

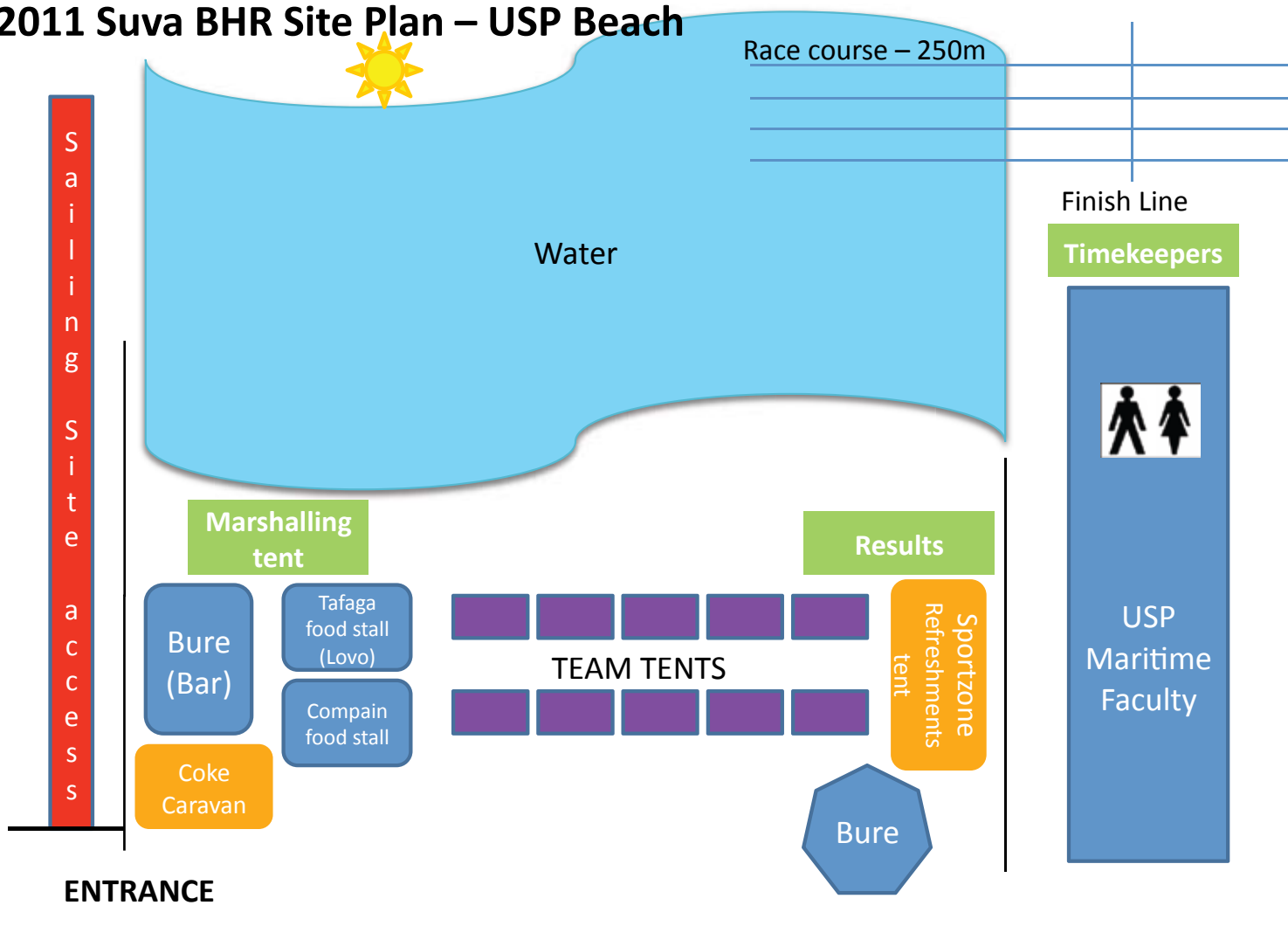
Albert Moux invited other prominent Pacific based businessmen whose activities range from mining, wholesale and retail distribution, tourism to maritime transport

into a partnership in PPC, giving PPC a strong, diverse and cohesive backbone. PPC has kept a close and strategic relationship with the Shell Group ranging from Branding rights for the retail, supply of fuels and lubricants to Technical assistance. PPC has expanded its activities by acquiring the Mobil assets in Vanuatu in 2007.

In May 25th 2010 PPC completed the acquisition of PESWP and 16th of June 2010 also completed the acquisition of Shell Aviation business in PNG. At the completion of the PESWP acquisition, the name of the Company changed to Pacific Energy South West Pacific Limited (PE SWP).

The Pacific Energy Team is looking forward to participating in the Business House Regatta. They had been involved in different Business House Sports disciplines ranging from Bowls, Indoor Basketball and Touch Rugby. They were the Suva Business House Basketball Champs in 2007 streaming through the season unbeaten. With the departure of some staff we believe that it is time that we focus and try our skills in a different sport. Like every other organisation taking part, we look forward to the competition to test and pit our skills on this new sport and most of all strengthened our working team spirit and morale.

2011 Suva BHR Site Plan – USP Beach



- During a Regatta implies to when races begin, up until the races end for the day
- Team Registration will be at 8.30am for next regatta. Races will start at approximately 9.30am.
- FO will allocate experienced Steerers to each team. These steerers are not allowed to paddle during a race. Business House Teams are not allowed to supply their own steerer and must use steerers designated to them on race day.
- Each team must have a minimum of 5 paddlers for each race and a maximum of 10 paddlers must be registered at each regatta. (This to be done at 9am Registration)
- Substitutions are allowed from the heats through to the finals, provided they are one of the 10 registered paddlers for the day
- The 5 paddlers that sign in for each race must do so with their ID cards when called up to the marshalling area. No ID Card, No Paddle!
- Heats have already been decided based on entries. Each canoe will be allocated a lane and steerer. The Semi Finals and Final place getters will be seeded according to place and time in the heat.
- Each team MUST have a minimum of 2 women in a race. (excluding the steerer) Any less will incur a 2 second penalty per female (absent) for the 250 metre race. No advantage will be given if more than 2 female paddlers take part in a race.

- Fiji Outrigger will provide life-jackets to those that might need it on race day.
- If there are any complaints during a regatta, please see the Race Director.
- Starts: A white flag will be raised approximately 5 minutes prior to start of a race, when teams are lined up on the start line a red flag is then raised. This red flag signals the race is to start within the next 10 seconds. All your steerers have been briefed to ensure that canoes are brought out to the start line in a timely fashion. Any team deemed to be delaying the start of a race will be disqualified from taking part in a race.
- Finishes: A finish is when the front of the canoe crosses the finish line. All paddlers must be seated in the canoe. Anyone standing or short of the six paddlers will be disqualified.
- Appeals: An appeal has to be lodged within 10 minutes of a race finishing. Only the team captain will be allowed to lodge an appeal.

Disqualification:

- Only the Race Director or Assistant Race Director may disqualify a Club, Team or Competitor from competing after consultation with the appropriate officials. The Club, Team or Competitor will verbally be given the reasons for disqualification at the time of notification by the Race Director / Assistant Race Director
- Any team or competitor who attempts to win an event by means other than honesty or who does

not comply with these race rules or, who by his or her conduct, clearly shows a lack of respect of the said rules, or appointed officials, will be disqualified.

- A canoe will be disqualified if it causes interference to another canoe whilst outside the assigned lane.
- The following are cause for automatic disqualification:
 1. Non compliance with a direction given by the Race Directors or an FO appointed official.
 2. Abusive language or threatening behaviour towards the Race Director, an appointed official or another competitor.
 3. Competing for more than one team in an event. This action will disqualify both teams from the event.
 4. Interfering with another canoe while outside an assigned lane.
 5. Starting or finishing outside an assigned lane.
 6. Paddling not in a seated position.
 7. Non-compliance with the starter's directions.
 8. Proper paddling attire must be worn at all times during the race (shorts, tights, tops, caps). No jeans, heavy jackets etc.