

KIDS Summer Newsletter 2026



Welcome New Paddlers,

This season, we are thrilled to welcome 18 new paddlers to our Dragon Boat family. Whether you joined for fitness, friendship, competition, or a new challenge, we are so excited to have you in the boat with us.

Dragon Boating is far more than paddling – it's about teamwork, encouragement, laughter, determination and community. Every strong crew starts with people willing to show up, work together and share the journey and we are excited to see what this amazing group has already brought so far this season!

Welcome aboard – the new Dragon Boat season is in full stroke!

Together We Made It Happen

Our new dragon is finally ready to come home.

Arrival Details — it'll take the whole crew to lift her off the trailer.
FRIDAY June 26th - This Friday @ TBD - please watch TeamSnap for the time and please sign up to help - we need you!

Name our new boat contest:

We are launching a friendly competition to find the perfect name. Please send your best name ideas to Melodie only via team chat. I'll compile all the submissions and we'll vote for our favourite at the summer social on July 2. The winner will earn bragging rights and the name you came up with will have a permanent place on the boat for all to see. May the best name make waves!!





Important Dates:

July 2 - Social - after practice bring your loonies and toonies for refreshments.

July 11 - Kelowna Dragon boat Festival
 This one day event will have 3 @ 500 meter races. Please see coach Jen for questions about racing and Diane or Heather B about accommodations.

July 18 - Vernon Dragon Boat Festival-
 This one day event will have 3 @ 500 meter races. Please see coach Jen for questions about racing.

August 6 - Social - after practice bring your loonies and toonies for refreshments.

August 8 - Kamloops Dragon Boat Festival
 - This one day event will have 3 @ 500 meter races, for both a woman's and a mixed boat. Please see coach Melodie or Jen for questions about racing.

Sept 12 & 13th Penticton Dragon Boat Festival - the biggest and our last of the season. This event will be 2 @ 500 meter races each of the two days. Please see Coach Melodie about racing and Diane or Heather B about accommodations.

September 17- Social - after practice bring your loonies and toonies for refreshments.



Dragon Boat Festivals to date:

June 13, some of the women from our team joined forces with some women from KDBC and Spirit Warriors and our old team member who moved away Judy Bourne. We participated in the **Penticton Super Sprints**, we placed first in the D division! Much fun was had, and thanks goes out to Stef, for organizing it and making it a super fun event. Another thanks goes out to Diane for getting all of our accommodation looked after and Kari for coming along and being our drummer! And thanks to everybody who came and paddled hard, we had a blast!



June 20 – Shuswap Dragon Boat Festival- you've probably read the email already about the winds and the whitecaps, and how they changed our 500m course to a 250m sprint. We placed first in Division B Mixed crew. Thanks to everybody who made that festival possible, fantastic and memorable!



Fundraising 2026

Our Pub Night officially raised \$6513.60 - absolutely outstanding, way to go, Team KIDS! And I won't repeat what has already been said in an email. Way to go, **Team KIDS.** 🎉🎉 **Thanks everyone.**



Ongoing fundraisers:

Return it Bottle Returns: Thanks everyone who has participated in this fundraiser, a total of **\$1296.32** has been earned in 2026.

And a grand total of **\$2647.20** since **Marlene** got us started with this in November 2024.

A reminder: Please don't over fill your bags and only 6 glass containers per bag.

How to take in your recyclables:

- Place your unsorted containers in a clear or transparent plastic bag and tag your bags, one tag per bag.
- Print your labels at the bag label kiosk. Use the phone # 250-714-6437 or call Marlene @ 250-714-6437 and ask for labels (there are some in the shed also).
- They will sort and count your containers and credit KIDS Express account with your deposit refunds.

Drop Off Locations:

- Lorne Street Bottle Depot 270 Halston Road
- Columbia Bottle Depot - Sahali 963 Camosun Crescent
- General Grants Depot – South Shore Unit B, 1395 Battle Street
- General Grants Depot – North Shore 611 Fortune Drive



Special thanks to Marlene for getting this all set up. Please ask her if you have any questions and please keep returning your recycles to help our team out.



North Paws Baseball Games - thanks everyone who has stepped up for this one this and Kari for the organization.

June 10 – Sandra and Dean
 June 12 – Judy and Lea
 June 13 - Darrell and Annette
 June 14 – Val C., and a friend
 June 27 – Laura and Kari
 July 1 – Peg and Jen
 July 8 – Terry and Gord
 July 29 - Trudy and Lea



TeamSnap - Our Team Communication Hub - Stay in sync on and off the water!

Please remember that **TeamSnap** is our primary source of team information. Schedule updates, changes and important announcements will all be posted there. We kindly ask everyone to check **TeamSnap** regularly. Ensure notifications are turned on so you don't miss any updates. And please mark your information about practices, festivals, etc., as this will help us keep our team organized and connected... not to mention, but I will...it makes it way easier on the coaches and organizers. Please and thank you.



Your smiling face, for those of you who have not yet uploaded a photo, you will see that you have been assigned one, please replace it with a real photo of yourself, and if you need help, please ask me next time you're in the compound and I will do it for you.



Your 2026 KIDS Board:

- President - Melodie Pike
- Vice President - Annette Hanna
- Treasurer - Janice Gee
- Secretary - Marlene McKay
- Director At Large - Tracey Gibson
- Director At Large - Heather Davidson
- Director At Large - Wendy Cummer



Contact info - on TeamSnap



Confused about our Dragon boat compound?

Here's a quick snapshot of the teams within our club

KIDS (Kamloops Interior Dragons)

Our home team—and where the magic happens.

- Ages 50+
- Mixed team (men & women)
- Practices 3 times per week

This is where we build our crew, our rhythm, and our fun on the water.

KDBC

- Ages 16+
- Mixed team (men & women)
- Practices 3 times per week

Some paddlers like to get extra time on the water:

If you are a current KIDS member, you'd be eligible for a special rate of \$160/year
(You must be a current KIDS member to receive this rate)

♥ **Spirit Warriors**

- Breast cancer survivor team
- Women, all ages
- Practices 3 times per week

An incredible and inspiring group within our club.

NEW: Seniors (70+) Recreational Team (no festivals)

- Mixed team
- Mondays, 10:00–11:00 AM
- Easygoing, social paddling

Fees:

- \$100/season for new KIDS members
- \$20/season for existing KIDS members





TeamSnap Housekeeping – Clean up old Messages

Many of us have noticed old chats and emails piling up, and some people have asked if someone can “just go in and delete it all” for everyone. Unfortunately, TeamSnap doesn’t allow the administrator to clear messages from individual members’ accounts - each person must clean up their own inbox and chat history on their own device.

Here’s how you can do a quick clean-up:

To Delete Old TeamSnap Messages (Mobile App):

1. Open TeamSnap.
2. Tap Messages (or Team Chat).
3. Press and hold the chat you want to remove.
4. Select Delete or Leave Chat (depending on your version).

Deleting removes it from your device only — it does not remove it for the whole team.

To Clean Up Emails/Alerts:

1. Go to the Alerts or Emails tab.
2. Swipe left on any old message.
3. Tap Delete.

On a Computer (Web Version):

1. Log in at teamsnap.com.
 2. Click Messages, Team Chat, or Email.
 3. Use the trash can or Leave Conversation option to clear items.
- Keeping your app clean helps TeamSnap run smoother and ensures you’re only seeing the most current team info. Thanks for taking a minute to tidy up your inbox!

Coaching 2027 & Beyond

We'd really like to find one coach to lead us, however it is not an easy task, if you have any ideas or contacts please let us know or get the information to them. If you have any contacts or ideas, please help us...maybe think outside of the box... at TRU, maybe there is a student training to be a coach and needs some hours? Got a better idea? Want to be part of a committee?

DRAGON BOAT **Coaching Opportunity**

Kamloops Interior Dragonboat Society (KIDS) is looking for a coach for the upcoming 2027 Season.

We are a 50+ mixed team who paddles on the South Thompson in beautiful Kamloops BC. Our season runs from late April to early September.

We are looking for a coach from 1-3 days per week and to attend 3 – 4 festivals.

AND NOW TO THE END OF AN 8 PAGE NEWSLETTER - with a few words to all of you...

A sincere thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and talents throughout the season. Whether your role is big, small, visible or behind the scenes, our club thrives because of people like you. Your generosity, dedication, and willingness to pitch in and makes all the difference. We truly couldn't do it without you.

