



Newsletter

Leadership Highlights & Commitments



Message From Jomarie Martínez, President

Dear PADB F Community,

This is our very first newsletter—and that matters. Because this is more than an update. It's the beginning of how we connect, communicate, and move forward together as one community across the Americas.

Thank you for the trust you placed in me to serve as President of PADB F for the 2026-2027 term.

I step into this role the same way I step into the boat: *with respect for the team, love for the sport, and a commitment to do the work.*

Because I am not only a federation leader—

I am one of you.

—*Jomarie*

Matthew Smith (CAN), Vice President

Focused on advancing sport development and supporting federation growth across the region



Paula Humphries (USA), Vice President

Committed to strengthening officiating, training, and empowerment of technical officials



Franco Siu Chong (TTO), Treasurer

Bringing continuity and financial stewardship to support sustainable federation growth



Raúl Fernández-Calienes (USA), Secretary

Focused on strengthening governance, communication, and operational structure



Ciro Loo (PAN), Executive Member

Driving expansion in Spanish-speaking countries and increasing regional officiating opportunities



John Bostwick II (BAH), Executive Member

Providing strategic legal leadership to strengthen governance and institutional credibility



Cesare Decarli (BRA), Executive Member

Serving as PADB F's liaison for PACCC 2027, bringing strategic leadership and international experience



Member Federation Spotlight

Starting next edition, we will highlight one member federation—sharing their growth, impact, and contributions to the sport.

Want to be featured?
Reach out to PADB F and showcase your story with the continent.



Upcoming Events

10th Dragon Boat Festival - Panama
 Calzada de Amador, April 25–26, 2026
 For more information, contact:
 bdragon@ccchp-isys.edu.pa

2026 CanAm Championships - Montreal
 July 17–20, 2026

These events continue to build momentum and create opportunities for athletes and federations across the region.

Looking Ahead

PADBF continues to strengthen its operational foundation through four key Technical Committees:

- Championships Hosting
- Training & Coaching
- Officiating
- History & Archives

These committees bring together experienced leaders from across the Americas to support structured development, knowledge sharing, and long-term sustainability of the sport.

Their work will play a critical role in delivering consistent standards, supporting federations, and preparing for future continental championships.

Community

Dragon boat continues to grow across the Americas—not just as a sport, but as a community built on teamwork, resilience, and shared purpose.

Every athlete, coach, official, and volunteer plays a role in shaping our future.

Continental Highlights

Puerto Rico Dragon Boat Festival - January 31 - February 1, 2026
 Puerto Rico once again demonstrated leadership in the region, hosting 76 teams and over 700 athletes visiting from Canada, USA, and Puerto Rico.

Chinese Bicentennial Celebration - Trinidad & Tobago

A historic celebration marking 200 years of Chinese heritage, featuring dragon boat racing by the Trinidad & Tobago Dragon Boat Federation as a central cultural and sporting highlight—demonstrating the deep cultural roots of our sport.



Stay Connected

Be part of the momentum.

Follow us for updates, events, and opportunities to engage with the dragon boat community across the Americas:

@Panamdragonboatfederation
 #PADBF



PAN AMERICAN
 CLUB CREW CHAMPIONSHIPS

Road to PACCC 2027 - Brazil

PADBF is proud to confirm that the 2027 Pan American Dragon Boat Club Crew Championships (PACCC) will be held:

- **Salvador, Bahia, Brazil**
- **March 29 - April 4, 2027**

In partnership with the Confederação Brasileira de Dragon Boat, this event marks a defining moment for the sport in Latin America.

With its vibrant culture, strong local momentum, and growing international presence, Salvador is set to deliver a world-class championship experience for athletes across the Americas.

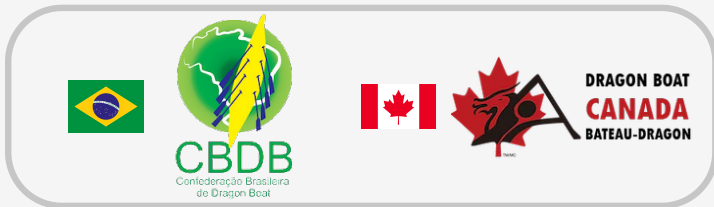
PADBF

The PADBF is the governing body for dragon boat racing in the Americas under the IDBF, dedicated to promoting the growth and competitive spirit across the continent.

PAN AMERICAN DRAGON BOAT FEDERATION



OUR MEMBERS & COUNTRIES



BRAZIL

CANADA



JAMAICA

THE BAHAMAS



PANAMA

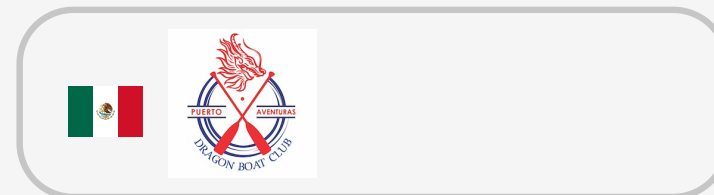
PUERTO RICO



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

UNITED STATES

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



MEXICO

UPCOMING EVENTS

