

8.6km



50th Annual

## HEAD OF THE YARRA

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29th 2008

5.15pm Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Media Release: Attention Sports Desk  
For Immediate Release – 2008 Head of the Yarra Results

The Yarra River was today a spectacle for the 50<sup>th</sup> running of the annual Head of the Yarra. A record field of 184 Rowing Eights took part with around 1700 competitors on board from all round Australia and NZ. Each crew was vying for the fastest time over the 8.6 km course on the Yarra which was lined with 1000's of spectators & supporters cheering on the flotilla of crews as they raced from the city of Melbourne to the finish at the Hawthorn Rowing Club.

The fastest crew over the course was the Melbourne/Sydney University composite crew stroked by Tom Paton which completed the course in an impressive time of 26.24.50 a mere 0.36 seconds ahead of the Mercantile crew stroked by Gold medal Olympian David Crawshay (Men's Double Scull Beijing).

The Women's Open section was battled out between a Melbourne University/Geelong composite crew and Mercantile boat club. Both crews had impressive representation from the cream of Australia's oarswomen with Sarah Heard and Pauline Frasca as stroke of each respective crew. Heard's Melbourne University crew took out the honours in a time of 29.04.14, just 3 seconds ahead of her Australian Rowing team mate's Mercantile crew.

The Schools' section was won by Melbourne Grammar. Their first crew finished the course in eighth place overall in a sizzling time of 27.56.32 ahead of the favoured Scotch College who were a full 38 seconds behind in second place. In the Female Open School section, NSW Pymble Girls College finished first in 32.01.71, six seconds ahead of local Victorian favourites Geelong Grammar.

Of note was the first ever appearance of an Adaptive 8 including many of our Para Olympians in the mixed 8 section (4 x male, 4 x female). The crew included Kathryn Ross, Silver medallist in 2008 Beijing Paralympics, who had loss the use of her legs in a childhood accident. Her crew finished the course in a time of 35.46.70, ahead of two of the able bodied mixed eights and only 2 minutes 46 seconds behind section winners Melbourne Boat Club (Jenner).

Ends.....

Full list of race results on following page.

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Website: [www.headoftheyarra.com](http://www.headoftheyarra.com)

**AUSTRALIA'S ROWING CLASSIC**

**headoftheyarra.com**

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Section	Fastest Crew	Elapsed Time	H/Cap Cat	Adjusted Time	Start Position
All Crews	Melbourne Uni/Sydney Uni (Paton)	26:24.50			181
Male Masters H+	Banks/Nagambie (Jopling)	39:20.00	I	31:44.20	1
Female Masters D+	Toowong (Elliott)	35:15.57	E	32:14.97	5
Female Masters B&C	Commercial (Brock)	33:35.83	C	32:35.63	13
Male Masters E&F&G	Annesley/Pembroke (Lowe)	30:57.18	E	28:13.78	33
Male Masters D	Toowong Composite (Zahnleiter)	28:38.33	D	26:55.13	53
Male Masters B&C	Banks Composite (Harrison)	27:56.01	C	27:04.41	55
Mixed Eight	Melbourne Composite (Jenner)	33:00.59	E	30:08.59	82
Male School D	Scotch College (Lee)	31:31.99			86
Male School C	Scotch College (Brown)	30:23.18			94
Male C Grade	Melbourne Uni (Jeffery)	27:58.29			100
Female C Grade	Power House (Walter)	34:42.92			114
Male School B	Scotch College (White)	28:27.93			126
Female School B	Walford (Harris)	33:03.32			144
Male School A	Melbourne Grammar School (Hooper)	27:56.32			148
Female School A	Pymble Ladies (Garrett)	32:01.71			153
Male B Grade	Melbourne Uni (Clarke)	27:03.18			163
Female B Grade	Melbourne Uni (Burraston)	30:20.29			168
Female Open	Melbourne Uni/Geelong Grammar (Heard)	29:04.14			174
Male Open	Melbourne Uni/Sydney Uni (Paton)	26:24.50			181