



GAY + LESBIAN ROWING FEDERATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 22 November 2004

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## **Women prepare to converge on Dimboola for National Lesbian Rowing Camp.**

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Melbourne, Australia - Hordes of women are set to invade the northwest Victorian town of Dimboola in December, as part of the **second National Lesbian Rowing Camp**. Organised by the Melbourne Argonauts Queer Rowing Association, the event is expected to attract women from across Australia. Argonauts vice president Michelle Gee said the December 3-5 camp would involve a full program of weekend rowing, social activities, and hopefully strengthen interstate ties between the gay and lesbian rowing communities.

About two dozen women took part in the **first National Lesbian Rowing Camp** last year -- including friends of rowers who enjoyed the perfect weather and lazing on the banks of the Wimmera River. "It's open to all women," Michelle said. "The camp is not only going to be great fun, but for those thinking about going to the 2006 Regattas, it is also a great opportunity to link up with other women rowers."

The Dimboola Rowing Club facilities have been booked, and camp participants are already signing on. Many bunked down in the Dimboola clubhouse last year, while some hired nearby cabins. The town of Dimboola, which has a population of about 2000, is located on the tree-lined Wimmera River, 334km northwest of Melbourne, near the Little Desert National Park.

The Melbourne Argonauts Queer Rowing Association is based in Melbourne, Australia. They row out of the Lord Somers Camp & Powerhouse Building on Albert Park Lake. The club was developed to provide an alternative and healthy environment for queer folk to access the sport of rowing in an atmosphere where they can be ourselves and meet some like-minded people. The club also promotes awareness of the queer community in mainstream sport and address issues of homophobia in sport in general.

Headquartered in Los Angeles, GLRF is a web-based global membership organization dedicated to promoting rowing in the gay and lesbian community and fostering an international community of gay and lesbian rowers, coaches, coxswains, and judges at all levels of the sport, including junior, collegiate, veteran/masters, and elite. The organization provides resources and information to rowers and serves as a liaison both within the community and with the larger international rowing world.

For more information about the camp or the Melbourne Argonauts, visit their website at <http://www.melbourneargonauts.com/default.htm> For more information about the Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation, visit the GLRF website at <http://www.glrff.info>

[www.GLRF.info](http://www.GLRF.info)