

**DON'T  
WAIT FOR  
CHANCES...  
WINNERS  
TAKE  
THEM**



**INSPIRED?**

JOIN US TODAY  
[www.purplewarriors.org.au](http://www.purplewarriors.org.au)

Be part of a **world first**



**INSPIRED BY YOU**

JOIN US TODAY  
[www.purplewarriors.org.au](http://www.purplewarriors.org.au)



Purple Warriors is a dragon boat club for serving and retired members of the ADF who, as a result of their service to this Country, now have an impairment

## WHAT IS DRAGON BOATING?

Dragon boating is a fast, action-packed, adrenalin-fuelled sport, with races over 200m, 500m, 1,000m and 2km.

A dragon boat is crewed by 20 paddlers (sitting two-abreast), a helm (to steer the boat) and a drummer (to beat the time).

Success depends on a combination of fitness, technique and, above all, timing. It is a pure team sport, where success reflects team effort.

## HOW WILL THINGS WORK?

You will be able to train with Purple Warriors at a number of locations around the country but paddlers will join together to race as a single Purple Warriors team in competitions.

Training will usually take place weekly and a typical session will last about 90 minutes.

All paddling equipment will be provided. If you need adaptive equipment, we have access to a team of specialists who will do their best to get you paddling.

Purple Warriors will race, in Australia, against able-bodied club crews.

# WINNERS NEVER QUIT & QUITTERS NEVER WIN

Purple Warriors has been formed to give you the opportunity to take up a new sport, to train (hard!) and then to compete – on equal terms – against dragon boat crews from around Australia (who will probably have no impaired paddlers!).

Purple Warriors is a world-first. And we have thrown down the gauntlet to other allied nations in the hope that Purple Warriors will have the opportunity to compete against similar impaired military crews from countries such as UK, USA and Canada.

## To be eligible for Purple Warriors, you must:

- be serving, or have served, with the ADF
- have some form of impairment (physical or mental)
- have grit and determination
- want to be part of a team again
- want to meet fresh challenges head-on and overcome them
- be willing to be exhorted to greater effort and to do things in time (just like the old days!)
- want to make a difference for your team mates (this is not an individual sport)
- want to challenge perceptions
- want to inspire others

## CAN I REALLY DO IT?

If you've lost limbs, or lost the function of one or more of your limbs, no problem. Even though dragon boating is a paddling sport, we can probably sort you out provided you have one functional arm.

You are wheelchair-bound. So what? As long as you can get yourself onto the seat in the dragon boat (with or without help), you can paddle.

You are vision-impaired, or blind? Not an issue. Dragon boats paddle to the beat of a drum. Around the world there are numerous dragon boat teams that comprise only vision-impaired or blind paddlers.

You are hearing-impaired, even deaf. Easy. As long as you can see, you can pick up the timing from those in front of you.

You are suffering from PTSD or some other mental health issues. Who cares? We certainly don't and you may even prove to be as powerful and strong as the best paddlers in the world.



## WHO IS BEHIND THIS?

The people behind Purple Warriors are totally inspired by people like you, and want to provide you with the opportunity to shine.

They comprise some of Australia's top paddlers, and other folk who together are determined to make a difference for those who have served this Country and now carry some form of impairment as a result. More than half of them are serving or ex-military.

JOIN US TODAY

[www.purplewarriors.org.au](http://www.purplewarriors.org.au)