

Art of dragon boat racing

Forum on technical and rowing skills for teams aiming to be champions



Splish splash: A filepic of a team rushing to shore during the Spirit of Penang final in Tanjung Bungah, Penang.

Dateline: Penang

PENANG is organising a technical forum for dragon boat enthusiasts tomorrow at the Holiday Inn Resort in Batu Ferringhi. The forum, entitled 'How to be a Champion Team,' will be jointly conducted by Macau national dragon boat coach Zhou Li Wei, International Dragon Boat Federation race official Ho Lun Fai and Macau Dragon Boat coaching committee member Tang Tak Seng.

The forum is held in conjunction with the 30th Penang International Dragon Boat Festival (PIDBF) at the Teluk Bahang dam on May 23 and May 24, Penang Tourism, Culture, Arts and Heritage Committee chairman Danny Law Heng Kiang told a press conference.

"For a small fee of RM10, anyone interested

to learn more about dragon boat races and how to improve their technical and rowing skills can come for the forum even if they are not participating in the PIDBF," he said.

He said over 30 teams including those from Thailand, Singapore, United States, New Zealand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Dubai had confirmed their participation in the annual event.

"The event is expected to cost about RM250,000. Last year, we spent more than RM2.2mil to organise the IDBF Club Crew World Championships because we needed to buy new boats. This event costs much less because we only need to spend on infrastructure. Nonetheless, we still need sponsors to come forward to help make it a success," said Law, who is also the event chairman.

For details, call 04-6505136 or log on to www.penangdragonboat.gov.my/portal/.