

# Change of date likely for Dusi

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THE 60th edition of the Hansa Powerade Dusi Canoe Marathon could take place on the third weekend in February 2011, instead of the traditional third weekend in January, if proposals to change the date are ratified.

This was according to the chairman of the 2010 organising committee, Cameron Mackenzie, who said he believed the race had been taken to new heights, but that neither he nor his committee would rest on their laurels as they planned for the 60th anniversary race.

Mackenzie said there were several reasons to change the

date, including the greater likelihood of good rains in February and therefore more water in the rivers, and it would also give officials more time to organise the race.

Canoeists would also benefit as their training would not be compromised by the holiday period.

Speaking of the 59th Dusi, which ended in Durban on Saturday, Mackenzie said there had been no major incidents or accidents.

Of the nearly 900 canoes that took part in the 120km three-day ultra marathon, 809 boats had completed the event.

Chief timekeeper and Dusi statistician John Oliver said the reasons for retirement in-

cluded damage to boats and injury or illness, the most serious being a fractured ankle.

At the awards ceremony at Blue Lagoon at the end of the race, Mackenzie singled out Umfolozi Canoe Club member Martin Potgieter, of Vryheid, for going to the rescue of a fellow paddler who was in difficulty and needing assistance. Potgieter received the Comradeship Award.

Mackenzie said the quantity and quality of water in the rivers was the best in years.

There had been generous water releases by Umgeni Water and the E.coli count had been excellent, a tribute to the Msundusi Municipality, which had worked hard.

