

**NSWRA 130<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**  
**SPORTS HOUSE FIGTREE DRIVE, SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK**

**PRESENT**

Andrew Rowley (President NSWRA), Stephen Irons (St George Rowing Club), Geoffrey McIntyre AM (UTS Rowing Club), Doug Donoghue AM (Vice President NSWRA), Stewart Derwin (Sydney Rowing Club), Tim Wainman (Northern Rivers Rowing Association), Ray Green (Lake Wallace Rowing Club), Charles Bartlett (Deputy President NSWRA), Paul Coates (Sydney Rowing Club), Greg James (Director NSWRA), Lee Wright (Penrith Rowing Club), Steve Taite (Penrith Rowing Club), Alison Taite (Penrith Rowing Club), Darrell Morris (Penrith Rowing Club), Barry Moynahan (Vice President NSWRA), Owen Nix (Director NSWRA/Central Districts Rowing Association), Keith Jameson (Vice President NSWRA/Life Member NSWRA), Sue Philpot (Leichhardt Rowing Club), Tim Clare (Director NSWRA), Kim Mackney (Glebe Rowing Club), Sue Carew (Sydney Womens MLC Rowing Club), John May (Mosman Rowing Club), Dallas Smith (Sydney Rowing Club), Yasmin L'Estrange (SUBC/SUWRC), Jane Spring (SUBC/SUWRC), Murray Clarke OAM(UNSW Rowing Club), Lance Reeve (The Lakes Rowers), Ben Felten (The Lakes Rowers), Wade Hewett (NSWRA Councilor to RA/Leichhardt Rowing Club), Peter Crawford (VJ Ryan & Co) and David Evans (NSWRA CEO).

The President opened the 130<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the NSW Rowing Association Inc at 7.30pm

**APOLOGIES**

John D Coates AC (Sydney Rowing Club/NSWRA Life Member), Mark Williams (Director NSWRA), Torq Murray (Mosman Rowing Club), Phil Cayzer OAM (Sydney Rowing Club/NSWRA Vice President), Ern Chapman OAM (Vice President NSWRA), Margaret Mackenzie (Life Member NSWRA), Norma Perry (Director NSWRA), Tony Blower (UNSW Rowing Club) and Richard Stanistreet (Leichhardt Rowing Club)

**PROXIES**

Dr Phil Sharp (UTS) for Richard Stewart

**OBITUARIES**

The President noted the passing since the last Annual General Meeting of Athol (Andy) Andrews, David Asimus Ao, Terry Baskett, Melva Cayzer, Ted Curtin, Peter Dickson, Jack Eddie, Alan Hawkes, Frederick Angus Kirkham (Benfield), Michael Phillips, William (Bill) Radburn, Maurie Reddan OAM, Vern Reid, Kim Santow, John Tully, Arthur Thomas, Brian Vear, Arthur Whitmarsh, Tim Willoughby, Ken Bird and Brian Wherry

The President expressed his sympathies to the families and a minute of silence was observed by the meeting.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 128<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2007 be taken as read and adopted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Mr. K. Jameson

Seconded: Mr. J. D. Donoghue AM

Carried

*Resolution: 048/2008*

**ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The President, Mr Andrew Rowley invited the NSWRA Auditor (Mr P Crawford, VJ Ryan & Co) to provide the meeting with a summary of the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash-Flows and Notes Thereon together with the independent Audit Report and detailed Statement of Financial Performance for the 12 months ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

Mr Crawford acknowledged that this report would normally be presented by the NSWRA Director of Finance but unfortunately Norma Perry was unwell. Mr Crawford drew the Meeting's attention to pages one to sixteen of the Report and highlighted the following:

- Assets have increased in the reporting period from \$418,000 to \$458,000.
- The Association's equity has increased from \$341,000 to \$369,000.
- The small qualification common for most Not for Profit organizations in dealing with cash, for the NSWRA this is restricted to the handing of cash at regattas for bow numbers and programs.

Charles Bartlett commented that it was a goal of the Board to build the asset base of the Association, this was reinforced by Mr Crawford that the Association needs to have cash reserves to be confident taking on projects such as the National Championships.

The President reinforced that it was a conscious decision of the Board over two years ago to review the Association's financial viability and this had been a consistent Agenda Item at Board Meetings and Meetings with Club Treasurers.

Mr Stewart Derwin expressed his concern that the sources of funds came from the same pool of people all the time and that the Association has never been able to secure a long term sponsor. Mr Derwin also expressed disappointment that the contribution from Rowing Australia is extremely limited.

The President responded stating that some sponsorship was attracted for the 2008 Australian Rowing Championships that has the potential to develop and the Kings Cup Committee will become the Association's sponsorship arm. Mr Rowley also advised the meeting that the Board is looking at the potential to tailor some regatta programs to lift the spectacle of the event and raise the potential for attracting sponsors. Mr Wade Hewett saw some practical problems with the NSWRA seeking long term sponsorships under the current Rules. It was interpreted that the Board only had the power to commit to one financial year and to overcome this the Association should restructure to a corporate structure. Mr Hewett urged the constituency to support Mr Greg James who had been appointed by the Board to drive the restructure of the NSWRA. Mr Hewett also applauded the commercial approach to regattas as proven at the 2008 Australian Rowing Championships and also commended Mr Peter Crawford's efforts during his tenure at Rowing Australia.

The Chief Executive Officer acknowledged that there was an error in one of the Annual Report inserts and that the corrected copies would be circulated.

The President then continued to report on the activities of the Association for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 and invited various speakers to address specific issues. Mr Rowley advised the Meeting that it was again a very busy year seeing the NSWRA take a leadership role on national activities particularly with the draft Rowing Australia Strategic Plan and at Rowing Australia Mid Year and Annual General Meetings.

The hosting of the 2008 Australian Rowing Championships was an outstanding success and while only delivering a small surplus to the Association it was an excellent regatta for competitors and spectators alike while presenting the sport in a professional and positive manner. The Australian Olympic Committee were thanked for their support of the launch function where a number of corporate supporters were courted and have potential for the future.

Mr Rowley explained the Commission structure to the Meeting, where the key responsibilities of the Association had been reviewed and four Commissions established to work toward each charter. The Commissions are, Regatta Commission, Growth & Development Commission, Athlete & Coach Development Commission and the Governance, Compliance, Administration & Finance Commission.

Mr Tim Clare spoke on the activity of the Regatta Commission thanking his fellow commissioners for their efforts. The Meeting was advised that the Grade Score system was currently undergoing review but has been very time consuming.

Mr Charles Bartlett spoke on the activities of the Growth and Development Commission referring to highlights contained in the Annual report such as the work being done to safeguard the waterways and threats to rowing

(particularly in metropolitan Sydney), planning for developments at Weir Reserve and Homebush Bay and pontoon issues.

Dr Phil Sharp raised the issue of coordinated lobbying against developments such as the Birkenhead Point Marina and the Victoria Road Upgrade. The Meeting was informed of the work being done by the "Bay Clubs Forum" on this and the strategy being deployed to lobby Local and State Government.

The President spoke on behalf of Mr Stephen Handley the recently appointed Chairman of the Athlete and Coach Development Commission. The Charter for this Commission includes State Selection, Coach Education and Development and the management of the relationship with the New South Wales Institute of Sport. Andrew commended the efforts of those involved with the growth of Adaptive Rowing including Ben Felten, Pedro Albisser, Pamela Hubert, John Maclean and Kathryn Ross. The NSWRA State Selection Panel of Steve Handley, Andrew Randell, Stani Slavova, Michael Smith and Nick Garratt with early assistance from Charles Bartlett were thanked along with State Team Managers, Paul Coates and Joeline Chisholm. The President praised the efforts of the recently convened Sky Blues Committee lead by Owen Nix and Georgie Lee and Owen Nix was called upon to provide the Meeting with a summary of their activities.

Mr Nix explained that the Sky Blues Committee was actively involved in the promotion of the NSWRA Awards night where we once again had a fantastic night at Dede's Restaurant with record numbers in attendance, held a fundraising Quiz Night come Christmas Party (with special thanks to Balmain Rowing Club), assisted in the selection of State Team outfitting and was finalizing a generic club clothing range with Canterbury Clothing Company to be launched prior to the end of the calendar year.

Mr Nix went on to provide the Meeting with an overview of another of his activities during the reporting period, the implementation of the new National Officiating Accreditation Scheme.

The President thanked Mr Nix for his report and in closing acknowledged the efforts of the Kings Cup Committee, and in particular Chris Noel in creating a special tax deductible fund for elite rowing and specifically for the outstanding success of the Olympic Farewell luncheon held at the start of the new financial year.

The President asked the meeting if they were willing to receive and adopt the Financial Statements and Auditors Report for the 12 months ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 as presented to the Meeting.

That the Annual Report together with the Financial Statements and Auditors Report for the 12 months ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 as presented to the Meeting be received and adopted.

Moved: Mr. C Bartlett  
Seconded: Mr. T Clare  
Carried  
*Resolution: 049/2008*

The Annual Report together with the Financial Statements and Auditors Report for the 12 months ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 were accepted unanimously.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS BEARERS & APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

### **Nominations**

Mr Keith Jameson recommended that as all positions were uncontested and no vote required that they be voted in one motion.

That Andrew Rowley be appointed President, and Joseph Zammit be appointed Director of Administration and Greg James be appointed Director of the New South Wales Rowing Association.

That Mr Glen Ryder, Mr Charles Watson OAM and Ms Jane Spring be appointed Vice Presidents of the New South Wales Rowing Association.

Moved: Mr. K. Jameson  
Seconded: Mr. G. McIntyre AM  
Carried  
*Resolution: 050/2007*

Mr Keith Jameson advised the meeting that Mr Phil Cayzer OAM had not sought reappointment upon the expiry of his current term of office.

#### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

That the appointment to the role of Auditor for the 2008-2009 Year be made to V. J. Ryan and Co.

Moved: Mr. S. Derwin

Seconded: Mr. C. Bartlett

Carried

*Resolution: 051/2007*

#### TO CONSIDER BUSINESS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

##### NOMINATION FOR ELECTION AS A LIFE MEMBER

Mr. Keith Jameson spoke of the outstanding contribution of Stewart Derwin as a Director, Councillor to Rowing Australia and as President of the Association.

Mr Andrew Rowley supported the sentiments of Mr Jameson and the nomination of Mr Derwin as a Life Member of the New South Wales Rowing Association stating that Stewart had been a guiding force for the Association and a personal mentor.

That Mr. Stewart Derwin be awarded Life Membership of the New South Wales Rowing Association.

Moved: Mr. K. Jameson

Seconded: Mr. B. Moynahan

Carried

*Resolution: 052/2007*

Stewart Derwin thanked the meeting for this honour and spoke of the fantastic sport that has been so wonderful to him and provided him with many great mateships.

Mr. Geoffrey McIntyre AM spoke in support of the nomination for Life Membership for Mr Ern Chapman OAM recalling tales back to 1948 of Ern's love of rowing. Mr McIntyre shared the story of Ern being taught mathematics by his father at Drummoyne High School and the time when Ern arrived on the doorstep of his old teacher to show him his bronze medal won at the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games. Mr McIntyre welcomed the nomination of Mr Chapman as a Life Member of the New South Wales Rowing Association.

Mr John May attended the meeting to support the nomination for Life Membership for Mr Ern Chapman and spoke of his presence as a mentor at Newington College where he brought the best out in his charges, turning young boys into young men.

That Mr. Ern Chapman OAM be awarded Life Membership of the New South Wales Rowing Association.

Moved: Mr. K. Jameson

Seconded: Mr. J. May

Carried

*Resolution: 053/2007*

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

The President asked those present if there was any General Business to be raised.

Mr Keith Jameson described the period as a great year for the New South Wales Rowing Association acknowledging it was still difficult at the same time. Mr Jameson noted that it was a personally challenging time for Mr Rowley to take on the responsibility of the Presidency but had met the challenge well. Mr Jameson described the 2008 Australian Rowing Championships as the best he has ever attended and congratulated the Organising Committee on their work and also the Board of the NSWRA for their efforts during the year.

Mr Geoffrey McIntyre AM supported the sentiments of Mr Jameson and congratulated the President and his Board during a year where such outstanding results were achieved. In over 58 years of involvement Mr McIntyre has witnessed many highs and lows but tonight shows a result of the accumulation of much hard work and effort. It is also appropriate to recognize a significant contributor, Mr Murray Clarke OAM who was awarded his honour on Australia day 2008.

Mr Ben Felten spoke on the strides that have been made in adaptive rowing in recent years and where it is now a Paralympic Sport. Mr Felten thanked the NSWRA CEO, Mr David Evans for his contribution to Adaptive Rowing. The President and CEO also acknowledged Mr Felten as being a driving force in adaptive rowing in New South Wales and Australia.

The Chief Executive Officer thanked all in attendance and further highlighted the outstanding contribution of the staff and in particular the hundreds of volunteers. In particular the CEO thanked those involved on the Board, the four Commissions, the 2008 Australian Championships Organising Committee, Sky Blues Committee, the Bay Clubs Forum (Lobby Group), the Board and staff of the Association for their expertise and assistance.

Ms Sue Carew of Sydney Women's MLC Rowing Club advised the meeting that it will be the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Club in 2009 and the club would be seeking support from their fellow members to celebrate the achievements of New South Wales oldest women's rowing club.

There being no further business, the President thanked members and Delegates for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00pm

Approved ..... Chairman ...../...../2009