



BOARD MEETING
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli
Wednesday 21 July 2010 at 6.30pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Norma Perry (President), Peter Trives, Joe Zammit, Greg James QC, Bryan Weir, Chris Noel, Bronwen Watson, and Christian Renford (CEO)

Visitors:

Apologies: Stephen Handley and Tim Clare

1. Welcome

N Perry welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Previous Meetings Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 23 June Board Meeting as true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: C Noel Seconded: P Trives

Motion Carried

3. Business Arising

The CEO tabled the Board action sheet. The CEO provided a verbal update on action items completed and the status of pending items to be actioned from previous minutes.

Additional to the action sheet the Board discussed:

- Consideration to be given to the date of the 2012 State Championships with relation to the possibility of Rowing Australia selecting Olympic crews in early 2012.
Action – Regatta Commission to liaise with NRCE
- Formation of an organising committee for the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships, that also incorporates planning initiatives for the State Championships and Trickett Regatta.
Action – CEO to table recommended structure at August Board meeting
- B Weir provided a verbal update on the status of Drummoyne Rowing Club in light of recent reports in the media.

The CEO also tabled incoming correspondence from VJ Ryan reviewing and supporting the existing accounting procedures (whereby payments are made by EFT) and the debtors' process.

4. Items For Resolution

4.1 Finance Reports

The CEO tabled the aged receivables, Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet as of 30 June 2010.

The CEO provided an overview of the estimated provisions for the 2009/10 financial year, resulting in better than forecasted outcome previously presented. The CEO further updated the meeting on the conduct of the 2009/10 audit, noting that the figures presented to the meeting are yet to be examined by the Auditors.

B Weir and G James requested to review the inclusion of the LE Stepto Memorial Trust Fund as a non-current asset on the RNSW consolidated balance sheet

Action: Finance Officer to seek further advice from Auditors.

Motion: To accept the financial statements as presented.

Moved: P Trives

Seconded: J Zammit

Motion carried

4.2 Strategic Plan

The CEO tabled the one page summary of Rowing New South Wales Strategic Plan (CEO Development Objectives and Performance Targets for 2010-13).

The one page summary prioritised nominated critical success and proposed quantified targets within the Business Plan for 2010-13.

- Edward Trickett Regatta
- New Rowing Facilities
- Rowing Instructor Training Program
- Category Of Memberships
- High Performance Committee
- Sponsorable Properties

Motion: To endorse the Strategic Plan as presented.

Moved: C Noel

Seconded: J Zammit

Motion carried

Action – CEO to forward one page strategic plan to the membership and publish on the website.

4.3 New Club – Central Tablelands Rowing Club

The CEO tabled an application for affiliation to Rowing New South Wales from the Central Tablelands Rowing Club (CTRC). The application addressed all criteria requested in section 2.11 (a) of the By-Laws.

Motion: To accept and recommend the Central Tablelands Rowing Club application for affiliation to the 2010 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: C Noel

Seconded: B Weir

Motion carried

The meeting noted that in accordance with Section 2.11 (b) of the By-Laws, the application for affiliation to Rowing New South Wales from the Central Tablelands Rowing Club (CTRC) is required to be tabled for endorsement of the constituent members at the 2010 Annual General Meeting.

Subject to approval at the 2010 Annual General Meeting, CTRC to be afforded "new and emerging status.

Action: CEO

5. Items For Discussion

5.1 Sport Development – RNSW Staffing Structure

Two members of the RNSW office have indicated changes to their personal and professional goals that will have an immediate effect on the staffing levels within the office:

George Lee (Operations Manager)

- Offered and accepted a six month secondment to QBE as an executive assistant
- August 2010 to February 2011

Alistair Mathews (Development Officer)

- Expressed desire to reduce working hours by September 2010 (approx 50%)

Additional to the above, the CEO noted at the mid-year Council Meeting, Rowing Australia provided an overview of the federal governments paper; "Australian Sport – the pathway to success" outlining additional funding for all Australian Sport. Key elements of the RA submissions include the proposal to fund a development officer in each state. Should RA be successful in this submission it is envisaged this may occur in Q4 of 2010, and will subsequently have an impact on the office structure.

The CEO recommended the following course of action:

- a) Replace Operations Manager position with an Administration Officer position (six month contract). G Lee to continue management of the NOAS and volunteer / BRO program (voluntary basis) and upon return to RNSW, to be afforded either the Operations Manager or Club Development Officer positions.
- b) Create two part time DO positions. Casual employment agreements:
 - i. Offer A Mathews part time DO role (NTID and NCAS)
 - ii. Identify suitably qualified and available person (State Teams, club development)

The CEO reiterated that b) above is not ideal, however is a temporary measure only to change manage staff members and the envisaged evolution of the staffing structure, until further funding clarification is available from Rowing Australia.

Motion: To accept the proposed staffing structure as recommend by the CEO.

Moved: C Noel

Seconded: J Zammit

Motion carried

5.2 Review of Laws of Boat Racing and Constitution

As part of the review of all of the constitutional documents of RNSW, the Umpires' Commission has reviewed and standardised the Laws of Boat Racing to align with the format and numbering of FISA and Rowing Australia's Rules of Racing.

N Perry tabled the draft Laws of Boat Racing and provided an update on the Board sub-committee (N Perry, B Weir, and S Handley) of the Board actions to date.

It was noted that the Board would prefer to have the new Laws in place for the beginning of the season. In order to progress this, the next stages proposed are:

1. Forward to draft Laws of Boat Racing key members of the RNSW Rowing community for comment.
2. Ask Constituent Members to propose Delegates interested in reviewing these changes. A forum should be formed to communicate this to the membership and allow more detailed debate than what might normally occur at a formal general meeting
3. Formal endorsement by constituent members at a special general meeting – the meeting resolved that the 2010 AGM is not the appropriate forum to have this debate.

N Perry noted that a similar process of consultation would be followed for the NSWRA Constitution upon endorsement of the Laws of Boat Racing.

Action 1 – N Perry to forward draft Laws of Boat Racing to M Clarke, K Jameson and B Moynahan for comment

Action 2 – upon Action 1, CEO to forward draft Laws of Boat Racing to Constituent Members and nominate Special General Meeting date.

6. Items For Information

6.1 2010 Youth Cup

The CEO noted the results of the NSW teams performance at the 2010 Australian Youth Cup. The NSW Team placed second in the overall pointscore and the first Australian state, up from fifth in 2009.

The Board congratulated all members of the NSW Team on their efforts, in particular the leadership of the coaches and staff - Alan Bennett (Head Coach/Men's Lead Coach) Sydney University Women's Rowing Club, Stani Slavova (Women's Lead Coach) Leichardt Rowing Club, Alfie Young (Men's Assistant Coach) Queenwood/Mosman Rowing Club, Christopher Holliday (Women's Assistant Coach) Loreto Kirribilli/Mosman Rowing Club, David Gely

(Intern Coach) University of New South Wales, Robin Smith (Intern Coach) Nepean Rowing Club, and Nigel Waddell (Team Manager) Nepean Rowing Club

The CEO tabled S Handleys report. It was noted that the debriefing process for tis team has commenced, with the two Youth Cup team lead coaches requested to submit a report of the Youth Cup activity. The terms of reference they were asked to address were as follows:

- Selection Policy (particularly in light of the circumstances where a reserve or replacement was actually used).
- Selections process
- Small boat preparation,
- Big boat preparation,
- Team camps
- “Team” style coaching structure
- Racing

The meeting further noted several possible modifications to the lead up, conduct and format of the Australian Youth Cup. All comments should be forwarded to the Competition Commission for debriefing with Rowing Australia.

Action – individual Board members to forward comments to the Competition Commission.

6.2 RNSW Office and CEO Report

The CEO tabled the Staff Operational report. The report provided an overview of issues/actions that RNSW and NSWIS staff are actioning for the month preceding the Board meeting.

6.3 BRO Commission Report

The CEO tabled the Report to the Board from the Umpires Commission T Wainman Convener Umpires Commission.

7. General Business

7.1 Junior Team Fundraising Dinner

C Noel provided an update on the Junior Team Fundraising Dinner on 27 June 2010. With over 460 attendees the function was a great success, raising sufficient funds to cover the required seat fees for the NSW Junior as well as the U/23 Australian Representatives.

The meeting congratulated Chris Noel and the Organising Committee (Rebecca Wilson, Jo and Rob Wheatley, Jeremy and Jeromine Alpe, Belinda Gunton, Bronwyn and Peter Bernerius, Trudy and Jim Snelson, and Michelle and Jim Wright) on the success of the event.

C Noel further noted that any excess funds from the fundraising dinner will be forwarded to the NSW Bromley Trust.

7.2 Selection Policy

S Handley written report – the drafting of the State Team Selection Policy is nearing completion. Upon final consultation with the current selection panel, the Policy is expected to be tabled by the Competition Commission, at the August meeting of the Board.

Action – S Handley

7.3 Competition Commission

The Board gave further consideration to the composition of the Competition Commission and the Selection Panel (refer June 2010 Board Minutes – 5.4)

The meeting resolved that the Selection Panel should comprise three persons appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Competition Commission.

The Meeting further resolved that the Competition Commission to comprise of the following members:

1. Stephen Handley (Chairman)
2. Chris Noel
3. Bronwen Watson
4. TBC

Motion: To accept amendments to the composition of the Selection Panel and the composition of the Competition Commission.

Moved: G James

Seconded: J Zammit

Motion carried

Meeting closed – 9:10pm

Next Meeting – 18 August 2010 @ 6:30pm

Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli