



BOARD MEETING
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli
Wednesday 17 November 2010 at 6:30pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Norma Perry (President), Bronwen Watson, Chris Noel, Ivan Adlam, Tim Clare and Christian Renford (CEO)

Visitors: -

Apologies: Greg James QC, Joe Zammit, Bryan Weir, and Stephen Handley

1. Welcome

N Perry welcomed all to the meeting.

N Perry congratulated I Adlam on his appointment as Director of Finance and welcomed him to his first meeting of the Board.

2. Previous Meetings Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 20 October Board Meeting as true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: B Watson Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

3. Business Arising

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

Additional advice was provided on the following:

- The meeting noted that despite renewed efforts in recent seasons we are still experiencing difficulties obtaining adequate numbers of Boat Race Officials for all regattas. The meeting confirmed the need to assess the strategies and actions implemented since the introduction of the NOAS, and the structural review within RNSW in 2006.

The CEO noted that he will be meeting with Umpires Commission Chairman, T Wainman in the coming days to review this situation.

Action – CEO to table discussion paper at December meeting

4. CEO Update

4.1 CEO Report

The report was tabled. This report summarised the activities of RNSW programs and initiatives from the period 14 October to 11 November 2010.

The CEO report included updates from within the following key areas; Finance; Sponsorship; Development; Operations and Facilities Development:

- With respect to the December Schools Development Camps, C Noel and T Clare requested further information to be provided by the CEO regarding involvement from Clubs in the camps and how this would support the RNSW agenda of athlete recruitment from School to Club programs when athletes leave school.

Action - CEO

- The meeting also requested that the Facilities Development Commission Chairman provide an update on activities for the December meeting.

Action – A Rowley

The CEO confirmed that a copy of, or information from within this report can be distributed to clubs on request.

Motion: To accept the CEO Report as presented.

Moved: T Clare Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

4.2 Finance Report

The CEO presented a detailed report on the management of accounts to 31 October 2010 and highlighted the following items within each business unit:

- i. Administration – expenditure associated with President and CEO attendance at the 2010 World Championships will be incurred in the November accounts.
- ii. Operations – income derived from memberships ahead of budget forecasts. Income derived from club and school regattas behind budget forecasts. Refer regatta entry statistics in CEO Report, section 4A
- iii. Development – The NTID grant (\$30,000) should now be received post the 2010 World Championships. Minor activity from the conduct of workshops. Cancellation of planned L2 NCAS due to course not finalised in time by RA affecting income and corresponding expenditure.

The CEO provided the following additional information relating to the management of accounts:

- Ongoing management of the associations aged receivables has been exceptionally successful. A common sense approach is being taken in the implementation of the debtors policy and payment options for clubs and schools. The several schools have elected to pay their seasons seat fees in advance based on historical trends, with credits applied per regatta. All seat fees to date (including CDRA regattas) been paid in advance of the regatta.
- Drummoyne RC Levies. Hall Chadwick are paying the DRC monthly levies as noted in September CEO Report. This debt has been reduced from approx \$6,500 in August to approx \$2,000 outstanding against this debt. All DRC seat fees are paid at the time of entry.

- Negotiations with the Department of Sport and Recreation have been positive to date. There is the likelihood of a slight increase in base Sport Development Funding

Motion: To accept the financial statements as presented.

Moved: N Perry

Seconded: C Noel

Motion carried

4.3 Supplementary Operational Reports

The CEO tabled the following supplementary operational reports:

- 4.3.1 2010/11 Membership statistics as at 12 November (5 year historical analysis)
- 4.3.2 Regatta Statistics and Regatta Entry Comparison –October to November 2010

4.4 National Championships

Rowing Australia updated the member States and Territory about recent conversations with FISA relating to the conduct and hosting of international regattas:

- FISA announced at the 2010 World Championships a new major sponsor – Samsung.
- Samsung have expressed a desire to conduct a major event/s in Australia.
- Rowing Australia and FISA have commenced discussions with Samsung and NSW Major Events about the possibility of conducting a World Cup Regatta in Sydney in 2013 and 2014.
- The conduct of a World Cup may be run in conjunction with, or following the Australian Championships.

The CEO confirmed that no decision has been made by FISA or Rowing Australia about the above. Further clarification about the above is likely by mid January 2011.

Planning by the State Event Management Committee for the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships will be suspended until further information is made available by RA. Planning for key RNSW regattas will continue as scheduled.

5. **Board Matters**

5.1 Sponsorship

The CEO tabled a memo summarising the current RA Rules relating to sponsorship and advertising of athletes, boats etc in national regattas. The relevant Rowing New South Wales By-Laws essentially mirrors the requirements outlined in the Rowing Australia Rules.

In recent years restraint relating to ongoing sponsorship and advertising opportunities has not been raised as an area of concern by clubs / schools that requires immediate action. This issue is not a priority, however, RNSW should reconsider the need for such a restrictive approach to clubs/schools sponsorship and advertising opportunities in due course. A “common sense” approach will be taken by the Board should clubs / schools approach RNSW with a sponsorship opportunity of their own.

5.2 Code of Conduct – Member Transfers

The CEO noted that the formation of the sub-committee to investigate the issue of athlete recruitment / member transfers between rowing clubs had not yet commenced.

Action - CEO

NOTE - The formation of the sub-committee has since occurred and has been requested to provide an update to the Board at the December meeting.

5.3 ROMS Review – RNSW Position Statement

The CEO tabled the draft position paper clarifying RNSW's position with respect to the ongoing ROMS Review project.

The position paper noted that Rowing NSW is keen to support Rowing Australia in the overarching principles of developing a National membership database that can support SSO's, Clubs, Schools and the membership, and link to other areas of management within the sport.

The RNSW Board is of the opinion that the ROMS central membership management system is a positive development, however do have some reservations and questions with the implementation, scope and management of ROMS. The Board believes RNSW must outline our position clearly in relation to the future direction of ROMS so that where opportunities exist for us to cooperate within a national system they are taken and where opportunities exist to refine or continue with existing systems that are serving us well, they are also taken.

Motion: To endorse the position paper as presented.

Moved: T Clare Seconded: N Perry

Motion carried

Action – CEO to forward to RA President, and send copies to State Councillors, Presidents and CEOs

5.4 NSW Lightweight Limits

The CEO tabled a memo from the Regatta Secretary relating to the RA selection policy with regards to Lightweight Limits and how they should be applied to the RNSW Regatta season.

The meeting confirmed its support of the recommendation from the Regatta Secretary that lightweight limits to be consistent with the Rowing Australia selection policy:

Lightweight athletes are required to be within the following weight ranges for racing, time trials, and any national testing:

- a. *For the September – October 2010 – no specified weight, however weights must be recorded and sent to the NRCE when completing racing or testing.*
- b. *For the November - December 2010 - athletes must not weigh more than plus 6% of the FISA average weight (i.e. Men 74.2kg and Women 60.4kg).*

- c. *For the January and February 2011 athletes must not weigh more than plus 5% of the FISA average weight (i.e. Men 73.5kg and Women 59.9kg). There will be no crew average.*
- d. *For racing at the National Championships athletes must abide by Rowing Australia rules.*

Action – Regatta Secretary to communicate to the membership, ensuring that all interstate clubs and schools are informed.

5.5 NSW Maritime Matters

The CEO provided an update on the rules governing the use of lifejackets on recreational vessels on all NSW navigable waters, as of 1 November 2010.

NSW Maritime holds the view a significant shift in the culture of wearing lifejackets will save lives and that this change would be dramatically assisted through some relatively light touch regulation backed up with a major education campaign. This is supported by a steady drive by stakeholder consultative groups over the last five years for regulatory change to require lifejackets to be worn during heightened risk situations to both save lives directly, and as a driver for cultural change amongst boaters.

When coaching alone or at night, all rowing coaches must now wear lifejackets when coaching from vessels / tinnies less than 4.8m in length. More information can be found at: http://www.maritime.nsw.gov.au/wh/lifejacket_reforms_faqs.html#15

Action – CEO to ensure that all clubs and schools are aware of the new rules governing the use of lifejackets on recreational vessels

6. **General Business**

6.1 National Junior Team Selector

Rowing Australia recently sought expressions of interest from suitably qualified candidates to fill one position as a National Junior Selector for the 2011 season.

Rowing Australia feels that the additional perspective offered by this selector will complement the current selection panel of Chairman Andrew Matheson (National High Performance Director), Peter Shakespear (Elite Development Manager) and Wayne Diplock (NTID Coordinator).

The meeting endorsed the following nominees:

- Stephen Handley
- Bob Shirlaw

Meeting closed – 8:35pm

Next Meeting – 15 December 2010 @ 6:30pm
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli