



BOARD MEETING

Via teleconference

Wednesday 19 January 2011 at 6:30pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Norma Perry (President), Bryan Weir (Deputy President), Greg James QC, Joe Zammit, Chris Noel, Ivan Adlam, Stephen Handley, and Christian Renford (CEO)

Apologies: Bronwen Watson, Tim Clare

1. Welcome

N Perry welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Laws of Boat Racing

The CEO tabled the suggested amendments to the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing as recommended by the Umpires Commission.

Motion: To endorse the amendments as presented, and table at the February General Meeting.

Moved: G James Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

3. Transfers Working Group

B Weir tabled the draft protocol for ethical recruiting and transfers practices as recommended by the Transfers Working Group.

The meeting debated draft document and resolved to treat the Transfers Working Group recommendation in two parts:

a. Protocol for Ethical Recruiting

The meeting debated part one of the document; protocol for ethical recruiting.

G James noted that this protocol may be seen as advantageous to regional athletes looking to achieve a future in rowing in the metropolitan area, however expressed concern that some smaller metropolitan clubs may be relegated to a second tier club as a consequence.

G James also noted that the proposed protocol doesn't go far enough to protect honesty and good practice, and that further investigation of other ethical issues additional to fairly and honestly describing benefits and inducements to the athletes should be considered.

Motion: To endorse the Protocol for Ethical Recruiting and Transfer Practices as presented, and table at the February General Meeting for consideration by the membership.

Moved: B Weir Seconded: S Handley

G James dissented

Motion Carried

b. Transfer Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers

The meeting debated part two of the document; transfers practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers.

G James noted that the document needs to further define a “significant investment in the development of the rowers” to specify an investment of time and resources not just a financial investment, and also the definition of a structured club rowing program.

The meeting resolved to amend the following sections in the draft document:

- Section 1 delete “or a member of a national representative team or talent identification squad”
- Section 5 include; The member affected may appeal against the decision of the club to “the Board of Rowing NSW”

Subject to the endorsement from membership at the General Meeting it was noted that amendments to the Laws of Boat Racing will be required.

Motion: Subject to the amendments above, to endorse the Transfers Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers as presented, and table at the February General Meeting.

Moved: B Weir Seconded: S Handley

G James abstained. C Noel dissented

Motion Carried

4. Boat Race Officials Strategy

The CEO tabled an executive summary for the Boat Race Officials Strategy Proposal. The meeting resolved to hold over the BRO strategy proposal to the February Board meeting.

5. Masters Selection Policy

The CEO tabled the proposed selection policy for the NSW Men’s and Women’s D Eight and Quad at the 2011 Australian Masters Championships, Lake Barrington, Tasmania. The CEO noted that RNSW has received broad support from the membership relating to the NSW Masters State Team selection policy, and its implementation for several years. The Competition Commission acknowledged this broad support and recommended that the policy remain unchanged for 2011.

S Handley noted Competition Commission’s preference for three selectors, however again acknowledging the broad support from the membership and the excellent job done by the incumbent selectors, recommended to maintain the current four

Selector positions. The Competition Commission recommended this be reduced to three in due course.

The meeting resolved to endorse the re-appointment the following members as 2011 NSW Masters Selectors:

1. Phillip Titterton
2. Sue Wannan
3. John James
4. Joe Zammit

Motion: To endorse the Masters Selection Policy as tabled and appoint the Masters Selectors as recommended

Moved: S Handley Seconded: J Zammit

Motion carried

Action – G Ellis to publish 2011 Selection Policy on RNSW website

6. RNSW Constitution

B Weir tabled a revised draft Constitution and provided an overview of the incorporated comments made by members of the Constitutional Committee and others.

The meeting confirmed the following recommended course of action:

- i. Constitutional Review Committee and Board members to meet and settle draft Constitution and draft Deed of Transfer
- ii. RNSW to obtain legal advice to confirm Constitution and Deed of Transfer are in order and to confirm transfer process does not create stamp duty, tax, employment or other problems.
- iii. Drafts of the Constitution and the Deed of Transfer are distributed to Constituent Members and other voting members.
- iv. Draft Constitution and draft Deed of Transfer are presented to next RNSW General Meeting or Special General Meeting for discussion.
- v. Assuming the RNSW General Meeting provides a consensus in favour of the documents, final drafts are prepared taking into account any comments from General Meeting.
- vi. Implementation begins (incorporation of a new entity, convening meetings, etc)

The meeting resolved to aim to have the new Constitution adopted on 1 July 2011 (which would be the best outcome from an accounting perspective). Items 1-6 will need to be completed by the end of May, with a view to holding a general meeting to approve the necessary transactions about a week before the end of June.

Meeting closed – 7:30pm

Next Meeting: 16 February 2011 @ 6:30pm - Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli