



BOARD MEETING
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli
Wednesday 18 April 2012 at 7:00pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Ivan Adlam (President), Deanna Fekete, Sam Crosby, Bryan Weir, Chris Noel, Joe Zammit and Christian Renford (CEO)

Apologies: Andrew Gannon, Stephen Handley and Bronwen Watson (Leave of Absence)

1. WELCOME

7:00pm - I Adlam welcomed all to the April Board meeting of Rowing NSW Inc.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

2.1 Previous Meetings Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 21 March RNSW Board Meeting as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Motion Carried

2.2 Business Arising

The CEO tabled the Board action sheet.

A verbal update on the status of pending items to be actioned from previous minutes was provided. The meeting further discussed:

- Kings and Queen Cup Luncheon – the date of the 2013 luncheon is still to be determined
Action – CEO and C Noel to recommend date in conjunction with the Competition Commission
- Extreme Heat Policy review – the sub-committee charged to review this has met and has developed a preliminary draft document
- Presidents Forum – the forum scheduled for May is to be postponed until the agenda and meeting intent can be finalised.
- Regatta Commission – the CEO provided an overview of the commission's structure and the tasks presently being undertaken. The task allocation is as follows;

| | |
|--|-------------|
| a) Review of Grade System | P Coates |
| b) School to Club transition | T Blower |
| c) Increased opportunity for U21 athletes | K Jameson |
| d) Coordinated interschool regatta program | A Butt |
| e) Multi Year Calendar | T Blower |
| f) Review of State Championships | P Titterton |

Prioritisation of the above will be determined in the coming weeks. The CEO further noted the publication schedule of regatta statistics and the consolation process for the 2012/13 calendars development.

The meeting further discussed how many club and state events is it appropriate for athletes selected to represent Australia in the 2013 Sydney International Regatta to compete in. The meeting further debated probable impacts on the Interstate Regatta.

Action: I Adlam and CEO to raise at Rowing Australia's mid year council meeting.

3 CEO UPDATE

3.1 CEO Report

The CEO report for March was tabled. This report summarised the activities of RNSW programs and initiatives from the period 16 March to 16 April 2012:

a) Regattas

The following regattas have been conducted in this reporting period.

| | 2010/11 | | |
|------------------------------|---------|-------|----------|
| RNSW Regattas | Entries | Seats | Athletes |
| Schoolgirl Head of the River | 207 | 725 | 832 |
| Trickett Grade Championships | 578 | 1342 | 442 |
| Drummoyne Masters | 292 | 866 | 327 |

| 2011/12 | | |
|---------|-------|----------|
| Entries | Seats | Athletes |
| 220 | 787 | 905 |
| 639 | 1455 | 561 |
| 250 | 725 | 300 |

| | 2010/11 | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-------|----------|
| NRRA Regattas | Entries | Seats | Athletes |
| Iluka Rowing Club | 259 | 434 | 118 |
| South Grafton High School | | | |

| 2011/12 | | |
|---------|-------|----------|
| Entries | Seats | Athletes |
| 169 | 297 | 99 |
| 179 | 310 | 97 |

b) Membership

- Memberships as at 16 April 2012

| | July 10 to Apr11 | July 11 to Apr12 | Total: 2010/11 |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Metro Comp | 842 | 870 | 863 |
| Metro Jnr* | 1782 | 1935 | 1788 |
| Regional Comp | 348 | 359 | 350 |
| Regional Jnr | 271 | 378 | 273 |
| Supporting | 146 | 72 | 150 |
| Official | - | 278 | - |
| AAGPS Jnr | 642 | 495 | 642 |
| Recreational | - | 99 | - |
| Patron (10/11 only) | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| | 4109 | 4566 | 4146 |

*includes 2010/11 School competitors

- Detailed membership reports can be provided to the Board at any time upon request

c) Competition Commission

The Competition Commission met on 16 April 2012. The Commission addressed several issues including:

i. State Team Review

The Competition Commission has completed the review of the 2012 State Team campaign. Amendments of the crew event requirements and appeals policy were discussed, and will be tabled for Board approval for the 2012/13 season.

ii. Youth Cup – Event Requirements

Amendments to the Event requirements for the Youth Cup were proposed to allow for greater inclusion of athletes unsuccessful in obtaining selection in sweep oar categories to complete the sculling component of the trails.

iii. Annual Awards

The Competition Commission recommended the following recipients of awards for the 2012 Annual Presentation Dinner

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| i. Oarsman of the Year | Daniel Noonan (Mosman RC) |
| ii. Oarswoman of the Year | Amy Clay (Mosman RC) |
| iii. NSW Coach of the Year | Nick Garrett (Mosman RC) |
| iv. Schoolboy Coach of the Year | David Jennings (Shore) |
| v. Schoolgirl Coach of the Year | Mark and Gill Campbell (Pymble) |

Motion: To accept the Competition Commissions recommendations for the recipients of awards for the 2012 Annual Presentation Dinner

Motion carried

d) Sydney International Regatta Centre – Fees and Charges

In a sample of 7 key NSW regattas, venue hire fees levied by SIRC management for regattas conducted at the Sydney International Regatta Centre have increased approximately 65% in comparison to last season's regattas. The venue set up is essentially identical for each regatta over this period.

RNSW has met with SIRC management with no formal resolution or explanation as to the increased costs received to date. This matter was presented at the April VMAC (Venue Management Advisory Committee) meeting. No acceptable solution was agreed upon at the VMAC meeting. A meeting with the Director General of the Department of Sport and Recreation has been set for 17 April 2012.

The increased charges this season have had a detrimental effect on the NSW budget and profit sharing arrangements with host clubs/schools.

The CEO forecast that seat fees for the 2012/13 season and beyond will need to be increased for school and club regattas to ensure their financial viability. This matter of seat fees will be presented to the Club Treasurers meeting in May.

e) Youth Cup

The event requirements now published on the website. Nominations are open for athletes, coaches and team manager, closing by 27 April. Other key dates to note include:

- Selection regatta: 12 May 2012
- Selectors recommendations to be presented to the Board at the 23 May Meeting

Negotiations with Rowing Australia relating to the event management of the regatta have stalled. Presently the budget shows a forecast deficit of approx.

\$2,000 (due to increased SIRC venue hire fees). Until the matter regarding the event liability is resolved RNSW have ceased planning for the event.

Should this not be completed by the end of April then the CEO will recommend to the Board that RNSW does not host the 2012 Australian Youth Cup at SIRC.

f) Annual Presentation Dinner

Rowing NSW has called for nominations from the NSW rowing community for the following awards. Nominations are due by Friday 27 April 2012 and must be submitted on the appropriate forms:

- Rusty Robertson MBE Award
- Kevyn Webb OAM Award
- Volunteer of the Year Award
- Novice of the Year Award

The Honours Committee are meeting on Monday 30 April to discuss the nominations for the above awards. It is envisaged that the Honours Committee will make a recommendation to the Board soon after that will require the Boards endorsement via circular resolution.

g) Rowing NSW Office

i. *Appointment of Sport Development Officer*

The recruitment process for the Sports Development Officer has been completed. Mr Ian Evans has been appointed and will be commencing in the SDO position commencing 4 May 2012.

ii. *RNSW Office Structure*

Investigations are being undertaken to secure the additional funding to support a new operational/administrational position within the RNSW office structure.

4 FINANCE REPORT

4.1 Finance Report and Balance Sheet

The CEO presented a detailed report on the management of accounts and Balance Sheet as at 29 February. The CEO highlighted scheduling and permanent budget variances, highlighting the following items within each business unit:

- i. Operations – Income is ahead of budget YTD to with regatta seat fees for both the Trickett and club regatta's up on last year. Expenditure however is also above budget mainly due to unforeseen SIRC venue hire increases which is currently \$26k over budget YTD. Also further exception of surf lifesaving expenses of \$13k providing aquatic rescue services at all RNSW regattas this season.
- ii. Development – Income is down by \$6k due to March courses and camps not conducted. All other development expenses are in line with YTD. Coaching and Development expenses down YTD and for March due to course cancellations. State Team expenses in line with YTD. Staff expenses up due to final payment for G Lee.
- iii. Administration – income is above budget resultant from additional \$16.5k grant from Sport and Recreation. Expenditure is up is Sponsor Serving by \$4.5Kk however offset by Sponsor Income (Bentleys) which is \$20k above budget YTD. Staff expenses are ahead of budget due to three 3 pay periods in March

5 BOARD MATTERS

5.1 Directors Leave of Absence

The meeting congratulated B Watson on her selection in the Australian Women's Light Weight Double Scull to represent Australia at the 2012 London Olympic Games.

The meeting noted B Watsons requirement to relocate interstate while training for the London Games. The meeting fully supported extending the leave of absence approved at the January 2012 Board meeting with a view to reviewing the position after the 2012 Olympic Games.

5.2 NSW Fundraising Parameters

For the past two seasons Rowing NSW has assisted with a coordinated fundraising function to raise the required seat fees for all NSW athletes selected on Australian Teams. It is expected that Rowing NSW will take a more coordinating and leadership role for the 2012 function.

This year the "support the crew" dinner has been tentatively scheduled for 17 June 2012 at the Four Seasons Hotel, Sydney.

The Board resolved to endorse the following fundraising parameters for the 2012 function:

1. NSW athletes selected on Junior, Senior B Australian Rowing Teams.
2. Athletes who opt out (of supporting the dinner) are not included.
3. All funds to be administered centrally by Rowing NSW
4. Participating athletes should receive equal distribution of the nett profits from the fundraising pool
5. Clubs/Schools that may have support entitlements arising from their participation throughout the season is considered a private matter for the athletes concerned, and any such amounts should not be deducted from their share of the fundraising pool.
6. Any surplus funds above seat fees allocated to the NSW Bromley Trust

Motion: To endorse the six fundraising parameters for the 2012 "Support the Crew" function as stated above

Moved: C Noel Seconded; B Weir

Motion Carried

The Board reiterated the above parameters are for the 2012 function only, and should considered developing guidelines for all future Rowing NSW endorsed fundraising activities.

5.3 Riverview Women's Gold Cup

C Noel and D Fekete tabled a proposal to raise funds for a perpetual trophy (Riverview Women's Challenge Gold Cup) to be presented to the winners of the Open Women's Eight at the Gold Cup Regatta.

The Riverview Gold Cup Stewards have requested the assistance of Rowing NSW to:

- a. Register the project with the Australian Sports Foundation

- b. Process donation forms
- c. Payment of deposit and final payment – subject to donations received.
- d. Publicise the opportunity to support this new perpetual trophy through Rowing NSW website.

The Board was supportive of this endeavour and congratulated C Noel and D Fekete on their efforts to date. The meeting however debated whether this initiative should be administered through Riverview or Rowing NSW.

Subject to the Australian Sports Foundation registering a project to raise funds for a perpetual trophy, the Board agreed to support the initiative as outlined above.

Action: C Noel and D Fekete to confirm that the raising funds for a trophy is an acceptable project to the ASF.

5.4 Implementation and Interpretation of Association Rules

The CEO presented a tabled correspondence between Rowing NSW, Sydney Rowing Club and UTS Rowing Club.

The CEO sought clarification on how the Board of Rowing NSW and staff are authorised to manage the affairs of the association, either solely within the rules set by the Association, or are entrusted to interpret and implement the rules on a "case by case basis" in accordance with the Associations objects.

The Board discussed the matter, and noted that in the specific case tabled by the CEO that strict adherence to the rules in this matter was the appropriate course of action.

The Board further noted that strictly operating within the rules all of the association all time may lead to outcomes that are sub-optimal with respect to the objectives of the sport. The Board of Rowing NSW and staff may from time to time use their discretion with respect to interpretation and implementation of the Associations rules.

5.5 Sydney International Regatta Centre – Release of Submerged Plants

The CEO tabled further correspondence from SIRC venue management relating to the release of submerged plants at SIRC.

The CEO noted that Rowing Australia is taking a leading role the issue surrounding the management of released submerged plants at SIRC. The matter has been escalated to Ministerial level within the state government.

5.6 NSW Masters State Team – Masters Men's 8+

The Board endorsed via Circular Resolution on 2 April the Masters Selectors recommendation for athletes to represent NSW at the 2012 Australian Masters Championships in the Men's 8+

Men's Eight

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Ken Ambler | Sydney RC |
| Mark Williams | Mosman RC |

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Philip Quick | Glebe RC |
| Mark Bindner | St George RC |
| Mark Innes | Old Ignations RC |
| John Briggs | Glebe RC |
| Brad Smith | Glebe RC |
| Ken Major | Glebe RC |
| Brian Holst (coxswain) | Sydney University BC |
| Steve Gordon (coach) | Mosman RR |

Note - the final recommendation for the Men's Quad will be provided at the conclusion of the Iron Cove Masters Regatta on 28th April.

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 2012 State Team Results

The Board congratulated all athletes, coaches and team management involved in the New South Wales State Team performance in the 2012 Interstate Regatta to achieve equal second place in the Rowing Australia Cup.

The meeting congratulated the Selectors and Competition Commission for the excellent work that they have done to date with the state team, and also acknowledge the support and successful implementation from NSWIS and our cubs and schools

6.2 Australian Women's Eight

D Fekete acknowledged and congratulated all athletes selected to trail for the Australian women's eight crew attempting to qualify for the 2012 London Olympic Games next month at the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta in Lucerne, Switzerland (May 20-23).

6.3 Commission and Sub-Committee Minutes

The following Commission and Sub-Committee Minutes were tabled at the meeting:

- HPDP Teleconference Minutes (14/03/12 and 28/03/12)
- Regatta Commission Minutes (27/03/12)

Meeting closed - 9:30pm

Next Meeting: 23 May 2012 @ 6:30pm (Kirribilli)