



BOARD MEETING
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli
Wednesday 16 January 2013 at 6:30pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Ivan Adlam (President), Bryan Weir (Deputy President), Bronwen Watson, Stephen Handley, Deanna Fekete, Miranda Bennett, Andrew Gannon, Sam Crosby and Christian Renford (CEO and Secretary)

Apologies: Chris Noel

1. WELCOME

6:30pm - I Adlam welcomed all to the January 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 12 December 2012 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.

3 CEO UPDATE

3.1 CEO Report

The CEO report for January was tabled. The report summarised the activities of RNSW programs and initiatives for the period 7 December 2012 to 11 January 2013:

a) Regattas

There was only one regatta conducted in this reporting period.

	2011		
RNSW Regattas	Entries	Seats	Athletes
Taree Summer Regatta	1048	2442	525

2012		
Entries	Seats	Athletes
1231	3004	616

The Taree Summer Regatta has proved again to be very well supported all membership categories witnessing a 562 seat or 23% increase

b) Membership

2010/11 Total Membership of Rowing NSW 4,146
 2011/12 Total Membership of Rowing NSW 4,646

	Dec'11	Dec'12	Total: 2011/12
Metro Comp	734	745	880
Metro Jnr	1557	1674	1934
Regional Comp	312	367	361
Regional Jnr	399	425	379
Supporting	47	37	78
Official	251	226	261
AAGPS Jnr	463	672	495
Recreational	78	139	151
Patron	80	80	80
	3881	4365	4,649

Numbers in these membership categories remains disappointing, in particular from the metropolitan clubs and schools. Ongoing promotion planned in early 2013 is expected to raise awareness of this initiative and hopefully translate into membership growth.

c) Kings and Queens Cup Luncheon

1 March 2013 - The website and online booking form was launched in December. Save the date e-mails were Invitations were sent to members prior to Christmas. More targeted invitations and promotion of the event will be conducted early 2013.

It is expected that all 2013 state team members will attend the luncheon again for free. RNSW has sought the support of the clubs of selected athletes to make a \$50 contribution / athlete to the ticket price. RNSW will subsidise the remaining \$50 (approx. \$100/head fee set by Four Seasons)

The Luncheon this year will form part of the media and marketing strategy for SIRR. Rowing NSW has written to RA requesting that the draw for the Interstate Regatta be conducted at Luncheon. This is likely to attract additional mainstream media coverage for the event.

d) Bentleys Ergometer Demonstration

28 February 2013 – coordinated with the Luncheon above, the ergometer demonstration will also form part of the media and marketing strategy for SIRR.

- Supported by Kings and Queens Cup athletes.
- Scheduled in conjunction with respective crew camps
- Invitations sent to GWS, Wanderers and Panthers to support “celebrity element”

- Point of sales for SIRR tickets with approx. 3 weeks till the beginning of the event. Likely ticketek booth at the event

e) NSW State Championships

Entries for the 2013 State Championships opened 11 February. The event specific website was launched in late December 2012 in conjunction with the new event logo.

Presidents Lounge

Saturday and Sunday of the Championships open from approx 11am to 3pm, RNSW Directors are requested again to be present and assist with the Presidential hosting obligations

Presentations

Format of medal presentations will deviate recent years procedures in order to maintain consistency with SIRR medal presentation procedures. This will allow for additional volunteer training opportunities

Selection Events

The following events have been identified as selection events for Australia A and B crews competing at the Sydney International Rowing Regatta. A, B and if necessary C Finals have been scheduled:

- M/F 1x - M/F 2-
- M/F lwt1x - M/F lwt2-

Fairness Committee

The CEO recommended the following people be invited to comprise the fairness committee for the 2013 NSW State Championships

- Championship Referee Greg Smith
- Regatta Secretary Tony Blower
- RNSW CEO Christian Renford
- Board Representative Bryan Weir

The meeting resolved to NRCE have requested a representative be consulted for any decisions that may affect the conduct of the nominated selection events. Formal appointment to the Fairness Committee is not required, however Chris O'Brien (or his delegate) will invited to sit in on any relevant meetings.

Motion: To endorse the fairness committee for the 2013 State Championships as recommended

Motion Carried

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 31 December. The CEO highlighted scheduling and permanent budget variances, highlighting the following items within each business unit:

- i. Operations – increased income is attributed to the greater number of seats raced this season than forecast. Expenditure remains slightly behind budget forecast for the reporting period and YTD. Year to date the department is approximately \$10,000 ahead of budget forecast.
- ii. Development – Income generating activities and expenditure in this reporting period limited to the Youth Olympics Team. Development is in line with YTD forecasts
- iii. Administration - membership renewals for the December period, have dropped for the first time this season, however YTD remains ahead of budget forecast. Expenditure for December is ahead of budget forecast for the month, due to allowances for leave over the New Year period and three pay cycles in December.

Motion: To accept the December Financial Reports as tabled.

Motion Carried

The CEO and Finance Officer are conducting a preliminary forecast of the budget for Q3 and Q4. Full assessment is expected to be completed by late January in conjunction with the Finance and Audit Committee.

5 BOARD MATTERS

5.1 Amendment to the Event Requirements – Women’s 8+

The Selection Panel recommended the following changes to the Event Requirements for the Women’s Eight at the 2013 Interstate Regatta.

4. SELECTION ACTIVITIES

Nominees for the Queens Cup Crew who were members of the 2012 Olympic team are exempt from all team and selection activities prior to Monday 11th March with the exception of the February 6th ergometer test.

Members of the 2012 Olympic team will be considered for inclusion in the final Queens Cup Crew subject only to satisfactory ergometer testing. The Feb 6th ergometer test is to be supervised by a coach agreed by the selectors, the test results screen photographed and submitted to the selectors for consideration prior to 8th February 2013.

Assessment of the potential of these athletes will be by comparison with the ergometer scores of the 6 best non-Olympic nominees in the Queens Cup squad by ergometer score at the 6th Feb trials.

Motion: To amend the Event Requirements for the Women’s Eight at the 2013 Interstate Regatta as recommended by the Selectors.

Motion Carried

5.2 NRCE Youth Position Statement

The CEO tabled the December 2012 NRCE position statement relating to youth (U21) rowing.

The CEO confirmed that since the publication of this document the RA Board has confirmed the cancelation of the 2013 Youth Cup. Further planning in the context of the current review process as to the future of the “Youth Cup” for 2014 and beyond will remain on the table for discussion with the State associations.

Action: Competition Commission to review position statement and possible alignment with existing State Team and development activities.

5.3 Sydney International Rowing Regatta

The President provided a verbal update on the planning process for SIRR from the 16/01/13 Organising Committee meeting.

Additional to the verbal update the CEO noted the following NSW activities that will include cross-promotion of SIRR:

5.3.1 - *Ergometer Demonstration – Thurs 28 Feb*

- Based on 2012 Bentleys Ergometer Demonstration format. Martin Place, 12pm to 2pm:
- NSW KC8+ and QC8+ athletes in attendance
- Promotional flyers to be developed focusing on ticket sales (how much, where to get).
- Incorporation of a “celebrity challenge” focusing on western Sydney teams: GWS, Wanderers, and Panthers.
- Ticketek “booth” to be set up for possible onsite ticket sales

5.3.2 - *Kings and Queens Cup Interstate Luncheon – Fri 1 Mar*

- Request to RA sent to conduct the draw for the Interstate Regatta at the luncheon.
- Combined with the Erg Challenge and the NSW Kings Cup Camp will create a positive media opportunity to promote SIRR and the Interstate Regatta.
- Tickets for SIRR sponsors provided at cost

6 **GENERAL BUSINESS**

6.1 CEO Resignation

C Renford tabled his letter of resignation effective Tuesday 19 February 2013.

C Renford thanked and acknowledged the Board past and present for their support over the last three and a half years. On behalf of the Board the President commended the work of Christian whilst at Rowing NSW.

The meeting discussed recruitment and candidate application process to replace the CEO.

It was resolved that *Sportspeople* would be engaged to provide recruitment services to assist in this process.

The Board further resolved to appoint a subcommittee to work with Sportspeople and provide updates to the Board throughout recruitment process. It was agreed that the CEO Recruitment Sub-Committee members are:

- I Adlam
- B Weir
- B Watson

There being no other business the President declared the meeting closed at 8:10pm.



Ivan Adlam
President



Christian Renford
CEO and Board Secretary

Next Meeting: 20 February 2013 @ 6:30pm (Kirribilli)