

MINUTES

NSWRA GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY 8th February 2011 7.00PM

KEN BROWN ROOM #1, SPORTS HOUSE,

6A FIGTREE DRIVE

SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK

Present:

Janet Pendleton (Drummoyne), Michael Daffy (Sydney), Petra Macaskill (Sydney Women's MLC), Owen Nix (CDRA), Tom McCann (SUBC), Andrew Black (UTS), John James (North Shore), Murray Clarke (UNSW), James Waldersee (Balmain), Alexander Weilsmann (Balmain), Wade Hewett (Leichhardt), Andrew McCallum (Leichhardt), Charles Bartlett (Leichhardt) and Christian Renford (RNSW)

RNSW Vice Presidents: Doug Donoghue, Barry Moynahan, Keith Jameson

RNSW Board Members: Norma Perry, Chris Noel, Greg James, Ivan Adlam

Apologies:

John Coates (Life Member), Jane Spring (Sydney University Women's), Fiona Toose (Penrith), Andrew Rowley (Councilor), Bronwen Watson (RNSW Director), Joe Zammit (RNSW Director)

1. Welcome

N Perry welcomed all to the February General Meeting.

N Perry updated the meeting on the following activities within the Association since the last General Meeting:

- Congratulated Port Macquarie RC and Manning River RC for the conduct of another successful Taree Regatta.
- Noted the success of the Small Boat Regatta
- Congratulated the office on the work done updating the content of the website
- Noted the interest and positive feedback surrounding the workshops program
- Congratulated Glebe RC on the announcement of the installation of a new pontoon
- Note that Georgie Lee will be returning to the office in a sport development capacity and thanked Victor Walter for facilitating her secondment to QBE



2. Confirmation of the Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the June 2010 General Meeting as true and accurate record of

the meeting.

Moved: K. Jameson Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

3. To consider business of which notice has been given.

3.1 Amendment to the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing

N Perry tabled the amendments to RNSW Laws of Boat Racing as submitted by the Umpires Commission and endorsed by the Board of Rowing New South Wales.

N Perry noted that the amendments as submitted by the Umpires Commission consist of three separate proposed changes to the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing.

Motion: To consider the three proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing separately.

Moved: K. Jameson Seconded: G James

Motion Carried

3.1(a) – G James spoke to the proposed amendment. The meeting considered the proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing 13. (c) Positions At The Start

Existing Law

No. 1 position shall be on the right-hand side looking from the starting line to the finish followed by the succeeding positions in numerical order as drawn. However at Sydney International Regatta Centre lane one will be on the left hand side of the coxswain.

Proposed Amendment

No. 1 position shall be on the left-hand side looking from the starting line to the finish followed by the succeeding positions in numerical order as drawn.

Motion: To accept the proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing 13.(c) Positions At The Start as tabled.

Moved: K. Jameson Seconded: G James

Motion Carried

3.1(b) - G James spoke to the proposed amendment. The meeting considered the proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing 9.(k) Regatta Entries

Existing Law

If a crew desires to withdraw from a race notice thereof shall be given in accordance with Schedule 14 of the Rules by a representative of the Club concerned, not later than thirty (30) minutes before the advertised starting time of such race, to the Referee who shall enter such withdrawal in the Withdrawal Register.

Proposed Amendment

If a crew desires to withdraw from a race notice thereof shall be given in accordance with Schedule 14 of the Rules by a representative of the Club concerned, not later than sixty (60) minutes before the advertised starting time of such race, to the Referee who shall enter such withdrawal in the Withdrawal Register.



Motion: To accept the proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing 9.(k) Regatta Entries as tabled.

Moved: G James Seconded: K. Jameson

Motion Carried

3.1(c) - G James spoke to the proposed amendment. The meeting considered the proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing 20.(g) Duties Of The Starter & Aligner and RNSW Law of Boat Racing 21.(f)(i) Duties Of The Umpire

20. (g) DUTIES OF THE UMPIRE

Existing Law

The start area is a quiet zone and the Starter shall award a warning (false start) to the crew/s of any coach or supporter who is:

- (i) in the precinct of the start, and/or
- (ii) causing noise or interference.

Should the party concerned remain within the precinct after the awarding of the warning then the crew/s concerned may be removed from the race at the discretion of the Starter.

Proposed Amendment

The start area is a quiet zone and the Starter shall award a yellow card (false start) to the crew/s of any coach or supporter who is:

- (i) in the precinct of the start, and/or
- (ii) causing noise or interference.

Should the party concerned remain within the precinct after the awarding of the yellow card then the crew/s concerned may be removed from the race at the discretion of the Starter.

21. (f) (i) DUTIES OF THE UMPIRE

Existing Law

In the exercise of his duties the Umpire may apply disciplinary sanctions to a crew or person that commits an offence against these Laws, refuses to obey instructions or does not show deference to a member of the Jury.

Such sanctions may include:

(i) A warning. Such warning shall have the same effect as if such crew made or caused a false start in the race in which such crew was about to compete.

Proposed Amendment

In the exercise of his duties the Umpire may apply disciplinary sanctions to a crew or person that commits an offence against these Laws, refuses to obey instructions or does not show deference to a member of the Jury.

Such sanctions may include:

(i) A Yellow Card. Such Yellow Card shall have the same effect as if such crew made or caused a false start in the race in which such crew was about to compete.

Motion: To accept the proposed amendment to RNSW Law of Boat Racing 20.(g) Duties Of The Starter & Aligner and RNSW Law of Boat Racing 21.(f)(i) Duties Of The Umpire as tabled.

Moved: G James Seconded: K. Jameson

Motion Carried

All amendments to RNSW Law of Boat Racing come into effect immediately.

T McCann noted that athletes and coaches will need to be made of and educated on the changes to the Laws of Boat Racing.

Action - Sport Development Officer



3.2 Protocol for Ethical Recruitment & Transfers Practices

N Perry tabled the Protocol for Ethical Recruitment & Transfers Practices as submitted by the Transfers Working Group and endorsed by the Board of Rowing New South Wales. It was noted that the Transfers Working Group consisted of the following members:

Norma Perry North ShoreTim Clare Leichhardt

• Bronwen Watson Sydney University Women's

Stephen Handley SydneyBrian Weir Mosman

Terry Davis of Glebe contributed as Facilitator to allow Directors speak on behalf of their Clubs as well as consider the implications as Directors.

The recommendations from the Transfers Working Group are before the meeting tonight for initial consideration.

N Perry noted that at the January 2011 Board meeting G James dissented in the Board discussion relating to the Protocol for Ethical Recruiting. In the Board discussion relating to Transfer Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers, N Perry noted that G James abstained and C Noel dissented.

N Perry further noted that the recommendation as submitted by the transfers working group consists of two separate recommendations; a Protocol for Ethical Recruiting and Transfer Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers.

K Jameson questioned where the Transfers Working Groups recommendation fits into the Associations Rules or By-Laws, what the Board was asking of the meeting.

N Perry noted that the recommendations from the Transfers Working Group have been tabled at the February General Meeting for initial consideration by the membership only. N Perry further highlighted the outcome from the 2011 Annual General Meeting that "the Board will form a speciality working group to discuss this issue in more detail. The working group will develop a draft recommendation with the aim for further debate at the February 2011 General Meeting."

Motion: To discuss the Protocol for Ethical Recruiting and Transfer Practices separately.

Moved: G James Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

3.2(a) - Protocol for Ethical Recruitment

The meeting considered part one of the document – Protocol for Ethical Recruitment. The meeting discussed the document, with views being presented from the floor both for and against the protocol.

The CEO noted that in 2010 there are approximately 50 applications for transfers per season received by Rowing NSW. The CEO further noted that a very small number of these applications annually would be considered contentious attracting attention relating to issues of transparency or the conduct of coaches / administrators.



3.2(b) - Transfer Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers

The meeting debated part two of the document, Transfer Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers. The meeting debated the document, with views being presented from the floor both for and against the protocol.

C Noel tabled an open letter to the meeting on behalf of Sydney University Boat Club. The intent of the letter was to encourage RNSW constituent members thinking about the issue at hand in the context of a modern sporting environment. The letter proposed alternate options for consideration by the membership:

"Each rower would have a "home" affiliation club and would be able to transfer their "home" affiliation once per season (as now) but would have the freedom to join other clubs and race for that club at particular regatta or series of regattas during the year. All that will be required is that the club that any registered member competes for will be requested to acknowledge that that rower is considered a member of that club within the rules defined by that club."

The Transfer Practices - Special Rules relating to the transfer of Year 12 school leavers as presented by the Transfers Working Group was discussed.

Motion: That the meeting defer the Boards recommendation and another working group be formed to consider the issues relating to transfer practices which shall:

- convene a meeting for all clubs to attend or make submission to in order to obtain a wider view of the issues that clubs want addressed in any amendment of our rules dealing with transfers and recruitment, and;
- 2. prepare a recommendation for review and endorsement by the next general meeting.

Moved: C Bartlett Seconded: B Moynahan

Against: M Clarke Motion Carried

The meeting confirmed the appointment of the following club representatives to review transfer practices as described in the above motion:

i. Charles Bartlett Leichhardtii. Keith Jameson Sydney

iii. Chris Noel Sydney Universityiv. Christian Renford RNSW CEO; Ex Officio

The RNSW Board to confirm the Board appointments to the secondary working group at its February meeting.

4. Report of the President and CEO

4.1 2012 and 2013/14 Australian Rowing Championships

The CEO noted that Rowing Australia has been in discussions with both FISA and NSW Events about the possibility of hosting both the 2013 and 2014 FISA World Cups in conjunction with the Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta in those respective years.



Rowing Australia has advised all states that the FISA Executive and Council have indicated that they are supportive of awarding RA the right to host the 2013 and 2014 World Cups and that NSW Events has responded positively to the RA submission for financial support for these events. Whilst NSW Events has not yet provided official approval of funding for the event, the RA Board believes that an immediate decision on the venue for the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta is required to enable the appropriate organisation of the event.

Accordingly, RA has confirmed that the RA Board has approved:

- the Sydney International Regatta Centre as the host venue for the 2013 and 2014 Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta; and
- Rowing Western Australia to host the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta at Champion Lakes.

4.2 RNSW Draft Constitution

The CEO noted that the draft Constitution has been developed by a sub-Committee of the Board chaired by G James (and including several non-Board representatives). Following a final review by the Board at its February meeting, it is planned that the draft constitution will be presented to constituent members and other voting members for discussion in April.

4.3 Insurance

The CEO noted that RA has negotiated a national policy for a similar cost to that of an individual state based policy, and as such has resulted in direct cash savings to RNSW

At the 2009, and 2010 Rowing Australia AGM, RNSW agreed to support and actively engage in the National Insurance Scheme lead by Rowing Australia. The tender process for the National Insurance Scheme resulted in the appointment of the brokers Willis Australia. All policies provided under the National Insurance Tender are of equal or superior coverage to those currently provided by RNSWs broker, WWSI.

The CEO and Director of Finance have recommended that Personal Accident insurance be included as a benefit of all RNSW memberships passing the saving of Personal Accident coverage to members and their Clubs.

5. General Business

5.1 Maritime Matters

M Clarke noted the following:

- Compliance on lights for rowing boats has been good.
- More work needs to be undertaken by clubs and schools to ensure that coaching boats are compliant with the relevant NSW Maritime regulations including the use of safety vests for boat drivers.
- Sydney Ferries have and open invitation for clubs and schools to ride in either Rivercats or
 Ferries to gain a greater appreciation of the maneuverability and visibility from the vessels
- Rozelle and Blackwattle Bay rowing guide has been finalised by NSW Maritime
 Action M Clarke to forward Rozelle and Blackwattle Bay rowing guide to RNSW for publication on the website.

M Clarke tabled the NSW Maritime Row Smart boat stickers and posters



Action — Sport Development Officer to forward to clubs not present at the February General meeting

C Bartlett suggested that further education of coxswains and junior rowers is required at the beginning of the season to ensure that they are aware of the relevant maritime rules and appropriate actions required of them. M Clarke noted that NSW Maritime has offered to attend and present at any such sessions

Action – Sport Development Officer to incorporate into planning for the 2011/12 season.

Meeting Closed – 9:15pm

