



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

YMCA Sailing Club, Yarralumla Bay
Wednesday 11 June 2015 at 6.30pm

Present: D. Bagnall (Chair), V. McMahon, P. Marshall, P. Davoren, C. Bowyer, V. Newman, A. Butorac, J. Williams, N. Hunter, M. Cusack (Executive Officer).

Minutes: Minutes of the April and May meetings were read and confirmed with minor amendments.

President's Report: Rowing Australia – Brian Weir was elected to Board vacancy. J. Boulton had withdrawn his nomination. Following the changeover of Board membership including appointment of a new CEO - Rob Scott - there has been significant staff turnover. Meeting included discussion of staff levels within RA including for events such as national championships. The meeting discussed the issues raised for sports by the Royal Commission into Institutional responses to Child Sexual Abuse. This serves to emphasise the importance of relevant club staff having working with vulnerable people registration. M. Cusack attending a seminar concerning the responsibilities of sports and will report on the outcome before preparing guidance to clubs.

Director of Finance Report: Audited accounts for 2014-15 were presented for circulation to clubs. This will permit them to look closely at the accounts prior to the annual general meeting and to ask questions ahead of time. The balance sheet as of today shows \$320k in bank accounts including a new term deposit account. There has been significant reduction in accounts receivable. Of the \$12.75k outstanding, most is within the 30 day period. Outstanding RMC debt remains.

Australian Team Support – V. Newman is resolving split of fundraising with athletes/parents. Singapore Airline tickets will be passed to fundraising team with funds raised to be distributed according to the agreed formula. Noted that training injury to Cara Grzeskowiak may mean Cara is unable to take her place in the team.

Executive Officer Report: Provisional 2015-16 regatta schedule should be finalised at regatta subcommittee meeting on 1 July which can take account of NSW regatta dates to be settled on 23 June 2015. NCA has asked that RACT provide details of training times and events. Meeting agreed that NCA be provided with last year's event program and the link to our events on the RACT website so they can keep up to date.

Winter Time Trials – First event had a good entry. Executive Officer is working with Geoff Northam in the context of the regatta risk management plan to develop criteria for cancellation of time trials. This will take account of cold water rowing experience from

Rowing Tasmania, Canada and the United States. This information will be included in advice to clubs on cold water events.

CLRC Safety Report - The Board expressed its appreciation to CLRC for the report. The Board regarded it as making a useful contribution consistent with the Board's continued high priority on safety issues, notwithstanding that some of the conclusions lacked context or insights which may have been remedied if procedural fairness had been accorded. Concern was also expressed that the responsibility of Clubs to ensure the competence of competitors had not been canvassed.

The President undertook to respond to CLRC advising that the report had been sent to Rowing Australia, that warnings were to be issued to Clubs on ensuring rowing competency for regattas and that the range of safety measures that RACT implements will be drawn together into a safety plan that would be more visible to members.

It was agreed that safety-related roles and responsibilities needed to be clearly spelt out in RACT documentation. V. McMahon, V. Newman and G. Northam would contribute to this task. The need for a specific rescue capacity at regattas was also to be explored in this context.

By-Laws – Meeting considered scope of the By-Laws. It was agreed that By-Laws should specify rules for operation of the Regatta Subcommittee and should make clear that the Board appoints the Chair of the RSC. V. McMahon would circulate draft By-Laws with a view to their finalisation.

Buoy in East Basin – Meeting discussed reports that crews were being instructed, at the insistence of ferry operators, not to go around the large buoy at the mouth of Jerrabomberra Creek as indicated in the traffic guidelines. This is considered unreasonable given the infrequency of ferry traffic and inconvenience to rowers. President would raise with NCA staff.

Meeting Closed: 8.45 pm

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Chairman
August 2015