



MINUTES COMMITTEE MEETING

ACT Sports House, Hackett

Wednesday 14 November 2012 at 6.30pm

Present: D. Bagnall (Chair), P. Davoren, B. Burbidge, V. McMahon, V. Newman, J. Hammond.

Apologies: N. Hunter, D. Wright, A. Butorac.

Minutes: Minutes of the meetings held on 13 September and 24 October 2012 were read and confirmed.

Matters Arising: Malfunction of finish order camera was noted and discussed.

Presidents Report: Most recent regatta attracted strong entries and was well supported by the Boat race Officials. RACT BROs will be recognised in the ACT Government Thanks Awards for sporting volunteers.

Administrative Officer Report: The transition to use of volunteers for less demanding BRO roles is proceeding slowly. RACT needs to get the message out that volunteers will receive BRO training. The issues involved in getting greater acceptance of the Weston Park spectator site were discussed. The President will write a protocol setting out the constraints on what can be done at the finish area off Lady Denman Drive, particularly in relation to parking and the bicycle path. This protocol would be invoked in the event of any regatta being planned that relied on use of the finish facilities. In relation to the ISRA regatta, concerns about use of finish area facilities have been raised with the regatta organiser. It is understood that ISRA is an incorporated body.

Treasurer's Report: RACT has approximately \$150,000 in the bank. Some withholding tax will be generated from profits. Treasurer circulated a table of regatta entries and entry fee income that shows a general decline in entry and seat fee performance, particularly for the 2012 winter time trials. Reimbursement will be sought from ATO of a tax overpayment.

Burley Griffin Regatta: Noted that clash of event with a scheduled RACT regatta will constrain the capacity of clubs and officials to participate in the event.

2013 Australian Masters Rowing Championships: President reported that organising committee is working effectively and that an information bulletin is close to finalisation. Seat fees are yet to be determined. Rowing Australia has appointed John Whiting as

Chairman of the RA Masters Commission. Jim Lowe has been appointed as Chairman of the Organising Committee for the 2014 FISA World Masters Regatta in Ballarat.

ACT Representative Team: Administrative Officer reported that the selection process is under development for the ACT crews for the interstate regatta. Departure of the Head Coach of ACTAS, Gordon Marcks, to a new position with Rowing Australia on 17 November will complicate the task of keeping in touch with former ACT residents potentially available for these crews.

The State of Origin rules were discussed and it was agreed that they were overly restrictive and detracted from the standard of competition. The Association will support a significant relaxation of these rules to recognise the need for improving the competition and recognising the reality of where rowers lived and rowed. The President will develop an alternative formulation for discussion with Rowing Australia and other State delegates.

Update on the ACTAS Rowing Unit: Rowing Australia has advised that it is keen to see the program continue but wishes to see a greater financial contribution from the ACT. The meeting agreed that a financial contribution is unreasonable considering the significant financial support already provided by ACT clubs to their representative rowers, the likelihood of a contribution being required for the joint rowing triathlon facility and the limited financial base of RACT. In discussions with Rowing Australia, RACT representatives are instructed to emphasise our strong support for the program continuing.

Meeting Closed: 8.17pm

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Chairman
5 December 2012