



MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
ACT Sports House, Hackett
Wednesday 19 March 2014 at 6.30pm

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

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

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 19 February 2014 were read and confirmed.

Matters Arising: The meeting agreed that V. McMahon should proceed with procurement of an ACT Rowing Jubilee medal, taking account of committee views on the design options considered at the meeting.

President's Report: Lake Users' Group had received a presentation on the Lake water quality initiative of the ACT Government which was well received by the group. New ACT Police representative indicated his dissatisfaction with morning car parking practice at the boatsheds at Yarralumla. President commended the Treasurer's analysis of participation data that confirms growth of the sport in the ACT over recent seasons.

Treasurer's Report:

Report circulated. Treasurer noted the good performance on outstanding accounts. Spreadsheets were tabled of regatta entry statistics shows a steady increase in regatta seats and fees across the last four seasons.

Executive Officers Report: Weston Park Venue: Meeting agreed that the Association should draw to a close assessment of alternative regatta management and boating options on Yarramundi Reach making clear its strong preference for the Weston Park site. This choice is justified on the basis of operating experience, safety, potential for growth, utility as a spectator venue and sport development considerations. Review of Constitution: Rowing Australia expects RACT to implement the Australian Sports Commission's mandatory governance principles by the end of the year. This can be done through a mixture of operational and organisational changes given effect through the Association's next strategic plan in addition to rule changes. As discussed at the meeting with Rowing Australia last year, there is a case for some recommended changes not applying to RACT because of the small scale of our operations compared to those of other state bodies. In particular, RACT could not staff some mandated structures. Registration: Discussion of registration for rowers who commence rowing late in the season was deferred so that N. Hunter could contribute. Executive Officer is attempting to get data to delineate the extent of this problem. It was agreed that any rower who competes in a regatta during the season must

be registered. It was further agreed that administrative efficiency will be an important consideration. Joint Rowing Triathlon Joint Facility on Black Mountain Peninsula: Cost estimate by Rodney Moss has been circulated. Some of the urgency of project from a Government perspective may have eased with Water Police securing a one year extension to the lease for their current site. This puts off the potential move of AFP onto ACTAS rowing unit site at Yarralumla Bay and the consequential relocation of ACTAS to a joint facility. Risk Management: Collision – Meeting discussed collision between a Canberra Grammar School VIII and a Black Mountain RC sculler. Circumstances of the collision are not in dispute, including that CGS boat was accompanied by a coach in a safety boat. Executive Officer to advise CGS of need to ensure that coxswains understand that it is their responsibility to ensure that there are no objects in their path and that the primary role of coaches in motor boats is safety. It is also important for crews to move promptly away from the finish area to minimise congestion and the risk of collision. Representative Crews – Women’s Youth VIII is doing benchmark tests to see if crew is of a sufficiently high standard to represent the ACT. ACT Women’s Masters D VIII is training regularly under coach D. Ninham.

Other Business: Meeting noted the imminent retirement of Mr Bruce Selleck from his role as a boat race official. It was agreed, in recognition of Bruce’s long and outstanding service, that the committee propose to the 2014 Annual General Meeting that he be elected as a Life Member of the Association. It was also agreed that an award be made to Mr Selleck to acknowledge his service. V. Newman to consider the options, including a photograph by Peter Williams.

Meeting Closed: 8.45pm

.....
Chairman
21 May 2014