



MINUTES COMMITTEE MEETING
ACT Sports House, Hackett
Wednesday 3 December 2012 at 6.30pm

Present: D. Bagnall (Chair), P. Davoren, B. Burbidge, N. Hunter, D. Wright, A. Butorac V. Newman, J. Hammond.

Apologies: V. McMahon

Minutes: Minutes of the 14 November 2012 meeting were read and confirmed.

Matters Arising: Meeting discussed arrangements for the Burley Griffin Regatta and ways to ensure a more collaborative approach that is sensitive to RACT capacity and commitments.

Presidents Report: RACT will be meeting with J. Fernandez and ACTAS about appointment of a coach for the ACTAS rowing unit. A draft job specification and key performance indicators were discussed. N. Hunter and V. Newman will pass on comments on the draft to the administrative officer. NCA Meeting – works on the dam wall necessary for restoration of the Lake level will be completed at the end of 2013.

State of Origin Rule: There has been robust discussion between state delegates on the need for such a rule. RACT is strongly of the view that the current rule is inimical to a high level of participation and strong competition at the interstate regatta. It seems that at least some opposition to removing this rule is based on misconceptions about the circumstances that led to its introduction. In particular there is a misconception that the ACT crew which won the 1997 Kings' Cup was mainly comprised of interstate athletes at the AIS.

Administrative Officer Report: Joint Rowing Triathlon Facility - concept designs are being developed for this project, which include significant provision for rowing equipment storage and general purpose facilities. Current concept is based on three of the blocks available on Black Mountain Peninsula. It includes dedicated rowing and triathlon facilities and a joint use component. The current study covers design development and potential management models.

ACT Representative Crews: Administrative Officer reported that there is likely to be a high level of interest in the men's interstate VIII and also sufficient interested rowers to select a Women's VIII. There are also indications that ACT could enter a Men's Lightweight IV.

Treasurer's Report: Circulated report was accepted.

2013 Australian Masters Rowing Championships: President reported that organising committee is well advanced on course infrastructure. A finish tower has been offered by South Australia. Chris Johnston is working on a minor realignment of the course. The first information circular has been produced. The event budget has yet to be settled pending resolution of Rowing Australia's expectations concerning income from the event.

Rowing Australia Council Meeting: Chairman reported that the Sports Commission has sought legal advice on the implications for rowing bodies of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*. **Adopt a School:** This program is proceeding with some amendments. More projects are being funded leading to a reduction of annual grant amounts to \$15,000. The ACT program based at Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club is proceeding. **Coach Education:** The national coach education program continues to improve with more and better information being disseminated by Rowing Australia. The main issue at present is that a large number of coaches who have completed the course do not proceed with accreditation. This suggests that the accreditation process may be unduly onerous. **Changes to Junior National Selection Process:** A men's and women's junior interstate VIII race will be held during the interstate regatta that will provide an additional path to national selection with the winning crews eligible for consideration for the national team. **Regatta Central:** Trials have demonstrated the integration of regatta Central with current RP7 software. The development schedule for use of Regatta Central has been reworked to take account of delays in assessment of the financial impact of conversion. ACT does not need to make an early commitment to Regatta Central in view of the continuing availability of Rowing Manager. Use of Regatta Central will provide benefits of much greater functionality but increased costs including the 2% levy on transactions using the system. **Youth Cup:** Meeting noted uncertainty about Youth Cup funding with doubts about its role in supporting a high performance pathway for athletes. **RA Strategic Plan:** This was not resolved at the annual conference. Members are invited to read the current plan and provide views to delegates.

ACT State Team: Administrative Officer was asked to put out a request for nominations for ACT Team (including masters) on the website as soon as possible.

Boat Wash: Meeting agreed there has been a significant increase in poor boat wash practices and that the attention of members should be drawn to the existing protocol recently circulated by N. Hunter.

Australian Defence Rowing Association: Meeting agreed to the rowing suit design recently submitted to Kym Fisher. Meeting agreed that ADRA has the potential to add significantly to rowing participation in Canberra and throughout Australia.

Meeting Closed: 8.17pm

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Chairman
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