

Rowing Australia Masters Commission Bulletin

1st May 2014

The Rowing Australia (RA) Masters Commission operates under a charter which focusses on fostering participation in rowing. The charter and minutes of Commission meetings can be viewed in full at:

http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/about_ra_structure_commissions_masters-commission.shtm

1) Australian Masters Rowing Championships (AMRC) – Review of Venue and Regatta Standards

a) Venue and Regatta Standards

The RA Board determines where and when to hold the AMRC regatta. The Commission is seeking to provide the Board with guidance, based on a broad review incorporating opinions from the masters' community. Issues such as venue rotation, temperature ranges, dates, course standards, accommodation and transport are under consideration. A draft of standards and factor weightings can be viewed at the above link from the 9th May 2014.

You can comment by downloading the draft and returning comments by email to callen@rowingaustralia.com.au. Feedback is due by the 30th June 2014.

b) Order of Events

Due to the growth of the event, a major overhaul of the AMRC Order of Events is proposed for 2015 and beyond. Given the complexity of the task, and the number of competing priorities, the Commission is focused on defining the principles which will be used in creating the order. These principles will provide the basis for and justification of the outcome.

A draft of the Principles can be viewed at the above link from the 9th May 2014.

You can comment by downloading the draft and returning comments by email to callen@rowingaustralia.com.au. Feedback is due by the 30th June 2014.

2) Handicap review completed in 2013

The Commission completed a review of age category handicaps for each boat and gender in 2013. The revised table was adopted by the RA Board and at least some states late in 2013. The new handicaps will be used in the AMRC in 2014 and beyond. The process, data and conclusions of the review including the new tables can be viewed at http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/about_ra_structure_commissions_masters-commission.shtm.

3) Possible new Club event for the AMRC

In 2014 the AMRC is presenting medals to the first single club (non-composite) crews in larger boat classes, as a way of encouraging clubs which avoid composite crews. This innovation has led to the suggestion that a handicap event be created for single club eights of any age. Clubs could enter the "CHAMPION CLUB EIGHT" event with as many crews as they can boat. Heats and finals would be run on a handicap basis.

Comments for and against this concept should be directed to callen@rowingaustralia.com.au.

4) Interstate Masters Events at the AMRC

For the past few years States have had the ability to enter 'C' crews into the Interstate Masters events besides from the traditional 'D' crews, to allow maximum chances of participating in the event. The Commission proposes to confirm the Interstate Masters events as 'D' crews only for Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, with states with a smaller population base (Tasmania, ACT, South Australia and Western Australia) being able to a C or E crew if required to form a crew, to be raced with the relevant handicap.

Comments for and against this concept should be directed to callen@rowingaustralia.com.au.

Rowing Australia and your Masters Commissioners wish you success in the 2014 AMRC and beyond!

John Whiting

Chairman

Rowing Australia Masters Commission



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