



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

YMCA Sailing Club, Yarralumla Bay
Wednesday 21 December 2016 at 6.30pm

Present: D. Bagnall (Chair), V. McMahon, R. Curtin, P. Davoren, C. Bowyer, J. Williams, M. Cusack. **Visitors:** J. Fernandez and T. Huntley.

Apologies: N. Hunter, A. Chinn, P. Marshall.

Chairman introduced J. Fernandez and T. Huntley who attended to discuss the role of para rowing in the Pathway Program and the expectations of RACT in para rowing participation. Rowing Australia's para unit will assist state programs when requested but will leave to the states matters such as where and how para athletes are coached.

D. Bagnall emphasised that RACT is in no position to dictate to member clubs the nature of their involvement in para rowing. V. McMahon observed that the target number of para rowers sought from the ACT is a significant increase over past years. He noted that Clubs that have supported para rowing have rarely been able to sustain this support over consecutive seasons. T. Huntley advised that para rowing works best when integrated into existing programs and club structures and acknowledged that some freestanding programs have failed.

The meeting agreed with K. Bowyer's suggestion that, once the ACTAS Head Coach position is filled, RACT hold a further meeting with Rowing Australia to discuss the ACT program covering both para and able-bodied programs.

J. Fernandez remained for a discussion of issues concerning the succession to A. Randall as ACTAS Head Coach including interim coaching arrangements that could be supported by Rowing Australia. RA would be pleased to advise RACT on likely candidates and provide publically available documents on terms and conditions for such a position. The package offered by RACT is considered by RA to be realistic.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 16 November 2016 were read and confirmed.

Matters Arising: V. McMahon reported on measures taken to address attack on the RACT website. R. Curtin reported on progress with the media strategy.

Out of Session Decision: On 29 November 2016 Canberra RC asked the Board to approve its new rowing suit (a photograph was provided) and arrangements for phasing in its use at regattas. CRC seeks a gradual phase in so that all its crews will be wearing the new uniform by the close of the 2016-17 season. For the rest of the season, crews would be racing in either the current suit or new suit – not a mix of the two. A majority of Board members (all who could be contacted) agreed to the new suit and phase in arrangements. Canberra RC was advised of the Board’s decision by the RACT President on 30 November 2016.

President’s Report: Recent regattas have proceeded smoothly but would have benefitted from greater participation by all school clubs. This is disappointing in view of efforts to accommodate school preferences through the regatta subcommittee.

Director of Finance Report: Circulated report was received. Total regatta entry receipts are running at the level of the last few years although Regatta 3 entries were lower than expected. Accounts receivable have increased due largely due to high regatta activity followed closely by the school break. Executive Officer is chasing up outstanding debts in the 180+ days category.

Executive Officer Report: Board thanked Michael Cusack for his service as Executive Officer and wished him well in his new position with the YMCA. Michael thanked V. McMahon, A. Chinn and D. Bagnall for their efforts in helping him with to establish himself in the position.

Regatta Order of Events: Simon Dunphy has identified a boat usage problem in the program of events arising from the closeness of the D and E double scull events. Executive Officer was authorised to examine this problem and implement a solution. **BRO Numbers:** Advice from BROs suggests that there has been good progress in recruitment of trainee BROs.

Implementing New Regatta Program: A. Chinn will circulate draft implementing by-laws and a report updating the status of competitors thus far in the 2016-17 season.

State Team Report: The policy for selection of the 2017 ACT team at the Nationals has been released. The selection policy for the ACT team at the 2017 Australian Masters Rowing Championships has not been finalised.

Safety: No safety incidents have been reported.

Other Business: **Replacement BRO Boat:** Board confirmed its interest in buying an AIS coaching boat to replace the Daisy Boat. **Boatshed Update:** Board agreed that representatives should meet ACT Government officials to consult on the way forward in establishing a RACT boatshed.

Meeting Closed: 8.25pm

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Chairman

18/1/17

