



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Rowing Australia Board Room
Saturday January 18, 2020 at 3.45pm

1. Attendees:

Board: Alison Creagh (Chair), Catherine Garrington, Ben James, Ben Page, Kent Peters, Caroline Pijpers, Deb Styman, Stuart John (RACT EO).

Head Coach: Dave Fraumano

2. Apologies: Nick Hunter, Alison Chinn

3. In camera session

4. Register of interests – no changes noted.

5. Acceptance of Minutes of the December 2019 meeting – minutes were accepted by Kent Peters and Caroline Pijpers.

6. Outstanding action items

- a. Patron update pending.
- b. Workplace health & safety report:
 - i. Incident Reports – one report has been submitted regarding broken glass on beach at Weston Park near the rowing pontoons.
 - ii. Trends - none noted.
 - iii. Lake User Group - installation of two additional buoys and revised Traffic Flow maps will be occurring in the next few days. **ACTIONS:**
 1. Safety bulletin to be published and include traffic flow instructions for Yarralumla Bay along with changes to traffic flows generally.
 2. Maps to be printed for clubs.
 3. Upcoming Coach's workshop to include presentation on safety.
- c. Lake levels – lower water level issues include; increased lake vegetation (reeds) in water, increased obstacles exposed, sand banks appearing. **ACTION:** Coaches are requested to send notice to RACT when new obstacles are noticed.
- d. Air quality:
 - i. Training – advice has been circulated to clubs from AIS with AQI of 100 PM2.5 as the guide for discontinuing outdoor training.
 - ii. Regattas – many various forms of AQI reporting Apps are being used. RACT will have access to on the spot air quality measuring devices to gauge levels at the regatta course to facilitate making current decisions on whether regatta's should continue. **ACTION:** Updated guidelines on regatta operations, relating to the current environmental issues is to be created and

published.

7. Community Feedback (complaints & compliments) – none noted.

8. Finance Report

- a. High Performance Program camps – noted the expenditure related to the changed arrangements due to the AQI issues has not been great at this stage due to deposits being returned.
- b. Uniforms expenditure – held over to next meeting.
- c. Ongoing advice on financial matters – thanks were noted to Vince McMahon for his ongoing assistance in this area.

9. Items for decision:

- a. Bushfire fundraising – RA has instigated a fundraising program. Options include a central collection of funds or individual States to collect and donate was discussed. **ACTION:** Board agreed to donate \$1 from every seat fee taken in February regattas to the RA bushfire fund and, additionally, rowers can choose to add a further \$1 each entry they submit. RACT will also support any additional club or school fundraising activity they are advised of.

10. Items for discussion

- a. Regatta contingency planning – see item 6d (ii) above.

11. Items for noting

- a. Rowing Australia movements - updates on NTC training movements was provided.

12. Other business

- a. Dave Fraumano provided an overview of the three possible options for the next training stage for the ACT HPP athletes over the next few weeks.
- b. Thanks to the HPP staff team for all the additional work performed recently as a result of the bushfires and air quality issues. Special thanks were noted to Katrina for her work and chasing refunds for previous bookings.

13. Next Meeting – Monday 17 February

Meeting closed 4.31pm

BOARD PAPERS

Register of Interests

The Board is asked to complete the attached Register of interests. You are requested to include board and committee roles, fulltime employment and rowing club affiliations and roles. This will ensure that any perceived or actual conflicts of interest can be suitably managed during meetings.

Workplace Health and Safety

WHS Report provided by EO to:

- a. outline incidents reported since the last meeting (or last report). Incident reports to include action taken to mitigate future incidents.
- b. Identify any trends that require a safety review or action
- c. Lake User Group – Installation of buoys

The Lake User Group has advised that the new buoys will be installed in the next weeks The revised Traffic Flow map is also available. Rowing ACT has been asked to print a number of new Traffic Flow maps and make them available to Clubs and Schools.

d. Lake levels/obstacles

With lake levels on Lake Burley Griffin having now dropped significantly, there are significant risks to rowers with aquatic plants and submerged objects now visible. The Board is also advised that a non-rowing related incident occurred at Weston Park recently when a child suffered a significant injury from submerged glass when playing in the water in proximity to the location of Rowing ACT regattas.

Board Action: The Board should discuss any safety measures to be put in place to address these risks.

e. Air Quality

With smoke continuing to linger over Canberra Rowing ACT must consider the possibility of this causing unsafe conditions for regattas. AIS guidelines suggest that an Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 100 or greater should see people reduce or reschedule strenuous outdoor activities. There are a number of sources of information available to the ACT community to assess air quality.

Board Action: The Board should:

- a. consider if there is a need for an Air Quality Policy for regattas
- b. decide on a maximum AQI reading before a regatta is cancelled or called off, and
- c. provide advice on the information needed and the source of the information to inform regatta cancellation for air quality.

Items for decision:

- **Bushfire fundraising**

With the bushfires having devastated large swathes of south-eastern Australia and smoke haze still lingering around the ACT, it is important to decide as an organisation what our response and any fundraising efforts will be. Rowing Australia and the other state rowing bodies have begun discussions around this and whether each state donates individually, or as a collective at the end of the 2020 SIRR.

Potential options so far include:

- \$1 be taken from the seat fees for the CGS, ANU and CRC regattas in February for donations, with clubs and schools given the opportunity to voluntarily add an extra \$1 to match (if so they would be \$9 per seat);
- “Passing the bucket” around at these regattas and at the ACT Head of the Lake/ACT Championships double-header weekend;
- Supporting a proposal from rowing school captains for a 24-hour rowathon to help raise funds;
- A direct donation from Rowing ACT coffers

Board Action: Agree/Not agree/for further discussion – that Rowing ACT help contribute to bushfire relief through one or more of these means.

Items for discussion

a. Regatta contingency planning

With the smoke lingering around the ACT there is the potential for February regattas to be affected. The NCA and ACT Land Use departments have confirmed that Weston Park & Yarramundi Reach are available for hire on Saturday February 22 at this point.

Board Action: Agree/Not Agree/for further discussion – that the Rowing ACT Board recommend that Saturday February 22 be used as a contingency plan should the February 1 regatta be cancelled due to poor air quality. This may be in place of or in conjunction with the Capital Lakes Sprints on Sunday February 23.

Items for noting

a. Rowing Australia movements

Rowing Australia moved both the Men's and Women's National Training Centres to Tasmania as a result of the smoke haze over eastern Australia. Present indications are that the Women's NTC will head back to Penrith shortly and that the Men's NTC will return to Canberra before Australia Day.

Regatta Updates

2019/20 Regatta Season statuses

Regatta	Date	NCA/ACT Permits?	2018/19 Entries/Seats	2019/20 Entries/Seats	Other notes
Col Panton	20/10/19	NCA Approved	34 entries, 132 seats	35 entries, 140 seats	
BMRC	26/10/19	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	170 entries, 389 seats (525 seats heats and finals adjusted)	128 entries, 271 seats	No Kinross Wolaroi or Radford this season; regatta cancelled day before
Tuggeranong Cup	02/11/19	Approved	24 entries, 96 seats (cxl on day)	19 entries, 76 seats	Seat fees waived for entrants who had also entered cancelled BMRC Regatta
Radford/Daramalan	09/11/19	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	252 entries, 618 seats (930 seats heats and finals adjusted) (CGGS/Marist Regatta as second pointscore regatta)	417 entries, 1167 seats	Kinross Wolaroi visit
CGGS/Marist	23/11/19	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	242 entries, 530 seats (746 seats heats and finals adjusted) (Daramalan Regatta as third pointscore regatta)	341 entries, 1030 seats	A Creagh, S John, G Northam, E Bien, A Charlton, N Hunter all to Rower of the Year awards in Sydney that night.
Twilight Regatta	07/12/19	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	N/A	50 entries, 184 seats	
CGS	01/02/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	307 entries, 803 seats (1111 seats heats and finals adjusted)		
ANU	15/02/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	343 entries, 777 seats (cxl partway) (1109 seats heats and finals adjusted)		

CLRC Sprints	23/02/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	39 entries, 84 seats		
CRC Grade Championships	29/02/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	171 entries, 402 seats (ADF Regatta; pointscore not championship)		
ACT Head of the Lake	14/03/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	296 entries, 863 seats (included doubles)		
ACT Championships	14-15/03/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved	358 entries, 835 seats (included Masters events)		
ACT Masters Championships	04/04/20	NCA approved, ACT Land Use approved			

