



ROWING
Australian Capital Territory



2020
ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Message from Rowing ACT Patrons	3
Patron message – Kim Brennan.....	4
Centenary of Women in Rowing.....	5
Agenda.....	8
Minutes	9
Board Members	10
President’s Report.....	13
2019-2020 Director of Finance Report	16
Regatta Administration.....	18
Boat Race Officials	21
High Performance Program	22
Financial Accounts Year Ended June 2020	Appendix A





His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

Rowing ACT

One of the enjoyable aspects about living at Government House, Yarralumla, is that we often see the rowers on Lake Burley Griffin. We admire the discipline of members of the ACT rowing community who, throughout winter, rise early and brave the Canberra cold as they attend to their fitness and go about their training. Linda and I particularly enjoy hearing the exchanges between coaches and crews as, together, they strive to make the boats go faster.

As many of you know, we had hoped to join you for the 2020 Head of the Lake Regatta and presentation ceremony in March. But, like many events in the ACT at the time, it was cancelled due to COVID-19. We appreciate how frustrating a time it has been for everyone at Rowing ACT, especially given a number of events scheduled for earlier in the year were cancelled due to smoke haze from the bushfires. In light of the cancellations, we were pleased to hear that indoor rowing competitions filled the void. Unfortunately for some people, indoor rowing is still their only option.

As I write, rowing has now returned to Lake Burley Griffin and Lake Tuggeranong. As co-Patrons of Rowing ACT, Linda and I look forward to once again attending and supporting rowing in the national capital.

L. Hurley

PATRON MESSAGE

– KIM BRENNAN

This was a big year for local rowing, with plenty of recognition for the efforts of ACT rowers in 2019/20. Kathryn Ross' wins in the Rowing Australia and CBR Sports Awards as Para-Athlete of the Year were fitting given her dominance locally and internationally, while Renae Domaschensz's win as Para Coach of the Year at the RA awards was also well-deserved. Congratulations to all our ACT athletes who have represented Australia in competitions around the world over the last year.

Locally it's great to see participation and competition at all levels building momentum in the ACT. Well done to all who support rowing in the ACT and thanks to the Clubs and Schools who foster our great sport.

It was fantastic to see the ACT select a large squad for the 2020 Interstate Regatta. While this was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this recognition should now encourage all our local rowers that state selection is within reach for those who work hard for it.

I'm looking forward to cheering our athletes on in the rescheduled Tokyo Olympics and have fingers crossed for a strong ACT representation!

Kim Brennan AM



Kim Brennan - London 2012 Olympics

CENTENARY OF WOMEN IN ROWING

Women's Rowing in the ACT

In the centenary year of interstate competition in women's rowing it is appropriate to reflect on the history of women's rowing on Lake Burley Griffin. The first ACT women rowers joined the **ACT Rowing Association** in 1964 when it briefly operated as a rowing club out of the East Basin Pavilion (now the Boathouse Restaurant)

When clubs formed, women rowers joined **Canberra Rowing Club**. They competed against each other in regattas on the Central/East Basin course under the guidance of coach **Ada (Adeline) Libbis**, a former Victorian representative from the Albert Park Ladies Rowing Club. As in Sydney and Melbourne, the women rowers soon formed their own club, **Canberra Women's Rowing Club**. It raced for the first time at the second Rowing Association regatta on 19 September 1964 when CWRC No 1 crew defeated the No 2 crew by 2 feet.

CWRC struggled to attract and retain members, due to lack of competition and the spartan conditions of the Nissan Hut in Kingston. But the club's direct affiliation with its national body, the Australian Women's Rowing Council, provided the opportunity to compete in the Australian Women's Rowing Championships. This they did with distinction thanks to coaching by **Ada Libbis** and committed oarswomen such as **Miep Molijn, Jean Hambly, Patricia Monaghan, and Robin Cain**, members of the first ACT crew at the Women's Championships on Albert Park Lake on 24 April 1965. ACT was placed fourth (out of five crews) in the Interstate Fours Championship for the ULVA Cup. A CWRC crew represented again at the 1966 Women's Championships on the Port River, Adelaide in April 1966. Following this event, interest in women's rowing in the ACT declined along with the fortunes of the CWRC. Ada Libbis noted that for the last few years of the 1960s there was no women's rowing competition at all on Lake Burley Griffin.

The revival of women's rowing in the early 1970s followed participation of girls in high school rowing clubs at Watson and Telopea Park High and women rowers at ANU Boat Club. Old Grammarians club operating in Kingston also boated novice women's crews. At the AWRC national championships on Yarramundi Reach on 15 April 1972, ACT was represented by newly recruited Year 12 students from the Girls' Grammar School. In a school girls race on the same program, Girls' Grammar won from two Watson High crews that also had only recently commenced rowing.

Opening of the ANUBC boat shed on 18 March 1972 was a huge step forward in encouraging women's rowing by providing decent facilities with good access to Sullivan's Creek. The example set by **Rusty Robertson**, legendary New Zealand coach and NSW coaching director at coaching clinics in Canberra inspired then ANUBC member **David Bagnall** to take up coaching with early success. By coaching beginners in Vllls at times suitable for students, David and Joe Wolf quickly built up interest in women's rowing and competition at ANUBC.

This formula had spectacular results seeing lightweight women from sporting backgrounds progress from beginners to national championship contenders in a few seasons. Crews coached by Bagnall and Wolf enjoyed local, state, and national success producing a stream of lightweight women champions and national team members. Acceptance of women members by Canberra RC from 1977 provided a long-awaited structure for inter-club competition with ANUBC. Canberra quickly built its numbers through active junior recruitment supplemented by rowers from interstate. Also, many Canberra Girls Grammar School students joined the Club as junior members.



1978 Canberra Girls Grammar School crew

Girls' Grammar rowers came to prominence in 1979 when their four successfully negotiated treacherous conditions in the 1979 Panton Memorial Marathon ahead of all male entries. This crew included **Susan Donoghoe** who went on to Australian team selection, success as coach of an Australian silver medal women's junior double scull and long club service. Susan's lightweight scull rivals **Julie Ellett** and **Alison Chinn** were also prominent in all aspects of rowing in the 1980s. Already a national champion, Alison arrived from Murwillumbah in 1984 since playing a leading role as competitor, coach and administrator.

Founding the Australian Institute of Sport in 1981 boosted interest in women's sport in the ACT across the board. The rowing unit added in 1984 promoted ACT women's rowing in a multitude of ways. In particular, the AIS recruited outstanding oarswomen who were role models for local athletes, with some joining local clubs on completion of their scholarships. Coach and national representative **Peter Shakespear** came to Canberra when his partner was appointed to the AIS. While a teacher at Narrabundah College, Peter coached junior rowers such as **Paul Thompson, Ellen Randell** and **Andrew Randell** who have reached the highest level of coaching at the international level. Peter was the architect of Australia's first Talent Identification Program that commenced at Canberra RC in 1988. TIP athletes **Megan Still** and **Elizabeth Moller** progressed to success in international competition. Megan's gold medal in the pairs at Atlanta is one of only three Olympic gold medals won by Australian women rowers.



Kathryn Ross

Talent Identification and development was placed on a sustainable basis with assistance from the ACT Academy of Sport soon after it was launched in 1989 leading to formation of a rowing unit. Women rowers played their part in advancing a professional approach to our sport. Los Angeles Olympic representative and medalist **Robyn Grey-Gardiner** was a leading ACTAS coach of the early 1990s. 1985 World Champion Lightweight Sculler **Adair Ferguson** became the first employee of the Association serving as Sports Development Officer from 1996- 2004.

The diversity and depth of women's rowing was boosted in 1998 when CRC Life Members **David Butt** and **Leon Bower** established Capital Lakes Rowing Club – a comprehensive club with an emphasis on junior rowing. This club has enriched the local women's rowing competition and - true to its talent development ethos - fostered significant rowing and coaching careers. CLRC also has shown a firm commitment to para rowing, an area of competition boosted by the success of World Champion **Kathryn Ross**.

The future of junior women's rowing in the ACT was secured by completion of boatshed projects through the 1990s by Canberra Girls' Grammar, Radford College and Daramalan College. Girls' Grammar built an impressive replacement boatshed at Yarralumla Bay and, most recently, Canberra Grammar has included female students in its well-established rowing program. Schoolgirl athletes from all these schools have achieved impressive results at the national level and beyond.

After some difficult years, many of the institutional and infrastructure elements for future success in ACT women's rowing are now in place. The next objective must be for the senior rowing clubs to operate consistently at the elite level providing an environment that is attractive to graduates from school clubs. This will be a challenge not only for our senior clubs but also for the schools and Rowing ACT as our peak body in promoting a positive image of continuing participation and achievement by schoolgirl rowers.

Pat Davoren

RACT Life Member (2018)

Rowing ACT applauds all the women who have contributed to our rowing community – athletes, coaches, officials and administrators.



Catherine Garrington



Nikki Ayers



Adair Ferguson



Megan Still

56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ROWING ACT INCORPORATED
CGGS Building (Yhuuramulum), ALEXANDRINA DRIVE, YARRALUMLA
Monday 21 September 2020 at 6.00pm

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

4. RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT OF ROWING ACT FOR 2019-2020

5. RECEIVE THE AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2019-2020

6. RESOLUTION OF NOMINATION OF LIFE MEMBERS

- a. Rowing ACT notes that the Board has nominated David Bagnall, Vincent McMahon and Alison Chinn for life membership under Rule 7.1
- b. Rowing ACT resolves to confer life membership on the above nominees in accordance with Rule 7.3

7. SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE RULES TO ALLOW SPONSORSHIP TO BE INCLUDED AS A FUNDRAISING OPTION

a. Rowing ACT resolves to accept the following Rule amendment:

Rule 38.1. *With the exception of Rule 38.2, the funds of Rowing ACT shall be derived from annual subscriptions of Members, sales, donations, sponsorship and, subject to any special resolution passed by Rowing ACT in general meeting and to the provisions of the Act, such other sources as the Board determines.*

8. CONFIRMATION OF EXISTING ROWING ACT CLUBS AND SCHOOLS

Given the variety of regimes under which clubs and schools have been admitted as members of Rowing ACT, we seek to confirm that the following clubs and schools are officially recognised as member clubs of the association.

Australian Defence Force Academy Rowing Club	Australian Defence Force Rowing Club
Australian National University Boat Club	Canberra Girls Grammar School
Black Mountain Rowing Club	Canberra Grammar School
Canberra Rowing Club	Capital Lakes Rowing Club
CGS Masters Rowing Club	Daramalan College
Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club	Marist College Canberra
Radford College	Royal Military College Rowing Club

Any new clubs wanting to join from this point forward would need to follow Rule 4 of the Rowing ACT Rules.

The By-Laws around club colours (By-Law 4) has been updated to now read: *The Board must approve the design and colours of the racing uniform and oar blades of a Club when approving its membership application.*

A Member Club may only change the design and colours of its racing uniform and oar blades with the approval of the Board.

9. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

10. OTHER BUSINESS

MINUTES OF THE 55th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ROWING ACT HELD AT THE YMCA SAILING CLUB ON

Wednesday 18 September 2019

MINUTES

PRESENT:

David Bagnall - Chair, Alison Creagh (ADF Rowing), Andrew Robertson (ADFA Rowing Club), Justine Riordan (ANUBC), Mary Bonney, Vince McMahon (BMRC), Catherine Garrington (BRO), Caroline Pijpers (CGGS), Andrew O'Brien (CGS), Sandra Sweeney (CRC), Bill Mason, Marty Capon, Mike Brady (Daramalan), Anna Baker, Deb Styman (LTRC), Hugo Ellwood (Marist), Vicky Spencer (Radford), Katrina Wiseman, Renae Domaschenz, Stuart John (RACT).

1. APOLOGIES:

Ben Page (ADFA Rowing Club), Nick Hunter (ANU), Alison Chinn (CRC), Catherine Bowyer (CLRC), Kent Peters (CGS)

2. MINUTES:

Minutes from the 2018 Annual General Meeting held on 22 August 2018 were read and confirmed.

Accepted: A. Creagh; seconded: V. McMahon.

3. ANNUAL REPORT:

The 2018-19 Annual Report was presented to Member Clubs for consideration. The chairman thanked everyone he worked with during his time as president, in particular Bill Mason for his work on the commercial and sponsorship aspect, and Vince McMahon for his work on the finances. V. Spencer spoke about the importance for people to operate in a safe space and to treat everyone with the same respect as they would at work. Annual report accepted without dissent.

4. AUDITED ACCOUNTS:

Director of Finance V. McMahon thanked David Bagnall for his work as Board President, and acknowledged the work of Roger Grylls in helping to get the finances in order, and Andrea Parsons for her work in the transition to Xero from MYOB.

No detailed year-on-year data is available due to the change in financial year. Reports include information on profit by business centre; while the total profit of around \$30,000 for the financial year was less than previous years, it was about average.



Funds received include the \$45,000 core grant from the ACT Government, with the \$10,000 from Rowing Australia for not rotating the national championships potentially at risk. Money in the bank is part of the long-term planning capital acquisition, with \$100,000 spent recently to improve functionality at Weston Park and update the BRO boats. An issued raised was the profit from the High Performance Program; as a matter of policy and commitment to partners these funds are segregated within Rowing ACT. Money owed from general business to the HPP will be drawn down, which will in turn push the general business into a lower profit position. Accepted: A. Creagh, seconded: C. Garrington

5. ELECTION TO THE BOARD

Nominations were received from B. Page, K. Peters, and D. Styman for 3 Board vacancies and therefore were elected via the operation of the Rules. A. Creagh was the only nomination for President and therefore was elected via the operation of the Rules.

6. INCOMING PRESIDENT REMARKS

New President A. Creagh thanked the previous board for their efforts, recognising outgoing regatta secretary Alison Chinn, and outgoing board members David Bagnall, Vince McMahon and Bill Mason for their work over the years. The histories of all three outgoing board members were listed, before they were presented with mementos of their time at Rowing ACT. The new President also congratulated Kathryn Ross for her world championship and world records, and Renae Domaschenz for her work as coach, as well as supporting the high-performance program and athletes following the passing of Nick Garratt.

BOARD MEMBERS

The Board includes 6 elected directors and up to 3 appointed by the Board to supplement its skills, outlook and diversity, addressing matters such as gender equity, governance, audit and risk. Directors hold office until the second Annual General Meeting following election or appointment. Directors may be re-elected for consecutive terms, up to five times (10 years). The current directors and their terms of appointment are listed below.

POSITION	ELECTION/ APPOINTMENT	EXPIRES AT AGM
----------	--------------------------	----------------

President

Alison Creagh AM CSC	Sept 2018	2021
----------------------	-----------	------

Elected Directors:

Kent Peters	Sept 2019	2021
Deb Styman	Aug 2017	2021
Ben Page	Sept 2019	2021
Nick Hunter OAM	Sept 2008	2020
Caroline Pijpers	Sept 2018	2020

Appointed Directors:

Ben James	Sept 2019	2021
Alison Chinn	Sept 2012	2020
Catherine Garrington	Sept 2019	2020

The Board met 11 times over the year. Attendance was as follows:

A. Creagh	11	B. Page	9	B. James	10
K. Peters	10	N. Hunter	9	A. Chinn	9
D. Styman	10	C. Pijpers	10	C. Garrington	10

In addition, the Board met for extraordinary meetings to address rising environmental and health and safety concerns. These meetings were as follows:

- Bushfire and air quality extraordinary Board meetings – 3 meetings (one prior to the CGS regatta, one prior to the re-scheduled CGS regatta and one prior to the Head of the Lake regatta).
- COVID 19 extraordinary Board meetings – 23 March, 6 April, 29 April.
- Briefings to Club Presidents regarding COVID 19 protocols – 7 April, 5 May.

Rowing ACT Officer Bearers and Officers:

Director of Finance:	Kent Peters
Secretary:	Deb Styman
Public Officer:	Patrick Davoren
Executive Officer:	Stuart John
High Performance Coordinator:	Katrina Wiseman

Rowing ACT Sub-committees

Regatta Sub-committee

Boat Race Official Sub-committee

High Performance Program Sub-committee

Life Members:

Patrick Davoren (2018) – in recognition of his long service as an administrator. He first served as a club delegate to the ACT Rowing Association in the late 1960s and has since taken on a wide range of committee roles for the Association including 14 continuous years as Honorary Secretary.

Roger Grylls (2011) - in recognition of his long and distinguished service as a boat race official. He also played a significant part in the Association's adoption of software necessary to overcome long standing issues with the Association's accounts.

Mark Kwiatkowski (1990) - in recognition of his contribution to ACT Rowing as the instigator of the Winter Time Trials.

Dr Robert (Bob) J. Porra (1984) - As Honorary Secretary Bob led a complete review of the ACT Rowing Association's rules that became necessary before the Association became an incorporated body in 1978.

Paul Duncan (1984) – As Secretary of the Association, Paul lifted the standard of ACT Rowing Association processes for regatta promotion and management and closer engagement with the NSW Rowing Association.

David Walters (1981) – David was best known for his service as the diligent Treasurer of the Association from 1973-1979.

Malcolm Lamb (1981) – Malcolm served as Honorary Secretary from 1972-1975 and as Vice President from 1975-1978 and in 1979-80.

Rod Freeman (1981) – Rod remained a leading member of the Union of Boat Race officials for over twenty years.

Cliff Hill (1973) - recognising his service as an administrator and boat race official including the President role from 1967 to 1973.

Brian Martyn (1973) - in recognition of his service to the Association as an administrator, boat race official and coach.

William (Bill) O'Brien (1972) - ACT Rowing Association's first Life Member, this honour recognised Bills' leadership in establishing rowing in the ACT.

Further information on all Rowing ACT Life Members can be found on our website:
rowingact.org.au/life-members

REPRESENTATIVES

Members of our ACT rowing community make an impact on the world rowing stage in a variety of ways. Internationally **Nick Hunter**, **Catherine Garrington** and **Geoff Northam** contribute to delivery of World Rowing regattas as officials. Nick Hunter represents Australia on World Rowing's Umpires Commission. **Alison Creagh** is an international classifier (technical) for World Rowing. **Gordon Marcks** sits on Para Commission and **Jaime Fernandez** sits on the Youth Commission for the World Rowing Federation.

The ACT also has representatives on a number of Rowing Australia Commissions:

RA Athletes Commission (Renaë Domaschenz, Kim Brennan AM OLY (Ex Officio – Member of AOC Athletes' Commission))

RA Umpires Commission (Geoff Northam, Nick Hunter (Ex-Officio) and Ross Ford)

RA Masters Commission (Alison Creagh)

RA Para Commission (Gordon Marcks)

Officials supporting Rowing Australia:

RA Classifiers – Zoe Lynham (Technical Classifier), Alison Creagh (Technical Classifier)

RA Umpires – Alan Butorac, Catherine Garrington, Nick Hunter, Geoff Northam



Peter Dall (BMRC) '60-69' Erg world record holder

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This is my first report as President of Rowing ACT and addresses Rowing ACT's performance from 19 September 2019 to 21 September 2020. This reporting period has certainly presented some challenges for the ACT rowing community and for Australia. To date Rowing ACT has responded effectively to these challenges thanks to a community effort from Clubs and Schools, the Rowing ACT Board and staff, athletes and coaches, and support from the ACT Government, ACTAS and Rowing Australia. It is clear that the hard work of previous Rowing ACT Boards has provided a sound basis for us to respond to these challenges. It has certainly been an interesting experience taking on the role of President and I very much appreciate the advice and support of the Rowing ACT Board during the transition.

I'd like to acknowledge and thank **David Bagnall** for his dedication to Rowing ACT over many years and in many capacities, more recently as President. David continues to provide support to our rowing community and I very much appreciate his views and advice. **Vince McMahon's** contribution over a decade is notable and his continued support to Director of Finance, **Kent Peters** is valued. Rowing ACT continues to appreciate the continued patronage of **Kim Brennan AM** and we welcome as joint patrons **His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)** and **Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley**. Their Excellencies attended and presented trophies at the 2019 Disher Cup and this year joined the Rowing ACT Board for a virtual meeting. We value their support, patronage and interest in rowing.

Governance

Rowing ACT continues to explore opportunities to develop rowing in the ACT across a number of areas including high performance and talent identification, regatta management, indoor rowing, coastal rowing and para-rowing. Some endeavours and initiatives have been delayed or curtailed due to COVID limitations.

We also participate in Rowing Australia initiatives including development of their new strategy, indoor rowing and coastal rowing initiatives and through participation in Rowing Australia's Athletes, Umpires and Masters Commissions. The Board meet regularly, including out-of-session, to consider safety, particularly regarding the smoke hazard and our COVID response.

The Board worked with the ACT Government's Sport and Recreation to clarify the role of sporting peak bodies when developing our sport's COVID response and Return to Play requirements. The Rowing ACT Board recognises



the importance of providing advice to the ACT rowing community noting that each Club and School will have their own governance considerations when developing and implementing Work Health Safety policies and plans.

Staffing

Rowing ACT continues to employ two full-time staff, **Stuart John** and **Dave Fraumano**, and two part-time staff, **Renae Domaschcz** and **Katrina Wiseman**.

A COVID support grant from the ACT Government has assisted with retaining our workforce over the last six months and some of this grant was offered to Clubs and Schools to assist with COVID protection measures.

Dave Fraumano was appointed as Head Coach Rowing ACT in December 2019 and we congratulate him and welcome him to the ACT rowing community. **Renae Domaschcz** continues to develop the Talent Identification program as well as coaching a number of our high performance and emerging talent athletes.

Stuart John made a strong contribution as Executive Officer and provided consistent advice throughout this challenging year. He took on the role of Regatta Secretary and effectively managed this role throughout the regatta season whilst striving to improve regatta management. **Katrina Wiseman** contributed to both the High Performance program as well as event and regatta management. As always Katrina showed that she can adapt to any challenge with great results.

On behalf of the ACT rowing community I'd like to recognise and thank our staff for their valuable contributions.

Safety

Rowing ACT remains committed to reinforcing and improving safety for our sport. A review of Rowing ACT Work Health Safety has been conducted and policies are being developed, reviewed and updated. An updated Lake Traffic Flow map has been developed in conjunction with the Lake Users Group and the National Capital Authority and two new traffic flow buoys installed on Lake Burley Griffin as a result of reviews from the previous and current Rowing ACT Boards. Other areas of congestion, boat collisions or near misses are currently under review.

Rowing ACT and our Boat Race Officials monitor and control safety for regattas and, over this reporting period, we have reviewed and updated our regatta risk management processes. In our summer regatta season we responded to high winds, high heat, bush fires, smoke hazard, and the COVID pandemic. New policies were developed to manage the smoke hazard and the Rowing ACT Board met on a number of occasions to develop plans to manage the COVID response.

Rowing ACT continues to explore opportunities to develop rowing in the ACT across a number of areas including high performance and talent identification, regatta management, indoor rowing, coastal rowing and para-rowing.

Training safely on our lakes requires monitoring and reporting of incidents so that we can understand problem areas, review areas of risk and propose suitable control measures to the National Capital Authority to reduce safety hazards. We appreciate Clubs, Schools and individuals who have reported incidents and remind everyone that collisions and boat capsizes are mandatory reportable incidents. We ask that near-misses be reported so we can monitor trends and identify hotspots.

Facilities and Infrastructure

Rowing ACT was successful in winning a small grant to upgrade some of our aging regatta infrastructure. It is intended to upgrade all our Race Official pontoons over the next few years where funds allow. Proposals are also being considered to support an upgrade to the Yarramundi Reach Course, improved Finish Line infrastructure and, in the long term, the need to upgrade the Rowing ACT/ACTAS Boatshed.

In the meantime our thanks go to **Maxine James** and **Scott Pugin**, our buoy maintenance team, for their work to keep the Yarramundi Reach Course straight and buoyed – not an easy task!

Regattas

Rowing ACT continues to work on regatta management and delivery and relies on Clubs, Schools and their volunteers to deliver effective and successful regattas and winter time trials. This is a sport that relies on volunteering. Rowing ACT has had to work hard to generate sufficient volunteers and Boat Race Officials for our events and in several cases had to review how the regattas would be conducted safely and effectively. We ask Clubs and Schools to actively support our events by providing sufficient volunteers.



Rowing ACT sincerely thanks all our volunteers – your contribution is greatly appreciated

The 2019/2020 regatta season was disjointed due to weather, bushfires, smoke and the COVID pandemic. The **2019 Disher Cup** was successfully conducted along with our **Head of the Molonglo** and **Col Pantom Memorial Marathon**. We were unable to test the revised format for Head of the Lake and the ACT Championships due to COVID cancellation although we had a high number of entries that promised an exciting double-header regatta.

When we did get to compete, the racing was competitive with great results and our competition was live-streamed and broadcast by CGS and photographed by **Grahame Letcher** and **Vicki Newman** – as always their support in recording the ACT rowing community's achievements is highly valued. Congratulations to **Radford College** for topping the point-score for the season.

A review of entries and attendance has been conducted and entries were down in some Grades and Masters events although school attendance increased. We had interstate clubs enter and compete in a number of regattas. The Regatta Sub-Committee has revised the program for the 2020 season based on feedback and we look forward to an active 2020/2021 season.

Canberra hosted the **2019 Australian Indoor Rowing Championships** at **Radford College** with great success. Thanks go to **Vicky Spencer, Radford volunteers** and Rowing Australia for coordinating the event. Participation at the Canberra AIRC was the largest across Australia and the atmosphere in the Radford gym was electric – a great outcome for indoor rowing in the ACT.

During the COVID off-water hiatus a number of the ACT rowing community had the opportunity to participate and compete in virtual indoor rowing competitions. Rowing ACT planned a **Cross-training challenge** to be run over winter in conjunction with our Winter Time Trail season. It is particularly pleasing to see the strong response to rowing competition and we hope we can keep rowing into the summer season.

High Performance

The High Performance athletes managed the upheaval this season with level heads. Thanks to **Rowing Australia** and **ACTAS** for their support in delivering the program. Particular thanks go to **Jaime Fernandez** and **Andrew Stainlay** for their guidance throughout the reporting period.

Dave Fraumano, as Head Coach, had a disruptive introduction to rowing in the ACT but worked to develop new initiatives for our High Performance program as well as developing connections across the ACT rowing community.

Renae Domaschenz was acting Head Coach until December 2019 and then supported Dave's introduction to the ACT rowing community. Renae's dedication and support to the athletes is notable and is to be commended. Thanks also to the ACT coaches, including **Iain Smith**, who supported the High Performance program in the later part of 2019.

This reporting period covers two significant milestones for Australia Rowing – the **centenary of the King's Cup in 2019** and the **centenary of Australian women's rowing** and the **Queen's Cup in 2020**. In response to these national milestones, Rowing ACT selected crews for most Interstate events at the **Australian Interstate Regatta** in March 2020 including Queen's and King's Cup events. Thanks go to the ACT athletes across Clubs, Schools and the High Performance Program for getting behind this initiative. Thanks also to the coaches selected to prepare the crews and to **Andrew Randell, Donna Martin** and **Bruce Hick** for the advice and guidance around selection. Whilst the crews did not get a chance to compete, the Interstate squads continue to train and we hope to have a competitive selection process for the **2021 Interstate Regatta**.

Masters crews also showed enthusiasm with a number of nominations for both men's and women's crews. Once again there was no competition but the Masters community is already preparing for the **2021 AMRC in Penrith**.

Recognition and Awards

Kathryn Ross won the PR2 single sculls at the **World Rowing Championships in Linz, Austria** and then capped off her year by being named both Rowing Australia and Canberra Para-Athlete of the Year. **Renae Domaschenz** was named Para-Coach of the Year at Rowing Australia's 2019 Rower of the Year awards in recognition of her success coaching Kathryn. Congratulations to both Renae and Kathryn.

Caleb Antill and **Cara Grzeskowiak** both won medals at World Rowing Cups in 2019 in Plovdiv and Rotterdam respectively, with Cara doing so not long after Nick Garratt's passing. Other members of Rowing ACT's High Performance program had successes throughout the year.

It was wonderful to see **Edwin Bien, Geoff Northam, David Bagnall**, and **Capital Lakes Rowing Club** shortlisted for awards at both the **2019 Rower of the Year** and the **Canberra Sports Awards**. While they were unsuccessful this time around, their nominations show a strong base for rowing in the ACT.

Thanks

Rowing ACT acknowledges and appreciates the support and enthusiasm of our clubs, schools, officials and volunteers who support our regattas, promote participation, develop performance and encourage growth in the sport.

Thanks also to the staff and **Board of Rowing ACT**. In particular thanks to **Kent Peters** and **Deb Styman** for their preparation of reports throughout the reporting period. I would like to acknowledge and thank **Nick Hunter** for his twelve year contribution to the Board and note the many volunteering roles that Nick holds within the rowing community locally, nationally and internationally.

Rowing in the ACT would not be possible without our volunteers. Rowing in the ACT is a community effort with great opportunities to grow the sport, and we look forward to seeing how 2020/2021 and beyond develops.



Alison Creagh AM CSC
President
Rowing ACT

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

I submit to the Members the 2020 Audited Financial Statements. I would like to thank our Auditor, **Steve Maginnity** from Mainsail Accounting Solutions, **Warrick Maddocks** from Dot Advisory, and our accounts team comprising **Andrea Parsons, Stuart John** and **Katrina Wiseman**. I also wish to acknowledge the ongoing support and assistance being provided by **Vince McMahon** which I value immensely. Thanks also to **Alison Creagh** and the Board of Rowing ACT for the work that each one contributes to the life of Rowing ACT. But the vote of most thanks must go to all the Clubs, club members, school rowers, volunteers and many others that have all contributed to the ongoing success of rowing in the ACT.

Background

This year has been my first year in the role as Director of Finance and one could easily say that the 2019/2020 season has been like few others that have gone before it. With all the challenges faced with the devastating bushfires, adverse regatta conditions and then the COVID-19 outbreak it has certainly brought more than its fair share of challenges, not only to the ACT Rowing Community, but to the wider community.

Financial Outcomes

2020 is the second year that the Financial statements have been prepared on a July – June basis and as such allow a comparison between the two years for the first time on this basis. **The profit of \$91,932 is an historic high**, almost 2.3 times the profit outcome for 2019 of \$40,318. It comprised \$57,368 (\$10,300 in 2019) profit from the High Performance Program and \$34,564 (\$30,080 in 2019) for the Rowing ACT's general business.

The High Performance profit was mainly driven by the inability to deliver the program on the water because of the bush fires and then the pandemic. However, the gap in the hiring of a replacement head coach, following the sad death of our distinguished head coach **Nick Garratt**, also contributed to the surplus.

The profit in general business largely arises, ironically, from the pandemic. On one hand member receipts were down. On the other hand, Rowing ACT received some \$40k business relief from the ACT and Commonwealth Governments. Partially offsetting this was the end of the \$10k hosting subsidy from Rowing Australia which has underwritten profit for a number of years. Rowing ACT, as a result of the business relief grants provided the ACT and Commonwealth Governments, has been able to provide some grant assistance to clubs in order to assist them with the meeting of additional costs arising from the ongoing management of the COVID-19 effects.

All business units contribute to the objectives of Rowing ACT but business unit profit and loss outcomes vary, and will continue to vary, significantly. Venue and Facilities, which are driven by depreciation, are obviously necessary to run regattas but Events earn the regatta revenue. Admin shows a profit, mainly because it contains the core grant and registration and affiliation fees. For 2020, it has been further boosted by business continuity grants from the ACT and Commonwealth Governments. Development, in the absence of significant sponsorships, could be expected to continue to run at a loss but represents an investment in the future of ACT rowing.

2019-20							
Profit and Loss by Business Centre							
	Admin	Development	Events	HP	Marketing	Venues & Facilities	Total
Revenue	146,203	836	62,352	308,956	5,056	0	523,403
Expenses	101,915	18,678	46,371	251,588	1,316	11,603	431,471
P&L	44,288	-17,842	15,981	57,368	3,740	-11,603	91,932

Fees and Charges

Fees have remained unchanged again in this current season and whilst a detailed review is being undertaken of the overall business operations there is no current plan to lift fees and charges. It remains that all participants in rowing events run by Rowing ACT must be registered on Rowing Manager. Registration fees are not applied to rowers who only row in the Winter Time Trial series, the Col Panton Regatta and the short-course regatta.

Accounts Receivable

The level of accounts receivable remains very good. At 30 June, 2020 the accounts receivable were \$21K. Pleasingly, 97.4% of these were within the 30 day payment period. This reflects the good invoice issuing practice by Rowing ACT, responsiveness by Member Clubs and the follow-up practices adopted.

Financial Goals

Rowing ACT seeks to achieve a high level of corporate governance and to ensure that the financial operations run profitably to allow for the accumulation of funds that will be necessary to both meet current infrastructure needs, but also allow for the further development of the sport within the ACT.

Investment in fixed assets during the 2019/2020 financial period has seen the purchase of two Suzuki 15 HP outboard motors and a High Performance Program Sykes Double which was primarily funded by donations. A new leasing agreement for the provision of single sculls for the High Performance Program is currently being finalised with Wintec.

There have been increased insurance costs which have primarily arisen due to the High Performance fleet, 2020 is the first full year of insurance costs for the leased boats following the devolution of the responsibility from ACTAS in 2019. It is also noted that the significant increase in the boats cost is due to the repairs required following the unprecedented hail storm in January 2020. It is also noted that most of this cost was offset by the resultant insurance claim.

It remains a priority for the Board to continue to work towards the goal of the acquisition and fit out of a suitable facility to not only house the High Performance Program but also the operational base for Rowing ACT. It remains that at present there have not been any viable alternatives identified, but nonetheless the work continues to achieve this long-held goal as soon as practicably possible.

Rowing ACT is also considering other infrastructure proposals with the goal to ultimately enhancing the rowing experience for all involved with Rowing ACT, as well as looking to ensure the ongoing maintenance and replacement of existing facilities as these needs arise. Whilst 2019/2020 has produced a strong financial result the Board remains acutely aware of the ongoing need to ensure that the long-term financial stability of Rowing in the ACT remains one of its primary goals. The Board is committed to a process of continuous improvement to best be able to serve the community of Rowing ACT.

Form of the Financial Accounts

The presentation of the Financial Accounts is in a simplified format with the detail and explanation contained within the footnotes provided. The 2019-2020 year provides us with the opportunity to be able to compare the full result from 2018-2019 and as a result provide more meaningful information to members.

Assistance of Member Clubs

I again thank all Member Clubs for their support and co-operation during the 2019-20 Financial Year in what has truly been a year where the challenges faced have been significant but during all that this has brought, the ACT rowing community has risen to the challenges involved. Rowing ACT remains committed to prompt invoicing allowing clubs to raise any concerns when the issues are current and for any disagreements to be resolved expeditiously. Rowing Manager continues to provide a very effective platform based on data that has been entered by the clubs themselves.



Kent Peters
Director of Finance

7th August 2020

REGATTA ADMINISTRATION

To suggest the 2019/20 regatta season was tricky barely begins to hint at matters. After a successful **Col Panton Memorial Marathon** and **Disher Cup**, all remaining 2019 regattas were hit in some form by inclement weather. The **BMRC Regatta** on 26 October was cancelled the day before due to excessive winds; the **Tuggeranong Cup** program was compressed to get it in before the weather turned; the **Radford/Daramalan Regatta** was cancelled around two-thirds of the way through; while conditions made the **CGGS/Marist** and **CLRC Twilight Regattas** tricky.

2020 brought a change in weather but not in luck, with the **CGS Regatta** rescheduled from February 1 to February 22 due to the bushfires affecting the ACT, while the COVID-19 pandemic caused the **ACT Head of the Lake, ACT Championships**, and **ACT Masters Championship** regattas to be cancelled. There was still plenty of good racing going on. **Radford College** raced to an early lead in the point score competition and never relinquished it; the COVID pandemic unfortunately meant we missed out on seeing if they would hold on over the ACT Championships or whether **ANU Boat Club** or **Canberra Rowing Club** could have made up the points at the **ACT Masters**. Radford emerged victors in the men's point score over CRC by just 0.4 points, while ANU were runaway women's winners.

With no ACT Championships the major trophy winner outside of the point score was **Canberra Grammar School**, winning the **Steve Fairbairn Memorial Cup** for the highest point score at the ANU Regatta.

Winter Time Trials

The Winter Time Trials run over a 4km course from Scrivener Dam to the white poles near Orana Bay. 2019 saw nearly 130 competitors race their single sculls over the five weekends, with **Grace Turner** (CGGS) and **Ben Geier** (BMRC) taking out the **Lyn Cirulis Plate** and **Mark Kwiatkowski Cup** respectively. This was Ben's second WTT win, with his first coming back in 1988!

Other winners from the Winter Time Trial series were:

Men's Pair:	Nick Pettigrew, Douglas Horn (ANUBC)
Women's Pair:	Annabel Reid, Sarelle Woodward (BMRC)
Open Doubles:	Dario Beltrami, Steve Grzeskowiak, Electra Beltrami (CLRC)
Women's Doubles:	Rachael Carnegie, Sandra Sweeney, Katie Tagg (CRC)
Women's Quads:	Jenny Simmons, Jane Robinson, Zoe Thomas, Kristin Moss, Courtney Toombes (BMRC)
Open Quads:	Gillian Dingley, Jennie Yaxley, Richard Swinbourne, Geoff Nichols, Jane O'Connor (CLRC)
Women's Fours:	Ashleigh Burns, Neve James, Georgina Wallace, Zara Collison, Georgia Gathercole (cox) (CGGS)
Open Fours:	Patrick Dunphy, Lucas Hempton, Richard O'Brien, Douglas Horn, Alex Migdalias, Nick Pettigrew, Vinhara Goonesekera (cox), Nicola Mathieson (cox) (ANUBC)
Open Eights:	Joshua Watson, Alvar Closas, Raf Priest, Jaedon Peters, Tim Hodge, Brad Spiel, Cameron O'Neill, Seb Lang, Henry Bridgewater, Aaron Garnham, Michael Cusack, Jackson Purtle, David Birch (cox), Alison Herbert (cox) (CRC)
Women's Eights:	Kate McKenna, Nicola Mathieson, Jerushah Bull, Caitlin Jones, Fiona Blackwell, Audrey Mims, Elaine Bissaker, Sarah Tynan, Sarah Davoren (cox) (ANUBC)





Col Panton Memorial Marathon

This event, unique to the ACT, is held each year in memory of **Colin Leslie Panton** and his son **Colin Stuart Panton**. The event runs from East Basin to the 600m mark of the Yarramundi Reach course and makes for an exciting finish as the crews jostle for positions. Thirty-three boats took part in the 2019 event, with the major trophy winners below:

Major trophy winners:

Col Panton Memorial Shield (first boat across the line)	M1x Geoffrey Brown (CRC)
Skipper's Trophy (fastest crew)	M8+ William Clark, Hamish Harding, Luke Letcher, Tom Perry, Douglas Horn, Tyron Boorman, Nathan Kennedy, Nick Pettigrew, Renae Domaschencz (cox) (ANUBC Composite)
David Stegeman Cup (first coxed four across the line)	M4+ Stephen Reynolds, William Randall, Damon Hietbrink, Nic Williams, Johnathan Chilvers (cox) (ADF Rowing)
Cootapatamba Cup (first quad across the line)	W4x- Alexandra Moylan, Nicola Greenland, Anneka Reardon, Louisa Ritchens (ANUBC)
Black Pete Plate (fastest women's club crew not receiving financial support)	W8+ Georgie Wallace, Grace Turner, Jenna Oerder, Ash Burns, Maddie McGuinness, Olivia Natley, Neve James, Emma De Somer, Issy Shaw (cox) (CGGS)

Head of the Molonglo

Fifteen crews braved some very chilly and foggy conditions for the **2019 Head of the Molonglo**. Running from the Molonglo River itself out onto Lake Burley Griffin and across to the southern tip of Black Mountain Peninsula, the event is limited to big boats, with a CRC/ANU composite, ADF Rowing composite, and CRC crews winning the quads, fours and eights respectively.

Sprint Regattas

This season saw two sprint regattas – the **Tuggeranong Cup** and the **CLRC Twilight Regatta**. The CLRC Schoolgirl quad of **Ella Horn, Charlotte Ryan, Phillipa Gray, Emma Kuchel** and **Deanna Carscadden** (cox) won the Champion of Champions race at the Tuggeranong Cup, while Marist's **Alex and Harvey Ellwood** won the Family Double Scull ahead of Steve and **Cara Grzeskowiak** at the CLRC Twilight Regatta.

Volunteers

Our regattas don't run without volunteers. From the BROs that help out at our major regattas, to the volunteers who willingly sit in tinnies in the middle of winter, to those who help out on the pontoons when their club or school is hosting, every person who chips in helps make our regattas run smoothly. Our thanks in particular go to **Vicky Newman** and **Graham Letcher** for their excellent photos of each regatta, along with **Nikki Schroder** for her management of the Rowing ACT tent.

Stuart John

RACT Executive Officer

The point score for the 2019 season:

CLUB	MEN	WOMEN	TOTAL
Radford College	124	89	213
ANU Boat Club	42.13	133	174.63
Canberra Rowing Club	123.6	41	164.6
Canberra Grammar School	75	62	137
Kinross Woleroi	25	48	73
Capital Lakes Rowing Club	37.83	26.5	64.33
Black Mountain Rowing Club	37.3	25.5	62.8
Marist College	47	0	47
Canberra Girls Grammar School	0	36	36
Shoalhaven Rowing Club	10.5	18.5	29
Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club	2	19	21
Daramalan College	9	1	10
ADF Rowing Club	3.8	1	4.8
Shellharbour Rowing Club	0	4	4
Royal Military College Rowing	3.8	0	3.8
Sydney Rowing Club	2	0	2



BOAT RACE OFFICIALS

The 2019-20 rowing season proved to be frustrating and fragmented, where the convergence of unfavourable high wind conditions, bushfire emergencies and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic successively resulted in most regattas either being curtailed early, or cancelled prior to the regatta. The rhythm of staging regattas was not effectively established, and the normal continuity of wider BRO volunteer group engagement was substantially disrupted.

The season briefly started well with the **Disher Cup** and **Col Panton Marathon**, and the start of season recruiting and training activities surfaced a healthy number of new BRO recruits. The **Tuggeranong Cup** also ran very successfully with a new course arrangement that enhanced the participant experience. Those from the **Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club** responsible for the innovation are commended on enthusiasm to improve the event.

The rest of the regatta season failed to build on this early bright start. The disruptions to the regular regattas reduced the opportunities to consolidate new recruit training, and nurture continuing engagement with the established BRO volunteer pool. Some new recruits and regular BROs ultimately did not participate in any regatta in the season due to cancellations. The consequences of this situation on BRO pool strength are not clear or understood, but could lead to erosion of the BRO volunteer pool as the bonds that encourage continuity from one season to the next are diluted with the extended passage of time without meaningful engagement. This may lead to a BRO pool strength challenge for the start of the 2020-21 season.



The health and strength of the Rowing ACT Boat Race Official pool was not fully assessed or tested over the past season due to the considerable disruptions experienced. On a cautionary note, the early regular point score regattas that proceeded did so with marginal BRO numbers and a considerably lower BRO average experience level than past recent years. A full BRO roster was not achieved for any of the planned regular point score regattas that were not cancelled before the roster was finalised. A strong focus on BRO re-engagement may be required to ensure there are sufficient experienced BROs to support coaching and mentoring of new BRO recruits for the next season.

BRO equipment was barely used in the shortened season and suffered little wear or risk of damage due to the high number of regatta cancellations. Notwithstanding, repair and replacement of critical equipment is emerging as a focus for the commencement of the next season. Of most significance is the deterioration of the smaller 1800m starter's platform, where deterioration of the pontoons has resulted in a persistent list to one side. This condition is exacerbated by the deterioration of the centre pontoon mountings, which further compromises the safety of the platform. A plan was formed to replace this platform with a new platform based on one of the existing floating frames acquired in 2013. A grant to develop this new platform has been secured, but work to design and assemble the platform has not commenced. It will be important to complete this project without delay.

A renewed focus on preventative maintenance of Rowing ACT BRO floating assets has been undertaken to ensure critical assets are in good condition for the start of the next season. Some attention is also being given to addressing persistent radio equipment issues, and the serviceability of safety assets required for boat operations.

The BRO focus for the next season will be to re-establish and consolidate the depth and experience of the BRO volunteer pool. This will be necessary to address the risk that regattas will become constrained by BRO capacity to conduct larger regattas safely.

Geoff Northam
ACT Chief Boat Race Official

HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

The 2019-2020 rowing season has been historic for the High Performance Program for a number of reasons. It was with great sadness that the High Performance Program lost the great **Nick Garratt** with his passing in July, 2019. Nick's legacy was one which will forever be remembered by Rowing ACT High Performance. He developed a program which produced numerous State and National Champions, as well as Australian Representatives. The impact of the loss of Nick to the squad and to rowing can not be understated.

Renae Domaschenz stepped up post Nick's passing to fulfill an Acting Head Coach position, nurturing athletes through the winter and spring of 2020. It was Renae's tireless dedication to her role, Rowing ACT and most importantly the High Performance athletes which enabled the athletes to continue to build their capabilities through such a turbulent time. This contribution is and will be remembered by myself and Rowing ACT.

Renae teamed with **Kathryn Ross** and made a triumphant return to international competition with the three-time Paralympian **winning gold in the PR2 Women's Single Scull at the 2019 World Rowing Championships** in Linz-Ottensheim, Austria. Renae has been Kathryn's coach and the team has gone from strength to strength. **Nikki Ayers** also travelled with the team as reserve for the PR3 4+, an important step on the journey for the Paralympic Team in 2020.

Cara Grzeskowiak competed admirably as stroke seat of the Australian Women's Quad on the senior national team. They rowed to a **fourth place at the World Rowing Cup II** in Poznan and then to a bronze medal win at WRC III in Rotterdam. Cara was selected to race Australia's quad scull at the 2019 World Rowing Championships in Linz, Austria.



Youth men's eight

The quad were looking for a top eight finish at the 2019 World Championships to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics. They placed fourth in the B-final for an overall tenth place finish and failed to qualify the boat for Tokyo 2020.

In 2019 **Luke Letcher** was selected in the Australian senior men's squad for the international representative season. At the WRC II in Poznan he rowed in a double scull with David Bartholot and then at the World Rowing Cup III in Rotterdam he rowed at six in the Australian eight when they finished in sixth place. Luke was then reserve for the World Championships and has now rejoined our Rowing ACT's High Performance group, which has been an invaluable inclusion.

Jilly Roberts and **Nathan Kennedy** were both selected as Australian representatives to compete at the World Under 23 Championships. **Alex Moylan** and **Hamish Harding** competed with the 2019 Australian Trans-Tasman Teams. **Harry Glackin** was also named in the team, however was unable to race due to injury.

In December, I commenced my role with Rowing ACT making the move from Melbourne. I am greatly honored and privileged to have inherited the role from the great work of my predecessors. The move to the ACT has been something I have been hoping for, for a long time and heading a High Performance Program is the fulfillment of a dream come true. Under the administrative guide of **Katrina Wiseman**, the season was set up for success.

Environmental challenges struck early with the 2019-2020 summer bushfire season first reaching us in mid-December. I was on the water with **Lyall McCarthy**, taking part in a U23 Team Camp when smoke blew in which defined our



Youth women's eight

summer. The athlete's resilience came to the surface again, and the support of the Board headed by **Alison Creagh**, the administrative nous of Katrina, and connections of Renae with **Mosman Rowing Club** helped save our January training period. **Mosman Rowing Club** and the **Mosman community** stepped up to host our High Performance January Camp and billeted our athletes with free accommodation.

We then returned from Mosman still with some disruption as the smoke became inconsistent, however we began to get some on water consistency. With this, some form and belief began to emerge.

Our senior athletes **Kathryn Ross**, **Luke Letcher** and **Nikki Ayers** led the charge, all posting excellent performances. Kathryn Ross with an **ergo World Record**, Luke Letcher regaining racing form in the single pushing deep into trials, and Nikki Ayers posting the second best ergo in female PR3 Sweep. These were competitive highlights of the season which have seen Kathryn and Nikki in prime position for attacking the Paralympic team for 2020.

Post **NSW Small Boats Regatta**, performances were below what underage athletes had experienced in their past due to training disruptions. However, over the February – March period, form improved dramatically with all underage athletes posting Personal Bests or equal Personal Best physiological form prior to the National Champs. Confidence was high leading into the **Australian National Rowing Championships**. The Selection of a near full ACT Interstate Team, was another highlight of the season. All crews were selected with the belief in looking forward to executing their personal best efforts in competition. However we did not get to see the best efforts of our athletes due to a new environmental challenge, COVID 19. This saw the cancellation of the **Australian National Championships**, and all international competition for 2020.

During the pandemic, all High Performance athletes were provided with online individualised programming. The efforts of athletes to maintain or build on their conditioning was inspirational, and has set them up for a fantastic 2020-2021 season. **Signs are positive for the start of 2020-2021.** Our **ACTAS Support Services** have been instrumental in assisting the development of individualised plans for all of our athletes so they can get the best out of themselves.

There have additionally been a few new systems which Rowing ACT is coordinating. **ACT State Boat sessions** are being conducted which pleasing. These sessions are crucial not only for the preparation of our interstate teams, but also provide fun training variety for our High Performance and Club athletes and is an opportunity to come together for high quality crew boat rowing. Full credit to our **Rowing ACT Clubs** to support this initiative with thanks to **Canberra Rowing Club** for hosting the Men's squad and **ANU Boat**

Club keen to host the women's squad as soon as COVID 19 restrictions allow. We have also put together, through significant community consultation, the "ROWING ACT PERFORMANCE PATHWAY SQUAD SELECTION POLICY 2020-2021", which is currently in action. This provides clear pathways for all Rowing ACT Rowers through to Rowing ACT Training Waivers and Training Agreements which can support talent towards National Team Representation and RA Classification.

I am thoroughly enjoying working with the athletic talent of Rowing ACT, our fantastic rowing community, our support services through ACTAS, and the RACT Board under the leadership of Alison Creagh. The opportunity to develop the future of rowing in the ACT is a privilege that I take very seriously. Thank you again to everyone for your support in my first season, and let's see what we can achieve together moving forward.

GO ACT!

Dave Fraumano

High Performance Program Head Coach





APPENDIX A

2019-20

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Year ended 30 June 2020

CONTENTS

Financial Overview	A:3
Profit and Loss Statement: 2019-2020	A:4
Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020	A:5
Footnotes to Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet.....	A:6
Notes to the Financial Statements.....	A:8
Rowing ACT Board's Report.....	A:10
Independent Audit Report to Members Of Rowing ACT	A:12
Appendix 1 – High Performance Profit and Loss	A:14
Appendix 2 – Depreciation Schedule	A:15

Financial Overview

2019-20 – the Pandemic Year

2020 is the second year for which accounts have been prepared on a July-June financial year allowing two-year comparisons to be shown for the first time over the standard financial year.

The profit of \$91,747 is an historic high, almost 2.3 times the profit outcome for 2019 of \$40,380. It comprised \$57,368 profit from the High Performance Program and \$34,379 for Rowing ACT's general business. This compares with the 2019 levels of \$10,300 profit for the High-Performance Program and \$30,080 for general business.

The High Performance profit was mainly driven by the inability to deliver the program on the water because of the bush fires and then the pandemic. However, the gap in the hiring of a replacement head coach, following the sad death of our distinguished head coach Nick Garratt, also contributed to the surplus. The High Performance profit and loss statement is set out in Appendix 1.

The profit in general business largely arises, ironically, from the pandemic. On one hand member receipts were down. On the other hand, Rowing ACT received some \$40k business relief from the ACT and Commonwealth Governments. Partially offsetting this was the end of the \$10k hosting subsidy from Rowing Australia which has underwritten profit for a number of years.

Set out below is the 2019-20 outcome by business unit. All business units contribute to the objectives of Rowing ACT but business unit profit and loss outcomes vary, and will continue to vary, significantly. *Venue and Facilities*, which are driven by depreciation, are obviously necessary to run regattas but *Events* earn the regatta revenue. *Admin* shows a profit, mainly because it contains the core grant and registration and affiliation fees. For 2020, it has been further boosted by business continuity grants from the ACT and Commonwealth Governments. Development, in the absence of significant sponsorships, could be expected to continue to run at a loss but represents an investment in the future of ACT rowing.

2019-20 Profit and Loss by Business Centre							
	Admin	Development	Events	HP	Marketing	Venue & Facilities	Total
Revenue	146,203	836	62,352	308,956	5,056	0	523,403
Expenses	101,915	18,678	46,557	251,588	1,316	11,603	431,657
P&L	44,288	(17,842)	15,796	57,368	3,740	(11,603)	91,747

Profit and Loss Statement: 2019-2020

Account	2020	2019	Change
Trading Income			
ACTPP	265,114	290,939	(25,825)
Government Business Relief	39,886	0	39,886
Grants	69,445	69,956	(511)
Hosting Subsidy	0	10,000	(10,000)
Insurance payouts	26,647	0	26,647
Interest & Dividends	4,444	5,097	(652)
Member Contributions	49,623	56,527	(6,905)
Member Support	836	2,700	(1,864)
Seat Fees	62,352	61,858	494
Sponsorship	5,056	6,136	(1,080)
Other Revenue	0	4,364	(4,364)
Total Trading Income	523,403	507,578	15,826
Gross Profit	523,403	507,578	15,826
Operating Expenses			
Accommodation & Travel	2,260	10,769	(8,509)
Advertising	794	1,234	(439)
Affiliation Fees Rowing Australia	6,592	3,368	3,224
Assistance to Clubs	1,818	0	1,818
Audit & Accounting	1,936	(1,434)	3,370
Bad Debts	1,176	0	1,176
Boats	43,451	13,416	30,035
Depreciation	24,812	21,452	3,360
Elite Athlete Support	6,853	17,747	(10,893)
Equipment	10,187	8,336	1,851
Functions	3,257	7,326	(4,069)
Insurance	18,393	12,195	6,198
Member Support	51	2,962	(2,911)
Member Training	682	4,428	(3,746)
Office	5,375	6,345	(969)
Regatta	28,239	48,247	(20,008)
Repairs & Maintenance	491	26,010	(25,520)
Representative & Officials' Uniforms	17,085	2,152	14,933
Staff & Officials	237,467	259,649	(22,182)
Subsidy ACTPP	6,000	9,921	(3,921)
Telecommunications	6,474	2,514	3,960
Vehicle	5,784	8,665	(2,881)
Website Expenses	875	397	477
Other Expenses	1,605	1,500	105
Total Operating Expenses	431,657	467,198	(35,541)
Net Profit	91,747	40,380	51,367

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020

Account	30 Jun 2020	30 Jun 2019	Difference
Assets			
Bank			
Cash Reserve	343,100	117,194	225,906
Cheque Account	132,361	94,313	38,048
Debit Card	7,479	6,407	1,072
Term Deposit	0	191,542	(191,542)
Total Bank	482,940	409,456	73,483
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable	21,086	38,258	(17,171)
Prepayments	2,907	0	2,907
Total Current Assets	23,994	38,258	(14,264)
Fixed Assets			
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(124,149)	(99,336)	(24,812)
Plant & Equipment	316,207	291,636	24,571
Total Fixed Assets	192,058	192,299	(241)
Total Assets	698,991	640,013	58,978
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	542	2,021	(1,479)
Grants Received in Advance	28,050	38,650	(10,600)
GST	3,468	13,935	(10,468)
PAYG payable	3,252	12,012	(8,760)
Rounding	0	(0)	0
Superannuation Liability	0	1,463	(1,463)
Total Current Liabilities	35,312	68,080	(32,769)
Total Liabilities	35,312	68,080	(32,769)
Net Assets	663,680	571,933	91,747
Equity			
Current Year Earnings	91,747	40,380	51,367
Retained Earnings	571,933	531,553	40,380
Total Equity	663,680	571,933	91,747

Footnotes to Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet

- (1) Additional funds were provided in 2019 by ACTAS for the repair of the ACTAS shed. Consequently, both revenue and repairs and maintenance costs were elevated in 2019.
- (2) The 2020 Financial outcome is significantly impacted by the combined effects of the bushfires and the Covid-19 pandemic. This restricted rowing and rowing activities including the on-water delivery of the High Performance Program. Rowing ACT received specific Covid-19 relief from both the ACT and Commonwealth Government which helped to buffer the financial impact from Covid-19. If the Covid-19 pandemic continues to restrict activities or in fact worsens there may be an impact on 2021 operations. Rowing ACT was able to provide specific Covid-19 grants to rowing clubs to assist with additional costs incurred in meeting Covid-19 requirements. Additional assistance to clubs will be considered if the impact of Covid-19 deepens.
- (3) Rowing Australia has ceased the hosting subsidy which has boosted profits in recent years. Previously it had delayed rotation of the holding rights of the National Rowing Championships and compensated other States and Territories accordingly.
- (4) Reflects the insurance payout for the hail damage to the High Performance fleet and the consequent high boat repair costs.
- (5) High Performance on-water activity was severely impacted by the bushfires and the pandemic.
- (6) It has taken a number of years for the full impact to be felt of the commonly agreed definition of competitive rowers for the purpose of calculating Rowing Australia affiliation fees. Rowing ACT can expect to meet this higher amount in the future.
- (7) Accounting costs were negative in 2019 because of the reimbursement of funds by Rowing Australia for the transition to Xero.
- (8) Constitutes the write off of bad debts from past athletes. Writing off the debts flows from an assessment as to whether the debts are likely to be recovered and does not constitute a debt waiver.
- (9) The spike in insurance costs largely arise from the HP fleet. 2020 is the first full year of insurance costs for the leased boats following the devolution of the responsibility from ACTAS in 2019. The acquisition of a new double added to the cost of insurance. The higher insurance costs will be ongoing and may increase further if the HP fleet is refreshed
- (10) Rowing Australia is kindly providing Rowing ACT with free accommodation in its facility meaning that, for the moment, the rent component has ceased.

Office			
Computer	2949	1732	1216
Printing, Postage & Stationary	1683	1213	470
Rent and Utilities	705	3015	-2311
Other Office Expenses	38	384	-346
Total Office	5375	6345	-969

- (11) The most significant fall within regatta costs was reduced purchases of medals, which tend to be incurred every second year. Cost pressures arose from the purchase of bow numbers and container costs for the cancelled Head of the Lake and the Championships.

Regatta			
Equipment	14508	17954	-3447
Graphic Design	473	1446	-974
Gifts & Memorabilia	0	80	-80
Regatta Expenses	7262	2378	4884
Services	4317	9611	-5294
Trophies, Medals and Prizes	1517	16644	-15127
Other Regatta	162	133	29
Total Regatta	28239	48247	-20008

- (12) Higher uniform costs reflect the fitting out of BROs and staff and the selection of a bigger team to represent the ACT.
- (13) Salary and super costs were down because of the gap in head coaches.
- (14) The Rowing ACT subsidy was higher in 2019 because some funds from the Australian Sports Foundation were directed to the HP program.
- (15) The higher telecommunications costs reflected the setup of new coaches and should fall in 2021.
- (16) The Rowing ACT term deposit matured in June. Two new short-term deposits have since been set up and funded from the cash reserve. Lower interest rates have meant falling interest returns.
- (17) The longstanding practice of bringing to account grant revenue as the obligation is discharged has been continued notwithstanding a non-binding change in accounting standards. The financial flow within the Grants in Advance can be summarised as follows.

Grants in Advance		\$
Unexpended grant monies from 2019		38650
Less	Half year 2019 core grant	-22500
	ASF Boat Purchase	-16150
	Residual 2019 revenue	0
Plus	Half year 2020 core grant	24750
	2020 Capital grant	3300
Unexpended grant monies 2020		28050

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year ended 30 June 2019

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (ACT)*. The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity. The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not adjust for changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets. The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

- a) **Accounting Standards:** Accounting standards have been followed closely over time. AASB 15 came into effect for 2020, which relates to Revenue from contracts with Customers & AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities. Its impact would have been to treat grants as revenue even if the obligation had not been discharged. This can lead to unrealistic profit outcomes. To continue to align expenses with the revenue, grants in advance are treated as a liability and will be brought to revenue as the obligation is discharged. As a Not for Profit organisation, AASB 15 is not binding. For clarity, 'grants in advance have been footnoted to show its composition.
- b) **Cash and Cash Equivalents:** Cash and cash equivalents include deposits held at call with banks and term deposits or other short-term, highly liquid investments.
- c) **Goods and Services Tax (GST):** Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.
- d) **Income:** Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after allowing for any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue. Interest revenue is recognised at the time it is paid. Revenue from membership subscriptions is recognised over the financial year. Grant income is recognised at the time of receipt but, where there are attached conditions, when those conditions are met. (Please refer to footnote 'a'). Donations and bequeaths are generally recognised as revenue when received unless the donations are for a specific purpose recognised by the Board. Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

- e) **Inventories:** No inventories have been held since 2012-13. This mainly reflects the nature of the inventory which has little if any resale value, relating as it does to medals, prizes and representative uniforms
- f) **Leasehold:** Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation. Fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements, were they to apply, are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.
- g) **Property, Plant and Equipment:** Plant and equipment purchases are treated as capital where an individual item costs \$1,000 or more. All assets are carried at cost, less accumulated depreciation or amortisation. All assets are depreciated over their useful lives. The depreciation method and useful life used for items of property, plant and equipment reflects the pattern in which their future economic benefits are expected to be consumed by Rowing ACT. Depreciation commences from the time the asset is held ready for use. The useful lives used for each class of depreciable asset are considered to fall within standard parameters. Standard rates of depreciation have been used for each class of asset. The carrying value of plant and equipment is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted in determining recoverable amounts.
- h) **Provisions:** No provisions have been included. Were they to be included, they would be recognised when the Association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits would result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured using the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.
- i) **Trade and Other Payables:** Trade and other payables represent the liabilities at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Association that remain unpaid. Trade payables are recognised at their transaction price. Trade payables are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms.
- j) **Trade and Other Receivables:** Trade receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price (i.e. cost) and are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets. At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of trade and other receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that the amounts are not recoverable. If so, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in income and expenditure statement.

Rowing ACT Board's Report

The Board submits the financial report of Rowing ACT Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

Directors

Board members were:

- Alison Creagh, AM, CSC President
- Deb Styman, Secretary
- Kent Peters, Director of Finance
- Alison Chinn
- Catherine Garrington
- Nick Hunter OAM
- Ben James
- Ben Page
- Caroline Pijpers.

Principal Activities

- To foster, promote and develop rowing in the ACT.
- Play a strategic role at the national level, in conjunction with Rowing Australia, to promote the sport and to achieve consistency, economies and good governance.
- Organise & conduct regattas and run them equitably.
- Ensure the continued growth and viability of the Boat Racing Official (BRO) network.
- Promote rowing safety.
- Manage talent identification and elite rowing within the ACT in partnership with Rowing Australia and the ACT Academy of Sport.

Significant Changes

Following the transition from MYOB to Xero, and the change from a May-April to a July to June financial year, this is the first reporting period where comparative performance on the standard financial year has been able to be reported under Xero.

The widespread bushfires and impact of the measures taken to stem Covid-19 have had dramatic impacts on the rowing community and the on-water delivery of the High Performance program within the ACT. Overall, given the ACT and Commonwealth Government measures, the financial impact on Rowing ACT has been positive.

Operating Results

The profit for the year ended 30 June 2020 amounted to \$91,747 comprising \$57,368 from the High-Performance Program and \$34,379 from general business.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board.



.....
Alison Creagh AM CSC
(President)

Dated: 1 September 2020



.....
Kent Peters
(Director of Finance)

Dated 1 September 2020

Independent Audit Report to Members of Rowing ACT

Auditor Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Rowing ACT Association, known as Rowing ACT or the Association in this report, comprising the balance sheet *as at 30 June 2019*, and the income statement, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the Board.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board of the Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Notes to the Financial Statements to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act A.C.T. and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Notes to the Financial Statements, are appropriate to meet the needs of members. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

I believe that the audit evidence I obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting the audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of Rowing ACT Association presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Rowing ACT as of 30 June 2020, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Notes to the Financial Statements to the financial statements.

I note that the Association has well maintained accounting records which have allowed me to review its position and that I received all the necessary assistance to form a considered judgement.



.....
Stephen Maginnity
2020

Dated

2 September

BComm (Accountancy), MComm (Professional Accounting), MIPA, AFA

Mainsail Accounting Solutions Pty Ltd
Erindale Chambers
Shop 3, 5 Grattan Court
WANNIASSA ACT 2903

Appendix 1 – High Performance Profit and Loss

Item *	2020	2019	Change
Trading Income			
ACTPP	265,114	290,939	(25,825)
Grants	17,195	0	17,195
Insurance payouts	26,647	0	26,647
Total Trading Income	308,956	290,939	18,017
Gross Profit	308,956	290,939	18,017
Operating Expenses			
Accommodation & Travel	(945)	5,077	(6,022)
Advertising	322	0	322
Bad Debts	1,176	0	1,176
Boats	38,378	8,100	30,278
Depreciation	9,778	7,027	2,751
Elite Athlete Support	6,853	10,694	(3,841)
Equipment	3,826	4,892	(1,066)
Insurance	10,644	6,918	3,726
Member Support	51	2,962	(2,911)
Member Training	0	916	(916)
Office	1,988	1,457	532
Regatta	5,147	5,887	(740)
Repairs & Maintenance	313	22,510	(22,196)
Representative & Officials' Uniforms	1,450	1,707	(257)
Staff & Officials	161,884	191,866	(29,981)
Telecommunications	5,065	2,045	3,020
Vehicle	5,607	8,582	(2,975)
Other Expenses	50	0	50
Total Operating Expenses	251,588	280,639	(29,051)
Net Profit	57,368	10,300	47,068

Appendix 2 – Depreciation Schedule

Name	Cost	Opening Value	Purchases	Disposals	Depreciation	Closing Value
Plant & Equipment						
1 SL70.Y Solar Marine light	487	78	0	0	16	63
3x SL60.Y Solar Marine Light	1,150	184	0	0	37	147
4 x SLB600.Y Marker Buoy	663	106	0	0	21	85
4x4 Bow Bimini	1,615	182	0	0	36	146
Aluminium Punt (course)	700	226	0	0	23	203
BF60A Honda Motor	9,207	106	0	0	42	64
Boat trailer T6836B	0	0	0	0	0	0
Box trailer - lockable - T2019D	0	0	0	0	0	0
BRO Radios and speakers	882	0	0	0	0	0
Canopy, liner etc	2,706	1,809	0	0	362	1,447
Catamaran Package 1 - Redco Trailer - T5108E	15,000	13,443	0	0	1,680	11,763
Catamaran Package 2 - Mayfair trailer - T6760E	15,000	13,443	0	0	1,680	11,763
Generator	1,753	42	0	0	17	25
GME UHF Radios and Antennas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Honda 40 hp motor	6,909	816	0	0	269	547
Honda Inverter generator	1,545	125	0	0	50	75
HPP Sykes Double	17,753	0	17,753	0	3,337	14,416
IP67 UHF Hand Held Radios	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laptop Rowing ACT Head Coach	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nissan Navara - ute/car	29,933	16,145	0	0	4,036	12,109
Oartec	4,091	2,703	0	0	541	2,163
PA System	3,119	161	0	0	53	108
Phone Rowing ACT Head Coach	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pontoon - moorings	45,718	33,726	0	0	2,698	31,028
Pontoons - 2012 - Connect-a-Dock	68,023	37,095	0	0	2,968	34,128
Pontoons 2018	64,949	62,801	0	0	4,187	58,615
Ruffie Tent	3,290	2,069	0	0	414	1,655
Suzuki 15 HP Motor 01504F-911941	3,409	0	3,409	0	544	2,865
Suzuki 15 HP Motor 01504F-912419	3,409	0	3,409	0	544	2,865
Suzuki DF8AS (course)	2,818	221	0	0	73	148
TID trailer - T9055F	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trailer - boat - T2984F	3,633	1,796	0	0	449	1,347
Trailer - boat - Yarramundi - T7793A	1,000	111	0	0	28	83
Trailer - box lockable - T7548E	3,545	1,250	0	0	250	1,000
Trailer - Resort - T8083F	3,900	3,658	0	0	457	3,201
Total Plant & Equipment	316,207	192,299	24,571	0	24,812	192,058
Total	316,207	192,299	24,571	0	24,812	192,058



21 Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla, ACT 2600.

P.O. Box 7074, Yarralumla ACT 2600

Rowing ACT Incorporated. – Incorporated 20 February 1978.
ABN: 57 627 872 148