



## **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

YMCA Sailing Club, Yarralumla Bay  
Wednesday 18 May 2016 at 6.30pm

**Present:** D. Bagnall (Chair), V. McMahon, P. Davoren, J. Williams C. Bowyer, P. Marshall, N. Hunter A. Chinn, R. Curtin, M. Cusack (Executive Officer).

**Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2016 were read and confirmed.

**President's Report:** RA Annual General Meeting - President attended meeting. Annual Report (tabled) provides useful perspectives on issues in other states. Noted that NSW put out regatta draws quickly with no editing. National regatta will be held in Sydney until 2019. A national ergometer event will be staged. Revolutionise Database – President noted a difference of opinion between State Presidents and administrators on the efficacy of Revolutionise. Executive Officer advised that a business case for the product would be established before its wider adoption addressing, amongst other things, the claim that Revolutionise would demonstrate that the sport had sufficient numbers to warrant progression to the Australian Sports Commission's next tier of funding. The business case was welcomed considering the chequered history of national rowing software initiatives. Most clubs in Queensland had already adopted Revolutionise as have some clubs in other States and the ACT. Restructuring of the Elite Program – President reported on progress noting the view that two tiered structure of institutes doesn't work well.

President noted that the RA presentation to the April meeting raises major issues about Rowing ACT's role in supporting the pathway program. He will report back to the Board after discussions with A. Randell on options for support of the program and what RACT's role might be in a re-organised elite rowing program.

**State Based Pathway Proposal:** D. Bagnall discussed a possible proposal to RA. It was agreed that the proposal should not include further funding from the ACT in addition to the \$6,000 provided to support the Head Coach position. A. Chinn asked what influence Rowing ACT had on the activities of the ACTAS Rowing Unit. After discussion it was agreed that RACT had minimal influence. The direction of the unit is set by Rowing Australia through their employment of the Head Coach. The excellent relationship between RACT and the current Head Coach provides RACT with some indirect influence over the program.

**Director of Finance Report:** Unaudited accounts for 2015-16 had been circulated. The auditor's report is expected in the first week of June 2016. The Board endorsed the draft financial statements and noted that minor changes may be made in conjunction with the auditor.

**Executive Officer's Report: First Aid** – EO has spoken to the Royal Life Saving Association which is interested in assisting in providing their first aid course with the addition of a cold water component. EO consulting Geoff Northam on format of course. **End of Season Forum** - to be held on Wednesday 25 May at 1830 at CGGS Aquatic Centre. **On-Line Level 1 Coaching Course** - Board members will have the opportunity to participate in preliminary testing of the product developed by the University of Queensland. There is some enthusiasm within RA for making a Level 1 qualification mandatory for coaches. Board noted favorable comments on the standard and currency of course material. The course is expected to be available in July/August 2016. Views of members on compulsory adoption will be sought at the End of Season Forum.

**BRO Recruitment and Resourcing:** It was agreed that more BROs need to be recruited from the clubs and this would be helped if there was a better understanding of the role of BROs and assistants. Small clubs and those with a strong interest in Sydney regattas would find it more difficult to help. It was agreed that RACT has a role in promoting motor boat skills to assist club members in getting operating licenses. BRO's boat drivers have a good opportunity to learn BRO skills and become qualified officials. Executive Officer to consider ways in which RACT can assist boat license test candidates.

**Board Member Induction:** Board discussed the status of the board member induction pack. Executive Officer will finalise the pack and provide to recently appointed Board members.

**Strategic Plan:** Meeting agreed there needs to be closer monitoring of performance against the strategic plan. This should be standing agenda item for Board meetings.

**Safety:** Capital Lakes has reported a minor collision. P. Marshall spoke of handling by RACT of traumatic incidents at rowing events that could impact on spectators and other participants and damage the reputation of the sport. Board noted that it was difficult to develop a generic strategy in view of the wide range of possible circumstances. Regattas provide a much safer closely supervised environment than the training environment for which clubs had primary responsibility.

**Fundraising for Australian Team Members:** Fundraising and presentation function to be held on 2 July. Parents are closely engaged in fundraising effort. RACT can assist by publicising tax deductability of donations.

**Boathouse Development:** The President reported that Black Mountain Rowing Club is close to submitting its development application for the land on Black Mountain Peninsula considered for the former rowing/triathlon joint facility. This presents the opportunity for Rowing ACT to seek the lease of its current boatshed site and facilities, once vacated.

**Meeting Closed:** 8.30pm

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Chairman  
15/6/16