



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

YMCA Sailing Club, Yarralumla Bay
Wednesday 18 January 2017 at 6.30pm

Present: D. Bagnall (Chair), V. McMahon, R. Curtin, P. Davoren, A. Chinn, C. Bowyer, J. Williams, P. Marshall, V. Newman. Visitors: J. O'Brien, T. Trobe.

Apologies: N. Hunter.

Regatta Management: T. Trobe explained the background to the grading system and the separate arrangements for Masters competitors. Consultation on changes to By-Laws implementing the new arrangements will be held at the end of the season to take account of operating experience. It is proposed that this consultation be confined to the regatta subcommittee to avoid reopening principles already agreed within the RSC.

Meeting resolved to adopt the changes to By-Laws circulated by A. Chinn with amendments proposed following review by J. Williams. V. McMahon will circulate a consolidated version of the adopted By-Laws.

Meeting agreed that some form of credentials committee will be required to address any complaints about rower grade classification. P. Marshall suggested that research into regatta management processes in other states be shared. T. Trobe mentioned that there has already been close co-operation with Rowing Tasmania.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 21 December 2016 were read and confirmed.

Matters Arising: The President reported on the timing of the move of the ACTAS Head Coach to his appointment to the AIS and the process for identifying his successor at ACTAS. The meeting agreed that RACT would replace the "Daisy Boat" with one of the surplus AIS coaching boats subject to suitable terms and the condition of the boat.

President's Report: President reported further on the likely terms of appointment of a new Head Coach and possible arrangements for funding both the Head Coach and a dedicated Pathways Coach. Further work is required to fully define the amount of funds that can be applied from various sources before Rowing Australia and ACTAS can agree to proceed with an appointment. A disagreement with ACTAS on the discretion of the Head Coach to engage part-time Under 21 Pathway staff will be resolved by the Joint Management Committee. The meeting agreed that Rowing Australia needs to be formally put on notice

of the difficulties that RACT will face in meeting performance milestones – including the recruitment by RA of the ACTAS Head Coach. Meeting noted that Renae Domaschcz would serve as acting head of ACTAS rowing unit pending a permanent appointment.

Director of Finance Report: Circulated report was received. Accounts receivable are at acceptable levels considering there was high regatta activity in late 2016 followed closely by the school break.

Executive Officer Report: Trailer for BRO boat “Beadman” has been replaced and the old trailer has been sold. RACT regatta equipment trailer has been relocated from M. Cusack’s residence to a more secure site at ACTAS. C. Pijpers now manages the CEEGGS rowing program. The meeting discussed strategies for meeting RACT’s para rowing KPI’s. Para athletes are being sought for the ACT team at the 2017 Australian Rowing Championships.

Regatta: Remaining events for 2016-17 were discussed. Schools Regatta – this event will be held over 1000 metres. EO has managed to find staff for the event despite the absence of many officials. J. O’Brien will assist. ACT Head of the Lake – This will use last year’s Head of the Lake program. Autumn Regatta 18 March – The rationale behind staging this event is obscure. The event will be cancelled. ACT Masters Championships 15 April 2017 – standard RACT medals will be presented. By-Law Non-Compliance – Noted that there have been some breaches, mainly by younger rowers. V. McMahon will circulate a revised advice on draw requirements to address this.

Safety: No safety incidents have been reported although visiting school crews need to pay closer attention to traffic rules.

ACTAS Program: There are concerns that administration of the pathway element of the program is deficient in not ensuring all pathway members are members of a RACT member club. Some members seem unclear about this requirement. The Chairman noted RACT will be in a better position to ensure compliance once the talent search position is in place.

Other Business: Boatshed Update: Board noted it has not been possible during the holiday period to organise a meeting between RACT and ACT Government officials on the way forward in establishing a RACT boatshed. A meeting will be arranged as soon as the relevant ACT Government officials are available. Code of Conduct – members considered that an abbreviated code of conduct would be useful to complement the RA Member Protection Policy provided it is fully consistent with the MPP. J. Williams to check that a proposed abbreviated code from the Australian Sports Commission is compatible fully consistent with the MPP. J. Williams to run a Facebook photo competition to encourage more traffic and usage of the RACT Facebook page.

Meeting Closed: 8.10 pm

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Chairman

15/2/17