



## BOARD MEETING

### Minutes

Rowing Australia Board Room  
Monday 15 April 2019 at 5.30pm

1. **Attendees:** David Bagnall (Chair), Alison Creagh, Nick Hunter, Bill Mason, Vince McMahon (Director of Finance), Caroline Pijpers, Deb Styman (Secretary), Stuart John (Executive Officer)
2. **Apologies:** Catherine Bowyer, Alison Chinn.
3. **Acceptance of Minutes of the March 2019 meeting.**
4. **Matters Arising:**
  - a. ACT State Team – recommendations received from Andrew Randell as Ombudsman. Recommendations were discussed along with mention of the limitations of the staffing and resources available in the ACT. This would mean volunteers need to be activated to take on some of the recommendations. It was suggested that RACT adopts these recommendations and then advertise for volunteers to fill the roles of some of these recommendations.  
**ACTION:** The ACT State HP sub-committee is to be part of the process in activating these recommendations, and as recommended, it will include Head of the ACT HPP as ex-officio.
  - b. Rowing ACT boathouse – an email was circulated by David Bagnall prior to the meeting detailing the current status of the plans for a RACT rowing shed and/or a new BMRC shed. The ACTAS facility is to be considered by the newly formed Facility sub-committee as a separate site with separate issues. It was mentioned that a Board member with some longevity on the RACT Board should be involved in these discussions - to carry on what is expected to be a long running negotiation process.  
**ACTION:** Appointment of a RACT Facility sub-committee, consisting of David Bagnall, Pat Davoren and Vince McMahon was approved to continue to negotiate on this matter with the preference for RACT to be the leaseholder of any possible shed facility.
  - c. Under-19 Women's Single Scull trophy – a donation of a new trophy has been received from the Grzeskowiak family. This offer has been accepted with thanks.
5. **Action Items from last meeting:**
  - a. HPP athlete sub-committee/forum. The HP sub-committee is to be the contact point for HPP athletes to approach initially if there are any issues. Culture issues within the HP group can be addressed through this sub-committee. The MPIO can also be available to assist with issues arising. For reference the RA Athletes Code of Conduct is applicable to RACT athletes also.  
**ACTION:** Education on the Code of Conduct is to be undertaken with this group and ongoing discussions with the HPP sub-committee and the HPP Head Coach is encouraged.

- b. Strategic Plans update. Thank you to Bill Mason, Alison Creagh and Stuart Johns who have met to review the 6 RACT Strategic Plans currently existing. These Plans have been categorised and it was noted that some Strategies are quoting deadlines in 2019. Recommendations will be forthcoming and will list RACT priorities based on various essential criteria. Thanks to Bill Mason for leading this initiative.

#### **6. Presidents report**

- a. Renee Domaschenz enquired as to whether it was possible to step down from the SDO monthly teleconferences. No other suitable candidate has been identified to take on this role currently. **ACTION:** Renee will continue to attend these teleconference meetings.
- b. A late nomination has been received for a masters men's quad crew for the ACT team for Australian Masters Champs. No other nominations are remaining current (2 have withdrawn). It was noted that one rower from this crew will be transporting the ACT boat trailer to WA. **ACTION:** Other nominees are to be consulted asking if they have any objections to this late nomination being the State crew.

#### **7. Director of Finance Report**

- a. Financial reports circulated prior to the meeting. Affiliation and registration fees are to be invoiced shortly. Census data is first needed for the affiliation fees so Clubs were urged to submit their returns by Wednesday 22 May. Clubs had also been asked to check RM to ensure that when RACT invoiced they would be correct in the first instance. It was noted that seat fees and regatta numbers have remained static over the last couple of years despite an increase in the number of regatta events. **ACTION:** The Regatta sub-committee is to be encouraged to meet and commence planning for next summer events sooner rather than later.

#### **8. Regatta Secretary Report**

- a. WTT dates – first WTT date was confirmed as the date previously circulated to the Regatta sub-committee by Tom Trobe – 11 & 12 May. Summer season presentations are planned to take place at lunch time following the Sunday races at this WTT.

#### **9. Executive Officer Report.**

- a. Items from the CEO's meeting on March 29:
  - i. One Sport – notes on this newly proposed administration structure were circulated to the Board for information. It was noted some roles in this new model are already in action across the States and RA.
  - ii. Minimum standards for live event streaming was discussed.
  - iii. New bow numbers procured by RA – looking at consistent bow numbers across all States with greater buying power under a whole of sport purchase arrangement.
- b. Fundraiser - following Nationals and the ACT rower successes a sizeable donation has been received of \$16,000 towards a new double scull for the RACT HP program. An Australian Sports Foundation account has been set up to accept further donations with a \$20,000 target set for this fundraiser. Past ACTAS athletes will be invited to donate. The primary donor has requested the new boat is named the 'Nick Garratt'. **ACTION:** An official thank you gift and letter from the RACT President is to be sent to the donor family.
- c. Stuart will be on leave after tomorrow with Katrina covering.
- d. RACT Open Forum for all ACT Stakeholders is to be booked on 6 May with the President and Treasurer to Chair this Forum. Key messages from RACT are to be included in this presentation.

- e. RA Forum tomorrow at the RA office – 4.00pm Board member meeting, then 6.00pm will be the open forum for all clubs representatives and rowers.

**10. Safety & OHS.**

- a. No incident reports received this month.

**11. Other business.**

- a. Formal congratulations were noted from the Board to all athletes competing at Nationals this year. Nick Garrett and Renee Domaschenz are to also be congratulated as coaches of this successful team. It was noted that all nominated ACT State crews were on the podium. **ACTION:** A formal letter of congratulations is to be sent to Nick Garrett from the Board.
- b. A story has been published on the ADF King's Cup team on RA media channels today.
- c. Two RA Council positions are becoming available at the RA AGM in May. Gender equality has been raised as an issue of consideration. **ACTION:** The RACT Board supported the nomination of Alison Creagh for a position on the RA Board.
- d. Cliff Hill Trophy – nominations are open to all comers.
- e. GRow program details to be circulated to clubs. Nominations for this program are to go to RACT in the first instance for endorsement.
- f. Thank you was noted for the BRO Dinner last week, it was well received and well patronised. Observations forwarded from an interstate Official was that the ACT was ahead of the other States with regard to organisation of Officials, participation numbers and levels of accreditation and statistical figures which were announced on the night by Geoff Northam, ACT Chief BRO, indicate the ACT is tracking well ahead of other States. The venue was noted as a big drawcard and ensured an enjoyable night for all attendees.
- g. The BRO launch "Daisy" has been sold.
- h. Surf boats stored in the ACTAS compound due to CGS shed construction – it was noted this issue is still not resolved.

Meeting closed 7.37pm.