



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Via video conference (Rowing ACT Skype) and phone
Monday 20 September, 2021 at 6.00pm

1. Attendees:

Board: Alison Creagh (Chair), Kent Peters (Director Finance), Deb Styman (Secretary), Alison Chinn, Catherine Garrington, Neil Smith, Luke Letcher, Ben Page.

Staff: Sally Clark (Executive Officer), Dave Fraumano (Head Coach)

Apologies: Tobias Wehr-Candler.

2. Register of Interests:

Board members are asked to advise any possible conflict of interest relating to agenda items for this meeting. No additional interests were noted.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

- a. August Meeting – minutes accepted Kent proposed, Luke seconded.

4. Outstanding Action Items:

02/21 Investigation into concerns related to women/men participating in reciprocal men's/women's events.

Action: Draft consultation paper has been prepared. Consultation with the ACT rowing community is to be facilitated. The consultation will be raised at the AGM then circulated post-meeting.

03/21 Review of Seat fees and whether they are able to cover the regatta costs.

- a. **Action:** Fines and late fees will be re-introduced from next summer season regattas. Sally to run an awareness campaign to clubs.
- b. **Action:** Tobi to co-ordinate consultation with clubs on how the seat fee increase will be unfolded (incremental, stepped or lump sum up front increases etc).
- c. **Action:** Sally to co-ordinate an Infrastructure 'life of type' review – to establish what will need replacement and when. Update: Sally has contacted Edwin to request this for our IT regatta infrastructure also.

05/21 Trophies in the ACT

Action: Sally/Alison Creagh to provide advice to the Office of the Governor. General on the options for new trophies.

06/21 Buoy lines on course

Action: Thank you letter is to be sent from the President to the previous buoy line crew.

07/21 Safety Issues

Action: Boat safety – non-standard boats must be inspected and approved by officials prior to entry into any Rowing ACT event. Noted that ACT BRO resources are not available to check boats every regatta or event - Sally to advise clubs/schools of this requirement ahead of the regatta season commencing.

Action: BRO development plan to be incorporated into the Rowing ACT Strategic Plan which is currently under development.

08/21 LTRC Indoor Rowing EOI

Action: On-going discussions will be progressed with LTRC to determine possible support to Indoor Rowing events and possible participation in the ACT Indoor Rowing Sub Committee.

08/21 Selection Policy

Action: Selection policy to be prepared ahead of 1 September deadline for publication. Updated selection policy will be sent to the Board then published by the end of this week.

08/21 WTT Review and Update

Action: A review of the WTT series is to occur off-line, Sally to lead with Catherine and Alison.

Action: Final WTT is provisionally set for Oct 9/10 weekend (in lieu of the August event) with the series presentation to follow the event. Update: This will not go ahead due to lockdown. Need to consider an alternate plan.

08/21

Action: Board to ask the RA Council about the proposed national event hosting structure and how the consultation process is planned. Update: A State has written to RA asking to be included in the consultation process. Alison Creagh will explore the situation further and action as appropriate.

5. Director of Finance Report (Kent Peters)

- a. Monthly statement and financial reports were presented. Reduced income was noted due to the current lockdown and event cancellations. Grant applications will be submitted when available to assist with income.
- b. Annual Report financial statements – it was noted the grants received last year greatly assisted in maintaining the funds balance.

6. Executive Officer Report (Sally Clark)

- a. WTT series will be only over 3 races this year due to the lockdown. Series winners will be calculated over the 3 events which have run this season.
- b. Kirsten Everett has commenced as Admin Assistant.
- c. A full written report was circulated to the Board ahead of the meeting.

7. Head Coach Report (Dave Fraumano)

- a. ACTAS has granted permission (under current ACT Health guidelines) for athletes to access the storage area of the shed for fitness sessions with booked timeslots required.
- b. Interstate 8s are on hold – Luke Letcher will assist with coordination/coaching of this group as part of the coaching pool. Possible conflict of interests were addressed prior to this appointment.
- c. Paralympic games – all athletes are safely through their quarantine now.
- d. A full written report was tabled with the Board ahead of the meeting.

8. WHS and Safety Incidents Report (Sally Clark) - nothing to report.

9. Items for Decision

- a. Order of Events for Regattas - recommendations from RSC:
 - i) Sprint regattas – keep the same order of events as last year. **Accepted.**
 - ii) Points – keep the same as last season, including double points for championship events & Lake Tuggeranong Regatta. **Accepted.**
 - iii) Grade events be included in ACT Masters Championships, but not as championship events. **Accepted for this coming season only.**
 - iv) More opportunities for Masters to race over 1000m – suggestion to change by-law to adjust grade distances (adjust from 40 years of age instead of 55 years of age). **Declined.** Rower progression issues as well as fairness for all were concerns raised and discussed around this request. RSC will be asked to consider other options to address this issue and come back with further recommendations.
 - v) Possible contingency options for racing after lockdown restrictions ease were discussed.
- b. Opportunity to purchase RA boats – Dave will review the available boats and advise of their suitability for the HPP.
- c. ACT Sports Awards Nominations (Dave Fraumano) – Suggestions for nominees have been received and will be submitted.
- d. Rowing in Australia Advisory Committee – Review and Nomination. Feedback noted that more clarity on the purpose of this committee is requested. **ACTION:** ACT nominee suggestions from the Board will be taken at the next Board meeting once further clarity on the committee purpose is received.
- e. RA Non-hosting fee consultation. Item held over.
- f. Governance – Letters of Appointment to Rowing ACT Board which details obligations – concept was approved.

10. Items for Discussion:

- a. Masters Selection policy – **ACTION:** Luke Letcher, Neil Smith and Kent Peters to draft an initial policy for Board review.
- b. Proposed changes to 21/22 Regatta Calendar (Sally) – (item also raised above), noting the season may not commence until late January 2022. The Board is contemplating option 2 calendar (presented in EO written report) at this early stage – but a decision will not be made until later this year.
- c. 2021 AIRC Virtual Event – due to lockdown no event centre will be held in the ACT.

- d. Sponsorship Paper – suggestions were taken on what potential sponsor funds might go towards. Suggestions included regatta site infrastructure, regatta equipment/BRO boats etc.
- e. Covid safe management – ACT Sport & Rec advice is that there will be a slower return to sport this time following lockdown. It is not anticipated there will be any events prior to Christmas at this stage. Regatta re-shuffling may occur to try and get extra regattas in the tail-end of the season if possible. Clubs need to provide a Covid plan to RACT when they are looking to resume rowing. Public perception – need to be mindful that rowing is not an organised sporting activity – it is exercise under lockdown conditions.

11. Items for noting:

- a. Rowing ACT AGM nominations – nominations have been received. An election for President will take place. The meeting will be on Zoom (invite sent by Kent). Catherine and Neil will be Returning Officers for the election. Deb and Kent will advise the meeting protocols. President nominees are to provide 500 words or less by Wednesday to circulate to Club Presidents. Life member nominations – Sally chasing.

12. Other Business

- a. Nothing was raised.

13. In camera session (If required) – not required.

14. Meeting closed 8.30pm

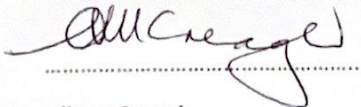
Future meetings/events:

2021 Board Meetings:

- 18 October
- 15 November
- 20 December (TBC)

2021 AGM:

- 27 September



Alison Creagh
President Rowing ACT
12 November 2021

ROWING ACT BOARD PAPERS

1. Items for Decision

a. RSC recommendations for Order of Events

The RSC met via teams on Thursday the 16th of September to determine the order of events for the Standard regattas, Championship events and Sprint regattas.

There is still further work to be done on establishing the order of events for the standard and championship regattas and therefore they have decided to hold an extra meeting to confirm the recommendations they would like to put forward to the board. Given it is unlikely any regattas will be held before the end of the year they thought it would be appropriate to spend some more time on this. With regard to standard regattas, the RSC would also like to develop a contingency program that could be used if competition can commence but boating is not allowed from Weston Park.

The following recommendations were put forward by the RSC:

- i) *The order of events for the Sprint Regattas and the inclusion of coastal events are to be the same as the previous season*
- ii) *The points associated with regattas are to be the same as last season. Double points will apply to Championship events and the LTRC sprint regatta*
- iii) *Grade events are to be included in the ACT Open and Masters Championships but they are not to be Grade Championship events.*
- iv) *There has been discussion in response to several requests to include more opportunities for master's athletes to race over 1000m at local regattas. A proposal that could accommodate this request without adding extra races to the regatta program would require a change to the By-Laws as follows:*

Existing by-law:

ii. Masters Rowers: The RGS (Sculling & Sweep) for Masters age rowers will be assessed by reference to their competitiveness, the same as other rowers, except that:

- A. *A Masters age rower who has reached, or will reach within the calendar year, 55 years of age will have a minimum RGS of 3.10 (i.e. top of D Grade); and*

This would change to:

ii. Masters Rowers: The RGS (Sculling & Sweep) for Masters age rowers will be assessed by reference to their competitiveness, the same as other rowers, except that:

- A. *A Masters age rower who has reached, or will reach within the calendar year, 40 years of age will have a minimum RGS of 3.10 (i.e. top of D Grade); and*

The RSC recommends that the following change is made to the Rowing ACT By-laws to increase opportunity for our Master's rowers to race over 1000m.

b. Opportunity to purchase RA boats

RA is due to sell its fleet of boats of boats post the Olympic cycle. Rowing ACT has the opportunity to purchase boats. The Board is asked to consider if Rowing ACT should purchase any RA boats or continue to lease our fleet.

c. ACT Sports Award nominations:

Preliminary discussions have been conducted around possible nominations for the ACT sports awards. Dave Fraumano will brief on possible award nominations and the Board will be asked to confirm the Rowing ACT nominations.

d. Rowing in Australia Advisory Group – Review of Charter and Nomination

Feedback on the RiA Advisory Group Charter is due to RA by 30 Sep. The Board is asked to provide any comments on the proposed Charter. The Board should also consider possible nominees from the ACT to be recommended to the RiA Advisory Group.

e. RA Non Hosting Fee discussion

RWA will be sending a letter to the RA Risk and Audit Committee via Rob Scott (from Craig). (see attached)

RWA are happy to extend this to come from any other state that wish to put their name to it. So far Rowing Vic, Rowing NSW and Rowing Queensland have all agreed to co-sign.

f. Governance – Letters of Appointment to Rowing ACT Board

It is proposed that Rowing ACT provide individual Letters of Appointment to Rowing ACT Board members (both elected and appointed members). A Letter of Appointment would provide guidance to the board member on their obligations and any requirements of the appointment. The Board is asked to consider this approach.

2. Items for Discussion:

Change to Regatta Calendar

Given the current lockdown and the cancellation of regattas, The EO has developed an alternative regatta calendar for the beginning of 2022. The EO believes that Rowing ACT needs to provide more opportunities for race over 1800 m and the opportunity help recover financially from the loss of seat fees at the end of 2021. The following two options were presented to the Chief BRO, Geoff Northam, for consideration. He preferred option 2 as it gave a weekend of respite (13th Feb). He said both are challenging but doable. These would need to be taken to the RSC for their advice.

Option 1 (4 Standard, 2 Sprint regattas)

15 Jan 22	Sprint Regatta
29 Jan 22	Standard Regatta
5 Feb 22	Standard Regatta
13 Feb 22	Sprint Regatta (NSW Champs)
19 Feb 22	Standard Regatta
26 Feb 22	Standard Regatta
5/6 Mar 22	HOL/ACT Jun Champs
13/14 Mar 22	Long Weekend
19/20 Mar 22	ACT Open/Masters Champs
28 Mar - 3 Apr 22	ARC – NSW
17 Apr 22	HOM
1 May 22	Col Panton
14/15 May 22	First WTT

Option 2 (3 Standard, 2 Sprint regattas)

15 Jan 22	Sprint Regatta
29 Jan 22	Standard Regatta
5 Feb 22	Standard Regatta
13 Feb 22	NSW Champs
19 Feb 22	Standard Regatta
26 Feb 22	Sprint Regatta
5/6 Mar 22	HOL/ACT Jun Champs
13/14 Mar 22	Long Weekend
19/20 Mar 22	ACT Open/Masters Ch
28 Mar - 3 Apr 22	ARC - NSW
17 Apr 22	HOM
1 May 22	Col Panton
14/15 May 22	First WTT

3. Items for noting:

Nominations for Rowing ACT Board positions close on Monday 20 Sep. As at Sat 18 Sep nominations have been received from:

Alison Creagh – President
Kent Peters - Director of Finance
Deb Styman - Director
Ben Page - Director

The EO and Secretary are asked to brief the Board on the conduct of the election and AGM via video conference.