



# 2023-24 Annual Report





**In appreciation, Rowing ACT would like to thank the following partners for the continued support they provide to rowing:**

**PRINCIPAL PARTNERS**

ACT Academy of Sport  
ACT Sport and Recreation and the ACT Government  
Rowing Australia

**INDUSTRY & EVENT PARTNERS**

National Capital Authority  
Access Canberra  
Australian Sports Foundation  
Wintech Racing

**PHOTO ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Rowing ACT takes this opportunity to thank the many photographers who worked with us during 2023-24. Their images appear throughout this Annual Report.

Rowing Australia photos taken by: Patrick Boere, Vera Buscu, Con Chronis, Linda Higginson, Francesco Scaccianoce and Brad Redfern.



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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Rowing ACT acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters on which it stands, operates and rows on and pays its respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise the outstanding contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make to society and to sport in Australia and celebrate the power of sport to promote reconciliation and reduce inequality.



## PATRON'S MESSAGE



**KIM BRENNAN AM**

Another year of rowing in the Nation's Capital has come and gone, and it has been wonderful to see the strength of the ACT community shine through.

To see such high participation numbers in the past season, including over 800 school athletes competing in the **ACT Junior Championships** and **Head of the Lake** is sign of great things to come, especially in the run to Brisbane 2032.

With the return of the **Australian Rowing Championships** to Sydney, it was pleasing to see so many local athletes make their way up the Hume Highway to SIRC. With a 4th consecutive Gold medal to **Nikki Ayers PLY** and Bronze Medals to **Cara Grzeskowiak** and **Caleb Antill** in the Interstate Regatta, whilst our school athletes shined with **Zara Turner** and **Harrison Braithwaite** both taking home Golds in the School Girl Single and U17 Single respectively. Locally, our clubs have showed their strength, rowing through the negative temperatures in winter, and flocking in crowds to the summer regattas.

I would like to highlight and congratulate the ACT athletes who have achieved success at the highest level with the Australian Rowing Team. Our ACT athletes continue to make waves on the Australian Teams from Senior to underage. **Kendall Brodie** lined up on the start line as the coxswain of the men's eight at the Olympics, whilst **Nikki Ayers PLY** continued her run in the PR3 Mixed Double at the **Paralympics**, claiming **Australia's first Paralympic Gold medal in rowing**. This is testament to Nikki's resilience, spirit and drive over many years.

I look forward to seeing the ACT rowing community continue to grow, and with the regatta course being fully buoyed, and the **LA Olympics** racing over 1500m, I am sure that Lake Burley Griffin will show its beauty over the coming months and years.

*Kim Brennan*



▲ Rowing ACT board members were very fortunate this afternoon to be able to present Their Excellencies, the Governor-General of Australia and Mrs Hurley with two gifts as a token of our appreciation for the patronage over the past years from 2020 - 2024. Rowing ACT was represented by Mr Kent Peters, President of Rowing ACT, Ms Catherine Garrington, Board Director, Ms Alison Creagh AM CSC, former president of Rowing ACT and current Rowing Australia Board Director, and Sarah Davoren, Executive Officer of Rowing ACT. Rowing ACT presented Their Excellencies with a individually designed oar blade, made and framed by Catherine Garrington, along with two framed Jubilee anniversary medals.

▼ Her Excellency, Mrs Hurley, singing the "rowers song" she she had composed for the ACT rowing community (see opposite page) .





# FAREWELL TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND MRS HURLEY

From 2020 to 2024, Rowing ACT has greatly appreciated the patronage of His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley.

With His Excellency's history of rowing, we have enjoyed having them attend local regattas in recent years. This has included collecting Their Excellencies from the Government House boat dock and proceeding to Weston Park by umpire boat, and attending the **Disher Cup regatta** in Government House's historic wooden boat – truly special moments for our rowing community.

Their Excellencies leave a lasting legacy with their donation of The Governor-General's Trophies for the Schoolgirl and Schoolboy Point Score Winners at the **Head of the Lake Regatta**. The presentations of the trophies at each year's regatta have left fond and lasting memories with the winners.

In June 2024, **Rowing ACT** had the opportunity to thank Their Excellencies for their patronage as they stepped away from Government House. We presented them with mementos from **Rowing ACT** and wished them well in the next chapter of their lives. During the function Mrs Hurley sang a song she had composed for the ACT rowing community. We are deeply grateful for Mrs Hurley's enthusiasm for rowing, and print her composition for posterity below.

## **ROWING – HER EXCELLENCY MRS LINDA HURLEY**

*Rowing looks so easy, when in fact it is hard work,  
Rowing with your paddles, energy you exert,  
The boat sleek on the water as it moves along,  
The cox is there to guide, their voice is calm but strong,  
Rowers are quite tall, they wear tight fitting suits,  
Coxes usually small, they're planning out the route,  
Bodies moving back and forth strong muscles play a part,  
You see the rowers flow, their movements are an art,  
They're full of dedication, they have to rise at dawn,  
The lake is calm and still, a new day has been born,  
They all work as a team, of course they want to win,  
Their fitness and their passion, across the mark they grin,  
It is a mighty sport, all working as a team,  
Gliding through the water, it really is a dream.*

# | 2024 AGM AGENDA

Agenda of the 60th Annual General Meeting of Rowing ACT Incorporated held at CGS Rowing Centre, Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla

## **TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2024, 6:30PM**

1. APOLOGIES
2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
3. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF ROWING ACT FOR 2023-24
4. PRESENTATION OF THE AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2023-24
5. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS
6. ROWING ACT LIFE MEMBER PRESENTATION
7. OTHER BUSINESS





# 2023 AGM MINUTES

Minutes of the 59th Annual General Meeting of Rowing ACT Association Incorporated held at the CGS Rowing Centre

**MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2023 AT 6.00PM**

## **In attendance:**

Gordon Marcks (Radford), Caroline Pijpers (CGGS), Patrick Davoren (Life Member RACT/CRC), Tom Trobe (CRC), Leigh Gordon (BMRC), Martin Sessions (CGSM), Vince Townsend (LTRC), Nick Hunter (ANU), Alice Arch, Dave Fraumano (RACT), Sandra Sweeney (CRC), Virginia Hayward (ADFR/RACT), Sebastian Lang (CRC/RACT), Tobi Wehr-Candler (CGS/RACT), Catherine Garrington (RACT), Craig Jones (RACT), Sarah Davoren (RACT), Kent Peters (Chair)

## **Apologies:**

Marty Capon, Vinhara Goonesekera, Alison Chinn, Ben Page, Jaime Fernandez OLY, Steve Grzeskowiak, Mark Kwiatkowski

## **1. WELCOME**

Kent Peters welcomed all to the 59th Annual General Meeting, and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land. Apologies noted.

## **2. MINUTES OF THE 58TH GENERAL MEETING**

Moved by Nick Hunter, seconded by Tom Trobe. Minutes accepted as a true and accurate record.

## **3. 2023 ANNUAL REPORT AND UPDATES**

2022-23 was a year of challenge and successes. Funding cuts to both the High Performance Program, and upcoming changes to the ACT Government's Sporting Organisations Funding have meant that Rowing ACT has had to ensure our governance and capabilities are up to date and prepared for new models. The cuts to the Pathways funding meant we saw the departure of Thomas Creber as the assistant coach, with Rowing ACT President Kent Peters thanking Tom for his work over his time in the role. The President also acknowledged the staff throughout the reporting year – former staff members Dr Sally Clark and Stuart John, and current staff members Dave Fraumano and Sarah Davoren.

The President also acknowledged the work of outgoing Board Members Ben Page, Vinhara Goonesekera, Craig Jones and Alison Chinn – Rowing ACT particularly would like to highlight and express the absolute gratitude for the work that outgoing Director of Finance Alison Chinn has done during her time on the Board.

The President also thanked the Rowing ACT Board for their dedication and work over the past 12 months.

Rowing ACT would like to acknowledge the work of Geoff Northam as Chief BRO, noting that he has signaled his intention to step back at the end of the 2023-24 Regatta Season.

Rowing ACT would like to thank our patrons, Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Mrs Hurley, as well as Kim Brennan AM for their commitment to our community.

The Rowing ACT community has shown great strength, especially highlighted in the results for the Australian Rowing and Australian Masters Rowing Championships this year.

Finally, Rowing ACT would like to acknowledge and thank the clubs and schools within our community – their role is vital to our ongoing success.

The report was moved by Gordon Marcks and seconded by Patrick Davoren, with all in favor.

## **4. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT**

The Director of Finance Report showed the positive highlights on the number of regatta seats throughout the past season. This year's financial report shows the effect of no additional COVID support funding, as well as the funding reduction from the ACT Government on the total balance.

A small loss was recorded in the general finances, whilst the High Performance Program recorded a moderate surplus for the 2022-23 Financial year. Despite the overall deficit, the cash balance remains strong. The biggest expense increase for this financial year was the cost of insurance as Rowing Australia and the states moved away from the National Program with AON Insurance.

## **5. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

At the October board meeting, Vinhara Goonesekera noted her resignation with one year remaining on her term. Therefore, the Board elected Peter Wright as a casual vacancy.

There are two elected director positions vacant, with Craig Jones and Ben Page choosing not to stand for re-election. Only two nominations were received, with Jaime Fernandez OLY and Alice Arch being elected as per the by-laws.

The position of President was also up for re-election, with Kent Peters the only nomination, and as such was re-elected as per the by-laws.

## **6. SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

A Special Resolution was put to the community to extend the term of Board Directors from 2 years to 3 years, with a maximum term of 9 years. Should the resolution be passed, the Board would recalibrate the terms of current board members.

The resolution was moved by Sandra Sweeney, and seconded by Martin Sessions, with the majority in favor of the resolution.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Rowing ACT Board presented the Strategic Plan update and report card, following the presentation of the RACT Strategic Plan 2022-2027, aligning to the Rowing Australia Strategic Plan. From the Annual Achievement Report, 20 activities have been undertaken and completed, out of 28 activities set as goals.

Leigh Gordon inquired into the development of participation and growth and whether the Board has developed any central learn to row programs. The Board noted the Learn to Row Programs are centred on Indoor Rowing Specific programs, and funded by ACT Government grants. The Board is not currently focused on any on-water learn to row programs due to a lack of available staff.

Leigh Gordon also noted that the safety pillar showed a focus on developing safety officers meetings which was noted as scheduled in the coming weeks by Catherine Garrington.

No further business.

**The President closed the meeting at 7:14pm.**

# LOOKING FORWARD: PARTICIPATION AND GROWTH IN ROWING



**CATHERINE GARRINGTON**

Rowing ACT Board Member

RACT has selected our 2023-24 theme from our pillars to highlight every member of our ACT rowing community – from our competitors, our administrators, our officials and our volunteers to our family members, our friends and our community supports, we recognise and thank all who participate in our sport.



## REGATTAS

**RACT** has continued to see increased school and club participation in our local regattas. One of the focus points for the season was to engage further with visiting schools. This initiative was well supported by our community, with interstate schools regularly participating in our season. The **CGS Regatta** saw the highest entries for the season, and our **ACT Junior Championships** and **Head of the Lake Regattas** saw over 850 athletes competing, with over 400 of these athletes coming from interstate. We also have a number of masters club competitors from interstate who regularly attend our local regattas. As ACT residents, we know we have the unique opportunity to row on one of the most picturesque courses in Australia, and to see this being recognised by interstate participants is pleasing.

## INDOOR ROWING

In October 2023, the ACT hosted a local hub for the **Australian Indoor Rowing Championships** at **Canberra Girls Grammar School**, with a large number of competitors attending. The ACT achieved many impressive results across all age categories.

The weekly **Veteran's Indoor Rowing (VIR)** program has continued and provides a strong community group for all those involved. In June 2024, **Luke McCallum (PR2)** was named in the **Australian Defence Force Sports Warrior Games** team and competed in Florida, USA. He returned with two individual Silver medals and one relay Bronze medal. We congratulate Luke on

his success and look forward to seeing him continue to compete in the sport of indoor rowing.

The **ACT Indoor Rowing Championships** were held on 15 September 2024, hosted by the Red Shed. We saw over 100 entries from our schools and masters rowers. We are proud to say we also registered entries from **Casey Station, Antarctica** and the **Alexander Maconochie Centre** in Canberra.

## BOAT RACE OFFICIALS

**RACT** has recorded an increase in the number of Boat Race Officials (BROs) officiating at regattas this season (2023: 30 to 2024: 41). This included higher attendance at more regattas per BRO. The most notable increase in growth was in the equality of male and female BROs, with the ACT achieving parity for the first time with 51% female BROs. The ACT continues to maintain six **Rowing Australia** level umpires, three of whom are also **World Rowing** umpires. This level of representation and participation is a significant achievement for the ACT, and an area of continued growth.

## TECHNOLOGICAL GROWTH

The ACT Government finalised the new State Sporting Organisation (SSO) categorisation process and **RACT** was successful in its formal application under the new guidelines. A key component of the guidelines was a full count of **RACT** members, including competitive and non-competitive. The new platform is a fundamental move away from the past model of direct grant funding to being specific targeted funding of "game-

changing" initiatives. This has both created opportunity for **RACT** but also created significant challenges as the previous grant was a key factor in the funding of our operations. As part of the new model, **RACT** was successful in obtaining funding from the ACT Government over the next 3 years to upgrade our digital infrastructure used at regattas.

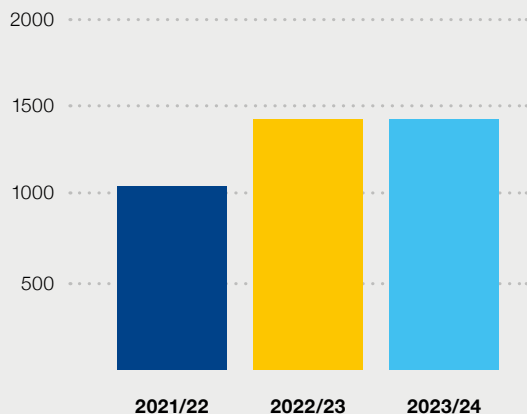
### This includes:

- Tablets for all umpire boats and start platforms
- System upgrades in conjunction with Rowing Australia and the other state bodies
- Reintroduction of live streaming of major ACT regattas
- Upgrade of umpire systems and infrastructure at Weston Park and the finish line

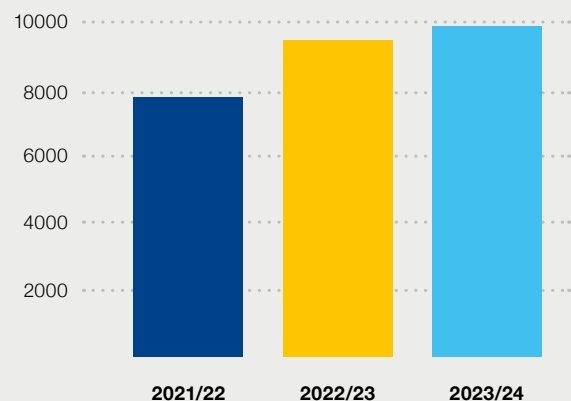
This will be a series of ongoing projects over the coming years and will continue to increase **RACT's** capabilities across regattas. The grant is specifically targeted to deliver funding required to achieve new outcomes and not for general operations. We look forward to implementing and demonstrating our new technologies in the coming seasons.

**RACT** are committed to growing our community participation across our on water and indoor rowing interests. Expansions in regatta infrastructure and supports will continue to ensure **RACT** provides high quality experiences for all. We encourage all our community members with a spare hour to consider volunteering to participate in **RACT** activities.

Season Membership



Season Participation  
(Seat numbers)









# STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT AND UPDATE

## MID TERM ACHIEVEMENT REPORT (AUGUST 2024)

The **RACT Strategic Plan 2022-2027** was endorsed at the October 2022 RACT Annual General Meeting. The Strategic Plan was built off the reframed scope of the **Rowing in Australia Strategic Plan** and adopted the strategic vision, values, drivers for success, and strategic pillars for alignment, consistency, reporting governance and unity of purpose – **Stronger Together**. To operationalise the delivery of the Strategic Plan, the **Rowing ACT Board** developed a 2023 and 2024 Priorities and Action Plan – this is an annual feature of the Strategic Plan to guide priorities, implementation and engagement with the rowing community. This Report card represents the key mid-term achievements of the Strategic Plan.

## ROWING ACT STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2027

<b>PARTICIPATION &amp; GROWTH</b> 	<b>HIGH PERFORMANCE</b> 	<b>PEOPLE &amp; CULTURE</b> 
<p><b>“Rowing for All”</b></p>	<p><b>“Excellence”</b></p>	<p><b>“Positive People Culture”</b></p>
<p>→ <b>RACT Regatta Sub-Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed and delivered ACT Rowing Regatta programs</li> <li>Increased registered members: 2021-22: 1,042 2022-23: 1,419 <b>2023-24: 1,424</b></li> <li>Increased Indoor Rowing programs and participation: - <i>RACT Learn to Indoor Row Programs</i> - <i>RA ANZAC Day competition</i> - <i>Inaugural ACT Veterans &amp; Families Indoor Rowing Competition (2023)</i></li> <li>RACT membership on RA Coastal Rowing Working Group</li> <li>Increased local regatta participation 2021-22: 7,707 seats 2022-23: 9,415 seats <b>2023-24: 9,829 seats</b></li> <li>Promoted ACT participation in Australian Coastal Rowing Championships</li> <li>Hosted the 2024 Australian University Rowing Championships</li> </ul>	<p>→ <b>High Performance Review Group and Head Coach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance Pathway Program (Schools and Clubs) delivered, including post program survey to inform 2023-24 program improvements</li> <li>Delivered ACT High Performance Plan</li> <li>Delivered High Performance Program against agreed RA/ RACT/ACTAS KPIs</li> <li>Growing school, club and interstate representation at Australian Rowing &amp; Masters</li> </ul>	<p>→ <b>Clubs &amp; Schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RACT staffing structure reviewed and Executive Officer (Operations) appointed</li> <li>Developed STO and BRO support policy</li> <li>% female BRO increased to 51%</li> <li>3x ACT World rowing umpires</li> <li>Nick Hunter, OAM 2022 RA Awards – Official of the Year</li> <li>Conducted bi-annual Club Presidents/ Captains Forums</li> <li>Focused on increasing volunteers to enable conduct of successful and safe regatta programs</li> <li>Implemented ‘Volunteer of the Regatta’ awards 2023-24</li> <li>Delivered new monthly newsletters – the ‘Catch’ (from October 2023)</li> </ul>
		

## COMMERCIAL



### *“Financial Sustainability”*

#### → Commercial Working Group

- Conducted membership and affiliation fees review for 2023-34 season
- Reframed RACT Annual Budget allocations against Strategic Plan pillars
- Submitted successful ACT Government Sport & Recreation Funding Grant application
- Commenced development of RACT Strategic Asset Management Plan and Infrastructure Plan
- Developed RACT Investment Priority Plan, including plan for grant/sponsorship proposals
- Formed Commercial Working Group (2024)



## GOVERNANCE



### *“Alignment, Safeguarding, Sustainability, Responsibility”*

#### → Governance Sub-Committee

- Developed Rowing ACT Risk Management Plan and Policy – process, risks, action plan templates for community
- Endorsed Rowing ACT Board Charter and Code of Conduct
- Developed Board Papers and Decision-making Policy
- Reviewed safety policies and feedback /reporting mechanism (via website)
- Reviewed RACT policies and by-laws, cognisant of National Integrity Framework requirements & responsibilities
- Conducted safety education forums
- Completed 10 year ACT Sport & Recreation Infrastructure Survey, including prioritisation matrix (2023)



# ROWING ACT ASSOC. INCORPORATED

## LIFE MEMBERS

**NICK HUNTER OAM (2021)** - Nick commenced successful careers as a rower and coach, progressing to national and international levels of competition. Nick was Head Coach of the ACT Academy of Sport rowing program from 1994-2000. Nick first joined the Rowing ACT Board in 1986, serving again from 1990-1994 and from 2003-2020. During this time Nick advocated for Boat Race Official (BRO) recruitment, facilities development and further the sport of rowing in the ACT. Nick serves as a BRO for the ACT, Rowing Australia and World Rowing. He has been a member of Rowing Australia's Umpire's Committee and was appointed to World Rowing's Umpire Commission in 2014. He is current President of the Australian National University Boat Club.

**SUSAN DONOGHOE OAM (2021)** - Sue has been an active rower, coach and administrator in the rowing community in the ACT since she commenced her rowing career as a schoolgirl rower with Canberra Girls Grammar School. Sue has raced at elite level and coached the Australian Women's Double Scull to a Silver medal at the 1998 Junior World Rowing Championships.

**ALISON CHINN (2020)** - Alison's contribution to event management and the administration of Rowing ACT spans 35 years. From 1988 to 1997 she held the demanding positions of Secretary and then Treasurer, often holding these positions concurrently with Canberra Rowing Club board positions, whilst also competing at the elite level (as well as working full time!).

**DR DAVID BAGNALL (2020)** - David joined the Australian National University Boat Club upon arriving in Canberra during the 1974-75 rowing season and soon became the Club's delegate to the ACT Rowing Association. Thus began a long record of service to Rowing ACT as an Executive Committee member, Senior Vice President (1976-77) and President (1985-88 and 2010-2019).

**VINCE MCMAHON PSM (2020)** - Vince is a member of Black Mountain Rowing Club. He served as a Club committee member before becoming Club President from 2008 to 2011. In 2011 Vince published the History of Black Mountain Rowing Club in the context of the ACT rowing community, which took several years of research and interviews to complete. Vince served on the Rowing ACT Board from 2010 to 2019 and continued to provide governance and financial support.

**PATRICK DAVOREN PSM (2018)** - in recognition of his long service as an administrator, Patrick first served as a club delegate to the ACT Rowing Association in the late 1960s. Since that time, Patrick has taken on a wide range of committee roles for Rowing ACT including 14 continuous years as Honorary Secretary.

**ROGER GRYLLES (2011)** - in recognition of his long and distinguished service as a Boat Race Official. Roger also played a significant role in Rowing ACT's adoption of software necessary to overcome long-standing accounting issues.

**MARK KWAITKOWSKI (1990)** - in recognition of his contribution to Rowing ACT as the instigator of the Winter Time Trials.

**DR ROBERT (BOB) J. PORRA (1984)** - As Honorary Secretary of the ACT Rowing Association, Bob led a complete review of the Association's rules that was necessary before it became an incorporated body in 1978.

**PAUL DUNCAN (1984)** - As Secretary of the ACT Rowing Association, Paul lifted the standard of the Association's 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 Treasure of the ACT Rowing Association from 1973-79.

**MALCOLM LAMB (1981)** - Malcolm served as Honorary Secretary of the ACT Rowing Association from 1972-75 and as Vice President from 1975-78, and 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 as President from 1967-73.

**BRIAN MARTYN (1973)** - in recognition of his service to the ACT Rowing Association as an administrator, Boat Race Official and coach.

**WILLIAM (BILL) O'BRIEN (1972)** - ACT Rowing Association's first Life Member, this honour recognises Bill's leadership in establishing rowing in the ACT.

Further information on Rowing ACT Life Members can be found at [www.rowingact.org.au/about/life-members](http://www.rowingact.org.au/about/life-members)



## BOARD MEMBERS

	POSITION	ELECTION/APPOINTMENT	TERM EXPIRY
Kent Peters	President	September 2019	2025
Virginia Hayward	Elected Director	February 2022	2024
Sebastian Lang	Elected Director	October 2022	2024
Peter Wright	Elected Director	November 2023	2025
Alice Arch	Elected Director	October 2023	2026
Jaime Fernandez OLY	Elected Director	October 2023	2026
Catherine Garrington	Appointed Director	September 2019	2024
Hugo Ellwood	Appointed Director	November 2023	2025
Tobias Wehr-Candler	Appointed Director	March 2021	2026

The board met 7 times over the year. Attendance was as follows:

K. Peters	7	T. Wehr-Candler	6	H. Ellwood	7
A. Arch	6	S. Lang	6	P. Wright	6
C. Garrington	5	J. Fernandez	4	V. Hayward	4

## ROWING ACT OFFICE BEARERS AND OFFICERS

Patrick Davoren	Public Officer (to January 2024)
Kent Peters	Public Officer (from January 2024)
Tobias Wehr-Candler	Vice-President
Hugo Ellwood	Director of Finance:
Sarah Davoren	Secretary
Virginia Hayward	Councilor to Rowing Australia (to April 2024),
Alice Arch	Councilor to Rowing Australia (from April 2024)
Sarah Davoren	Executive Officer



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



KENT PETERS



HUGO ELLWOOD



TOBIAS WEHR-CANDLER



VIRGINIA HAYWARD

## PRESIDENT

### Kent Peters

Kent Peters joined the Board of Rowing ACT in September 2019 as the Director of Finance. He became President of Rowing ACT in May 2022. Kent has extensive experience as a Board Director and Secretary having served on numerous Boards in his role as Director of Business at Canberra Grammar School and prior to this in Perth as Bursar at Guildford Grammar School. Kent is a Chartered Accountant and also holds an MBA specialising in Human Resource Management. Whilst never having rowed himself, he is passionate about Rowing as a sport and in particular the discipline and balance that it provided to his two sons as they have rowed. His involvement in Rowing began at Guildford Grammar School (2007) and initially involved watching his sons row from the banks of Champion Lakes till he decided that being a Boat Race Official provided him a better perspective and opportunity to support rowing. Kent is a regular Boat Race Official and is dedicated to seeing Rowing ACT develop into the sport of choice for those in the ACT and in particular seeing strong pathways established for school rowers to transition into a lifelong commitment to the sport through active involvement in local clubs.

## DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

### Hugo Ellwood

Hugo first became involved with rowing in 2017 when his two eldest boys began rowing in Year 8 at Marist. Frustrated by the limited opportunities to watch their races, he noticed boats following events down the course, which inspired him to become an officiating BRO.

Currently, Hugo's youngest son is rowing at Marist College, with his two eldest coaching his year group, and where Hugo has been an assistant coach since 2020. He has also held various roles on the Marist Rowing Club committee, including Vice-President and Treasurer. As the Director of Finance on the Rowing ACT board, Hugo has focused on enhancing the financial reporting for monthly meetings and the annual report. Hugo is eagerly anticipating the next 12 months as Rowing ACT implements the ACT Government's Industry Partnership Program to enhance the digitalisation of regattas for all rowers to enjoy.

## VICE PRESIDENT

### Tobias Wehr-Candler

Tobias serves as an independent board member and Vice-President of Rowing ACT, where he plays a key role in advancing the sport across the territory. He leverages his background as a former athlete, coach, sports administrator, and in governance and strategy to further the Performance Pathway Monitoring Group, Commercial and High-Performance Working Groups, and the Remuneration & Awards Sub-Committee. Tobias brings a deep passion for the sport and strategic insight, focusing on initiatives that promote participation, strengthen athlete pathways, and enhance the overall rowing experience in the ACT. His goal is to foster a vibrant and sustainable rowing community, supporting the sport's growth and success at all levels.

## DIRECTOR

### Virginia Hayward

Virginia Hayward started her love of rowing as a school girl at Rockhampton Girls Grammar School in Queensland. Moving to the University of Queensland in 1985 allowed her to continue rowing both at College and at the UQBC, where her passion for rowing in VIII's was ignited. Virginia joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1989 and her rowing opportunities were limited due to her time serving at sea. In 1999 she moved to Canberra and joined Black Mountain Rowing Club where she was a competitive Master's rower and served on the Committee in several roles. In 2019 Virginia re-joined the Navy full time, after a decade working in Government, and became President of the Australian Defence Force Rowing Club – a position she still holds. She was also actively involved in the Canberra Grammar School rowing committee and community from 2018 – 2023, where her son was a keen rower. Virginia joined the RACT Board in 2021 as a Director and is the current Chair of the Governance sub-committee. Virginia is still competing and rowing with Defence and is looking forward to competing in another Head of the Yarra in 2024.



## DIRECTOR

### Catherine Garrington

Catherine has been involved in rowing as an athlete, coach and umpire over many years. Starting a school girl athlete, Catherine is now an ACT, Australian and World Rowing Official, and can be commonly found on a start platform manning the BBQ and reminding rowers of the correct traffic patterns during racing. Catherine is also chair of the safety-sub committee as well as a passionate supporter of the ACT Indoor Rowing Programs.

## DIRECTOR

### Jaime Fernandez OLY

Jaime has volunteered his time over many years as a coach, boat race official, athlete mentor, selector and Board Member. He has a strong focus on athlete well-being and was an Athletes' Commission member, both at the AIS and Rowing Australia, ultimately appointed as Chair of the RA Athletes' Commission in 2011.

Jaime is currently a member of the FISA Youth Rowing Commission, Australian Olympic Committee NSW Olympic Advisory Committee and the AIS' Performance Pathway Advisory Group and High Performance Planning Working Group.

Jaime is a three-time Olympian (Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney) and winner of a silver medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games as stroke of the Men's Eight. He has won many international rowing events including at Henley Royal Regatta, Commonwealth Rowing Championships and World Cups, and represented Australia at five World Championship regattas. He was a member of the 1997 ACT Interstate Men's Eight crew that won the King's Cup - the first and only time the ACT has ever won the event. Jaime has won numerous national championship events and was an AIS and ACT Academy of Sport Scholarship holder for many years.

Jaime holds a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) from the University of Canberra and has taught at a number of schools, in addition to Head Coach and Rowing Master roles within school rowing programs.

## DIRECTOR

### Alice Arch

Alice is a long time rower, including representation at the highest level as a silver medal winning rower for Australia at four World Championships. Alice is an appointed member of the Rowing Australia Athletes Commission, and continues to be an active member of the Rowing Australia community. During Alice's time in Canberra she has been a squad manager with one of the local school, and a casual high-performance coach with the ACT High Performance Program. She is passionate about supporting the sport be high performing, sustainable and inclusive for all.

## DIRECTOR

### Sebastian Lang

Sebastian started rowing nearly 20 years ago and have more recently watched his daughter discover rowing and develop her skills. This has given Sebastian an appreciation for what attracts people into rowing at different life stages. His club roles have given him insights into the rowing activities that maintain and build motivation, drive performance, and also those that cause people to move away from the sport. Sebastian is committed to playing a role in growing the Canberra rowing community, while at the same time maintaining and utilising existing members' enthusiasm.

## DIRECTOR

### Peter Wright

Peter commenced involvement in rowing in 1969 at Telopea Park High School. Peter rowed for the school 1st VIII in 1927 and coached the 1st VIII in 1973. He continued his involvement in coaching and as a club administrator as the school club morphed into the Telopea Narrabundah Student Rowing Club and ultimately in the establishment of the Eastern Suburbs Rowing Club and the Narrabundah Rowing Club, which would become Black Mountain Rowing Club.

In 2001 Peter re-engaged with the Black Mountain Rowing Club where he coached and spent many years as the Club President and Committee member. During that time he was also active in the continued development of the sport in the ACT. Over the last 15 years Peter has been an active member of the rowing community as well as an active master's rower competing at local and interstate regattas and also the 2017 World Masters Championships in Bled. Peter is a Life Member of Black Mountain Rowing Club and is proud of his long term involvement in the development of rowing in the ACT.



CATHERINE GARRINGTON



JAIME FERNANDEZ OLY



ALICE ARCH



SEBASTIAN LANG



PETER WRIGHT

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This report addresses Rowing ACT's performance from 24 Oct 2023 to 28 Oct 2024



**KENT PETERS**

Rowing ACT President of the Board

It has been a pleasure to continue to be able to serve on the Board of Rowing ACT (RACT) as your President. With an Annual Report theme focusing on Participation and Community, the 2023/24 Rowing Season has seen increased participation and engagement with our Standard Regatta program.

I want to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers across our community for supporting our sport. Through the efforts of many including club committees, school rowing programs, the **ACT High Performance Program**, coaches, race officials, regatta volunteers and supporters we have seen strong performances from ACT rowers throughout the year with great results at local and interstate regattas.

The ACT performed well in national competition with strong results at the **2024 Australian Rowing Championships** (ARC) held at Sydney International Rowing Centre (SIRC) in March 2024. We saw four clubs and four schools send strong contingents to the ARC. The ACT had a successful week with strong performances which will be detailed later in the Annual Report. Following the conclusion of racing, **ANU** was our highest-ranking club, placing third on the Club Point Score and 18th on the medal tally. **Marist College** placed 11th on the School Boys Point Score whilst **Canberra Girls Grammar** sat in 13th place on the School Girls Point Score. Of note were the strong school age athlete performances by **Zara Turner** winning Gold in the SG 1x and **Harrison Braithwaite** winning Gold in the MU17 1x.

The ACT fielded five crews in the **Interstate Regatta** which saw three crews take home a medal – I congratulate all on their results.

April 2024 saw our largest ever contingent of athletes at the **Pathways Regatta** held at SIRC, with the ACT boating six crews. Our **School's Pathway Eights** performed well, and the **School Girl Quads** won silver and bronze medals respectively.



The **2024 Australian Masters Rowing Championships** were held in May at Lake Barrington in Tasmania. Our ACT representative crews competed with **Sue Donoghoe** winning her third Women's Masters PR3 1x Gold, and our ACT Masters Men's Quad finishing in fourth place. This year the ACT saw athletes from **ADF Rowing Club, ANU Boat Club, Black Mountain Rowing Club** and **Canberra Rowing Club** make the trip across the Bass Strait to compete. I congratulate all medal winners and clubs for their efforts.

The ACT continues to provide strong representation at a National Umpiring Level with **Catherine Garrington** (ARC, Australian Coastal and Beach Sprint Championships [President of the Jury]), **Ross Ford** (Trans-Tasman, Australian Coastal and Beach Sprint Championships), **Geoff Northam** (U19 Trials) and **Jacqui Williams** (ARC, Trans-Tasman Regatta). This was on top of representation at the international umpiring level with **Geoff Northam** (World Rowing Senior, Under 23 and Under 19 Championship – Canada) and **Nick Hunter OAM** (World Indoor Rowing Championships – Virtual). I also note **Sarah Connor** was successful in passing her Level 3 Umpiring Exam at the ARC and will continue our strong representation into the future.

We also had ACT athletes and coaches selected to represent Australia at International events, notably **Nikki Ayers PLY** with **Jed Altschwager**, who competed at the Paris 2024 Paralympic

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We have seen strong performances from ACT rowers throughout the year with great results at local and interstate regattas.

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Games. They are the first Gold medallists in the Paralympic Double Scull in Australian Rowing history. The full list of Australian representatives is available later in this report.

Locally, we congratulate **Vince McMahon** who was awarded the **Cliff Hill Trophy** this year and **Colette Harkin** who was awarded **Volunteer of the Year**. The **Boat Race Official of the Year** was awarded to **Colin McLean** for his consistent willingness to tackle any job and going above and beyond in all he does in the BRO role.

RACT has greatly appreciated the patronage of **His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd)**, **Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley** and **Kim Brennan AM**. We very much value the support from our patrons and their continued interest in the ACT rowing community.

## GOVERNANCE

The Board has met regularly throughout the reporting period and working groups continue to operate to consider improvements to governance, safety, by-laws and to develop plans for implementation of the **RACT Strategic Plan (2022 – 2027)**. The Governance and Safety Sub Committees continue their important work with thanks to **Virginia Hayward** and **Catherine Garrington** for their continuing efforts. I would also like to thank **Tobias Wehr-Candler** for his ongoing support in the role of Vice President and chairing the PPMG Group on behalf of **Rowing ACT**.

The **RACT Strategic Plan (2022 – 2027)** sets and guides the activities of the Board through the annual 'priorities and activities' plan. The **Club Presidents and Captains Forums** continue to provide valuable opportunities for us as a Board to hear directly from our member clubs and schools for direct feedback on the issues currently being faced in our rowing community.





I would like to extend a huge vote of thanks to **Alison Chinn** who retired as an appointed Board Member following the 2023 AGM. Alison has been an incredible servant of rowing within the ACT, and her contribution will be felt for many years to come. The Board was subsequently pleased to extend an invitation to **Hugo Ellwood** to join the Board and take on the very important role of Finance Director. Hugo has brought a wealth of experience and expertise to the Board, and I thank him for his willingness to take on this crucial role.

Following the 2023 AGM, the Board welcomed three new Directors, **Jaime Fernandez OLY, Alice Arch, and Peter Wright**. Each has added significant skills to the Board and been instrumental in assisting in several key areas this year.

## ENGAGEMENT

Representatives from **RACT** participated throughout the year in **Rowing Australia** initiatives, including various Working Groups and Commissions. **RACT** would like to acknowledge the work of **Sarah Cook OLY** as the CEO of **Rowing Australia** and thank her for her ongoing support of **RACT**. **RACT** would like to thank **Alice Arch** for her work as the ACT Councillor to **Rowing Australia**.

**RACT** has continued to work with the **National Capital Authority** to manage the Yarramundi Reach Course and Weston Park pontoons, and to progress water safety issues with lake traffic management, including the re-buoysing of the regatta course to seven single lanes. **RACT** will continue to work with the **NCA** to finalise the details relating to the lowering of the lake to facilitate dam wall reinforcing.

**RACT** has also continued to participate in Lake User Group meetings and to engage with **ACT Sport and Recreation**.

Thank you to our buoy maintenance team lead by **Darrell Ninham** who have worked closely with the **NCA**, for their work on maintaining the course.

Links are also being developed with other water sport bodies which saw us support the **2024 Paddle Australia Asia-Pacific U21 Regatta**. This will continue to develop ongoing opportunities with **Paddle NSW** and **Paddle Australia** to utilise our regatta infrastructure. We were also able to host at short notice the **Trans-Tasman Regatta** due to issues arising from flooding at **SIRC**.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE

Throughout the reporting period, **RACT** continued its **Performance Pathways Program (PPP)** in the ACT with assistance from **Rowing Australia** and the **Australian Capital Territory Academy of Sport (ACTAS)**. The partnership with **Rowing Australia** and **ACTAS** remains essential for our PPP program, also supported by coaches, clubs and schools throughout our community. **ACTAS** continued to manage the **Rowing ACT/ACTAS Boatshed** and significant work has been completed to develop an Asset Management Plan for the facility. I express my gratitude to **Andrew Stainlay** from **ACTAS** for his ongoing support and commitment to this strategic partnership.

Head Coach **Dave Fraumano** has continued to see strong results for the **ACT High Performance Program** and the results are presented later in this Annual Report.

The most significant impact faced by the **ACT Performance Pathways Program (PPP)** this year was the funding reduction from **Rowing Australia**. This resulted in an immediate lack of funding to employ an assistant coach. At the time of writing, we await the updated details on ongoing funding arrangements, but these will again potentially result in significant challenges for the program.

**RACT** is grateful for the ongoing support of both **Rowing Australia** and **ACTAS** as we work to deliver high performance pathways and opportunities for rowers in the ACT. I would like to thank **RACT** Vice-President **Tobias Wehr-Candler** for his significant support to the PPP Program, and to Board Members **Jaime Fernandez OLY** and **Alice Arch** for their involvement in this important component of our ongoing work.

## REGATTAS

**RACT** continued to develop our regatta program and management of regattas. Thank you to Board member **Sebastian Lang** for chairing the **Regatta Sub Committee** during the 2023-24 season. Thank you also to our Clubs and Schools for their continuing participation in this important forum to develop competition in the ACT. A special thanks to the ongoing work of **Michael McMahon** and **Martin Sessions** in maintaining the BRO infrastructures. **RACT** relies on volunteers for all areas of our regatta delivery, and we greatly appreciate the efforts from all areas of our community.

With the early scheduling of the **2024 Australian Rowing Championships**, we extended our standard regatta season into April. This provided an opportunity for our clubs to prepare crews for the **Australian Masters**



**Rowing Championships.** Unfortunately, the numbers of rowers at these regattas was lower than anticipated and the review undertaken by the Regatta Sub Committee will see the 2024-25 Regatta season finishing in a more traditional timeframe.

Thanks to **Geoff Northam** and our Boat Race Officials who provided important support to our regattas throughout the year. This year sees us farewell **Geoff Northam** as our **Chief Boat Race Official** after over 15 years of commitment to this role. This commitment has seen Geoff coordinating all of **Rowing ACT's** umpire education, recruitment, and jury appointments for more than 20 regattas a year. I extend a huge vote of thanks to Geoff for all he has done in this critical role. We are however fortunate that **Catherine Garrington** has agreed to step into the very large shoes that have been left. A focus for this current season is to lift the number of Boat Race Officials to increase this invaluable resource.

## STAFFING

**RACT** continued to employ two full-time staff to fill the Executive Officer (Operations) and Head Coach positions. Part-time staff are employed to support the HP program and regatta assistance. I would like to thank all the **RACT** staff for all that they do to support the sport of rowing.

**Sarah Davoren** continues to prove herself to be an exceptional Executive Officer (Operations) and we look forward to her further development in this role.

**Dave Fraumano** has been Head Coach throughout the reporting period and has continued to arrange suitably qualified casual coaches to assist with program delivery. I also thank you to **India Kazakoff, Beth Byran, Caroline Pjipers, David Bagnall, William Hatcher** and **Nigel Harding** for your support of our programs during the year.

I acknowledge the tremendous amount of work undertaken by **Andrea Parsons** in her support of the business and accounting functions of **RACT**. I also acknowledge the long-standing work that **Vince McMahon** has provided, not only in this past year but for many years. Vince has signalled his intention to step back from supporting **RACT** in the business and IT functions, and I thank him for his work.

## FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Board has recently established a **Commercial/Sponsorship Working Group**. This group will be tasked with, amongst other objectives, developing a Strategic Asset Management Plan for regatta resources, infrastructure requirements, facility upgrades and new regatta technology. This will inform our investment and replacement priorities for the coming years.

A highlight this year has been to see the development of the **Red Shed**, an ambitious project dedicated to using rowing as a tool for positive change within the Canberra community. The Red Shed sees the fulfilment of the vision and commitment of **John and Jeanette**

**Gasson**, in partnership with **Black Mountain Rowing Club**. **RACT** looks forward to working with the Red Shed to further enhance and support our rowing community. Over the next year I look forward to watching the development of the new **Canberra Rowing Club** facilities which will significantly add to overall rowing facilities in the ACT.

## THANKS

I would like to extend my personal thanks to all my colleagues on the **RACT** Board and the many hours that they each devote not only to Board matters but also to their wider pursuits within **RACT**.

Finally, **RACT** acknowledges and appreciates the dedication, support and enthusiasm of our Clubs, Schools, coaches, officials, and volunteers who support our regattas, promote participation, develop performance, and encourage growth in the sport of rowing. Without you, rowing in the ACT would not be possible.

# DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT



**HUGO ELLWOOD**

Director of Finance  
Rowing ACT

I submit to the Members of **Rowing ACT** Incorporated, the 2024 audited financial statements.

I would like to thank the auditor, **Steve Maginnity** from **Mainsail Accounting Solutions** for graciously taking on the role for another year, which he does at a significantly reduced fee. I extend my gratitude to **Andrea Parsons** for her enormous effort in undertaking the day-to-day finance role, which she does in a volunteer capacity. Her efforts have been instrumental in ensuring the financial reporting for **Rowing ACT** are easily maintained.

## PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The presentation of the Financial Statements changed from previous years following the Board's request to bring the presentation of the financial statements up to Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 and the Board has determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of **Rowing ACT** Incorporated.

Any changes to the comparative information have been disclosed in Note 4 of the financial statements including any impacts on the overall results.

Previous years financial statements remain compliant with the reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 and the change in presentation does not, in anyway, suggest otherwise.

## INTRODUCTION

The financial year of 2023-24 has been a period of stability which enabled Rowing ACT to manage the reduction in grant funding from the ACT Government together with the increase in expenditure for the National Affiliation fees from Rowing Australia, whilst overseeing strong participation numbers across regattas, including from a number of regular competing interstate schools. Our financial performance has been robust, reflecting our commitment to fiscal responsibility and strategic investment in our programs and infrastructure.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

### Revenue

Total revenue for the year amounted to \$492,882, representing a 3.5% increase compared to the previous year. This growth was driven by increased membership fees, increased seat fee earnings from strong participation numbers as well as increased interest earnings and other revenues from sale and/or hire of equipment. Key revenue streams included:

- **Seat Fees:** \$114,976 (2023: \$105,180)
- **Membership Fees:** \$79,914 (2023: \$61,427)
- **Grants:** \$248,648 (2023: \$306,945)
- **Interest:** \$24,591 (2023: \$1,858)
- **Other:** \$23,328 (2023: \$nil)

### Expenses

Total expenses for the year were \$396,879, a decrease of 22.4% from the previous year. The primary areas of expenditure included:

- **Cost of sales** (regattas): \$98,010 (2023: \$87,047)
- **Employee benefits:** \$181,530 (2023: \$316,454 – includes \$30,854 in leave provisions)
- **Travel and accommodation:** \$32,615 (2023: \$20,817)
- **Administrative expenses:** \$42,410 (2023: 47,320)

### Net Surplus/Deficit

**The net surplus for the year was \$96,002**, compared to an adjusted deficit of \$36,274 in the previous year (accounting for employee leave provisions for the first time in the comparatives). This positive outcome is a testament to our effective cost management and revenue generation strategies.

## KEY FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **Successful grant funding:** Despite the ACT Government's change in its funding model, we were successful in our application for a 3-year grant program to enhance the digital optimisation of the rowing events in Canberra for a total of \$190,475 over the 3 years, with the initial year's funding of \$58,625 received in June 2024.
- **Decreased expenditure:** Employee remuneration was significantly reduced by the reduction in rowing coaches from 2 to 1 due to the decline in rowers in the High Performance Program.
- **New revenue stream:** We secured new revenues from the hosting of regattas for Paddle Australia and the Trans Tasman regatta worth \$16,318, enhancing our financial stability.
- **Capital investments:** We invested \$86,885 in upgrading our plant and equipment in the High Performance area with the acquisition of a new vehicle and boat trailer to ensure boats are protected when being transported to various interstate regattas.
- **Improved financial management reporting:** The Board receives detailed monthly financial management reports that highlight revenues, expenditures for the organisation as a whole and across each 5 divisions together with KPIs and cashflow reporting. The finance team is currently implementing monthly budget reporting to further enhance the financial acumen of the organisation. The annual financial statements have also been enhanced with Special Purpose Financial Statements now prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

Looking ahead, we remain committed to maintaining our financial health and supporting the growth of rowing in the ACT.

### Our focus will be on:

- **Diversifying revenue streams:** Exploring new fundraising opportunities and sponsorships with local Canberra businesses.
- **Cost efficiency:** Implementing measures to optimise operational costs.
- **Strategic investments:** Continuing to invest in our programs and facilities to enhance member experience and attract new participants.

## CONCLUSION

**The financial year of 2023-24 has been a successful one for Rowing ACT.**

Our strong financial performance positions us well for future growth and development. I would like to thank our Member Clubs for their support and co-operation throughout the year and look forward to continuing to improve and promote the sport of rowing in Canberra.

# PARTICIPATION & COMMUNITY REPORT

Rowing ACT have selected Participation and Community as the theme for our 2023-24 Annual Report. This theme recognises the individuals and groups we have introduced to rowing as well as those who continue to engage with our sport through social, competitive and volunteering roles.



This year, we have continued to expand our reach into the wider community through initiatives such as the **Veterans and Families Indoor Rowing Program** and the **Alexander Maconochie Centre Indoor Rowing Program**, the **Volunteer of the Regatta**, and the newly-built **Red Shed**.

## VETERANS AND FAMILIES INDOOR ROWING PROGRAM – LUKE MCCALLUM

In June 2023, **Luke McCallum** walked into the **Para Learn to Indoor Rowing Program**, funded by the **ACT Government**. A veteran of the Royal Australian Navy, Luke had never been on an erg. He had one leg amputated after significant health issues relating to an accident fast-roping from a helicopter to a ship several years previously. To this day, Luke doesn't know what brought him in the shed door that day – only that he wanted to try indoor rowing. He has attended the **Veterans and Families Indoor Rowing (VIR) program** regularly on Thursday nights since then, improving his fitness and technique. Though the para classification process, Luke races fixed seat (PR2) with a device invented and made for him by another of our VIR attendees, **Timothy Duke**. This was a true example of the community the VIR weekly group has created – fitness, companionship, support and helping each other – coached by **Catherine Garrington** and **Michelle Hoare**.



In June 2024, Luke represented Australia at the **Warrior Games** in Florida, USA. Luke won a Silver medal in the 4 minute indoor rowing event, a Silver medal in the 1 minute event, and a Bronze medal in the relay. In conjunction with **Invictus Australia, Warrior Games, the Australian Defence Force** and the **ACT Government**, the **VIR program** has held a unique role in Luke's journey. We are so proud of Luke's achievements and highlight this as one of the ways in which our rowing community has worked together to coach Luke and support him through difficult times to achieve these goals on the world stage – all within a year of Luke finding indoor rowing.

**Luke is a wonderful example of the spirit that rowing can create and the wonderful community we see every day.**



## ALEXANDER MACONOCHIE CENTRE INDOOR ROWING PROGRAM

On 25 April 2024, the **Rowing Australia ANZAC Day Cup competition** saw the ACT again take out the top honours of most metres rowed per competitor with a grand total of 348,056m.

The **Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC)** team of 13 men plus three staff and volunteers rowed 287,960m in four hours – beating last year’s total of 205,328m. Ten men each rowed a half marathon (21km) or more, which is a fantastic tribute to their fitness regimes. With recognition to the group members who have participated in the last four years of this competition in the AMC, we’d also like to recognise those who tried indoor rowing for this first time this year.

Beyond the **ANZAC Day Cup**, athletes from inside the walls of the **AMC** have also competed virtually in ACT and National Indoor Rowing Competitions, something we hope to see continue as our competitions grow. Of especial note, in the **2024 ACT Indoor Rowing Competition** held on 15 September 2024, 14 men from the **AMC** achieved 20 individual medals and one relay medal – an outstanding achievement.

**ACT Indoor Rowing** is proud to see that the concept of community extends from inside prison fences to virtual and in person, with participation open to those of all ages and abilities. We’d like to thank **Catherine Garrington** and the **AMC** Activities Officer **Anthony Barry** for their ongoing support of this program.

## VOLUNTEER OF THE REGATTA

The 2023-24 season saw the introduction of the **Rowing ACT Volunteer of the Regatta**, sponsored by **Cafe Farmer’s Daughter** at Yarralumla. Each regatta, the Senior Boat Race Officials select an individual from the umpiring and volunteering team to receive a \$25 voucher, redeemable at Farmer’s Daughter. We look for those who have excelled in their roles, as without those who give their time to support our community, our regattas would not run to their high standards. The most notable award was from the **ADF Regatta** – while the water was great for rowing, the constant rain made for very wet umpires and volunteers, all who were recognised with a large coffee voucher each. A particular shoutout goes to one of the ADF volunteer boat drivers who spent the majority of the regatta standing in the rain whilst chauffeuring the starters from platform to platform!

**Cafe Farmer’s Daughter** have kindly agreed to continue their sponsorship of the **Volunteer of the Regatta** for the 2024-25 season. We thank them for their support of our volunteer community, and know our wider rowing community appreciate their great coffee and food outside regatta times too.

## VOLUNTEER OF THE REGATTA RECIPIENTS:

### Black Mountain/Daramalan Regatta

Emily Brissenden

### Radford Regatta

Mel Berg

### CGS Regatta

Colin McLean

### ANU Regatta

Colette Harkin

### Junior Championships

Stuart John

### Head of the Lake

Mark Carter

### ACT Championships

Anne Charlton

### Marist/LTRC Regatta

Neil Curry

### ADF Regatta

Officiating Team

### CLRC Regatta

Nick Fejer & Lynne Thompson

## THE RED SHED

This year saw the opening of the **Red Shed**, a community initiative by the **Gasson family** in conjunction with **Black Mountain Rowing Club**. The **Gasson family’s** long history with rowing inspired them to build and outfit the **Red Shed** in order to use rowing to encourage positive change in the Canberra community. From providing non-competitive rowing coaching for non-rowing schools, school holiday and training programs, to gym and wellness facilities to support health and wellbeing, the Red Shed’s community approach encourages participation in rowing for all.

## FINALLY

We thank all those in our rowing community who promote rowing in their families, friendship circles, and workplaces. To all those who wear their rowing competition t-shirts to the gym and start conversations about rowing, we hope this encourages increased interest in rowing and create new opportunities for participation in our sport. The rowing spirit and sense of community is remarkable in so many corners of our membership.



# HIGH PERFORMANCE REPORT



**DAVE FRAUMANO**

Rowing ACT Head Coach

The 2023-24 season commenced with the departure of our assistant coach **Thomas Creber**. Tom moved to Melbourne to take up a school coaching role – we thank him for his time with the **Rowing ACT Performance Pathway Program (PPP)** and wish him well in his new role. In responding to this, **David Bagnall** and **Nigel Harding** joined our coaching team. David is supporting the **Talent Identification (TID)** athletes, while Nigel continues his work with **Anneka Reardon** who returned to Canberra after representing Australia in the **2023 World Rowing Championships**.

Through the September to December **National Time Trial** period, strong performances were seen from all our athletes, with many personal best times recorded on the 5.3km course. **Rowing ACT** morning monitoring seasons were held on Wednesday mornings where athletes were able to compare themselves with those in the PPP.

The 2023 calendar year concluded with PPP members **Cormac Kennedy-Leverett**, **Hamish Harding**, **Caitlin McManus-Barrett** and **Anneka Reardon** joining **National Training Centre (NTC)** athlete **Caleb Antill** at the December National Trials. All athletes gained a wealth of experience from this event and proved their capacity to challenge for selections this year. **Anneka Reardon's** performances were a particular highlight as she set the standard for the lightweight women's double scull winning every rotation. **Kathryn Ross** was invited but unfortunately was unable to attend the trials.

In January 2024, our January camp was held in Canberra, with all athletes approaching this as an opportunity and completed an exceptional training block. Former NTC athlete **Alex Wolf** elected to relocate from Melbourne and join the **ACT PPP** to reset and drive towards further senior representation, while **Cormac Kennedy-Leverett** had to withdraw for the remainder of the season. For the rest of the group, this training period led to strong results at the **NSW Rowing Championships**. **Hamish Harding** was a highlight of these Championships, taking out the Open Lightweight Men's Single in emphatic style. Hamish had shown excellent form, previously finishing fourth at the **NSW Small Boats Regatta**.

Additionally, **Caitlin McManus-Barrett** enjoyed a significant win in the U23 women's pair, making a strong case for her future U23 selection ambitions. **Cormac Hayes** and **Harry Glackin** rowed with exceptional courage in their events, overcoming external adversity to be competitive in their A Finals. As a result of their **NSW State Championships** performances, **Caleb Antill**, **Hamish Harding**, **Harry Glackin**, **Alex Wolf**, **Caitlin McManus-Barrett** and **Cormac Hayes** were all invited to the Olympic/U23/Australia A trials.

The season continued with preparations for upcoming selection events. For our potential U23 and Senior athletes, this included the **Selection Trials** held at the Sydney International Regatta Centre (SIRC). This was an exceptional week for the ACT PPP with **Hamish Harding**,

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It was great to see  
our young talent on  
display both in rowing  
and coaching

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**Caitlin McManus-Barrett** and **Alex Wolf** all winning their small boat events. However, the success did not end there with nearly all our athletes achieving Australian Team Selection. Despite **Hamish Harding** not achieving his goal of selection of a lightweight men's double, he, in an iconic performance, nearly beat selected heavyweight athlete **Marcus Della Marta**. This performance led to his selection in the Australia A Team, along with **Harry Glackin** and **Alex Wolf**. **Anneka Reardon's** lightweight ambitions were put on hold with illness forcing a later assessment to be conducted at the **Australian Rowing Championships**.

In March, the squad journeyed to Penrith for the first **Australian Rowing Championships** at SIRC since 2019. ACT athletes had strong representation in the event. Along with a range of medal winning performances from PPP and non-PPP athletes, a highlight of the regatta was seeing our TID rowers



**Ben Haywood** and **Brooklyn Leslie** compete at their first National Championships. All athletes were provided with strength and conditioning support by **Simon Rushby** (ACTAS), who continued their development through the week. In the **Interstate Regatta**, the ACT lightweight men's crew, coached by **William Hatcher**, competed for the first time since 2019. It was great to see **Nikki Ayers** win her fourth PR3 Interstate title, and **Caleb Antill** build through the week to achieve Bronze in the Men's Single Scull. A big thanks to **Narelle Haywood** for her support of the athletes, both at the National Championships and throughout the season. Thanks also goes to **Sarah Davoren** for again being an integral part of this events success. Finally, thank you to all athletes, staff, and coaches who made these events possible.

Post the National Championships, the Australia A Men's Sculling Squad trained out of the **RACT/ACTAS** Boatshed. The group included two doubles and a quad, training to compete at **World Cup I** in Varese, Italy. **Anneka Reardon** continued to train in a lightweight double with **Georgia Miansarow**. After World Cup I, a men's quad including **Caleb Antill** and lightweight double with **Anneka Reardon** were selected to attend the **Final Olympic Qualification Regatta** (FOQR)

regatta in Lucerne, Switzerland. It was an outstanding effort from both crews with a short turnaround from selection to racing, though both crews missed out on qualifying for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Post National Championships, **Cormac Hayes** was involved in a serious accident. Despite being significantly injured, Cormac battled with true spirit to beat all the odds and has recently been medically cleared to return to training. I give thanks to all in the rowing community for their support of Cormac during this time and I look forward to seeing him continue to progress.

The final adventure for the 2023-24 season was the **Australian Under 19 Trials and Pathways** competition held in Penrith. This trip was coached and coordinated by a fantastic group of volunteer staff and coaches including **Mike Brady** and Team Manager **Catherine Garrington**. The ACT Pathways team boasted our biggest participation in the event to date with two men's quads, two men's eights, two women's quads and one woman's eight participating in the regatta, along with two athletes joining a mixed interstate quad. Highlights included the women's quads coached by **Max Meyer** finishing second and third, and the men's

quad finishing fourth. It was great to see our young talent on display both in rowing and coaching.

I would like to thank **Kent Peters, Tobias Wehr-Candler, Hugo Ellwood** and the **Rowing ACT Board**. **Sarah Davoren**, congratulations for your ongoing work as **RACT** Executive Officer – **RACT** and the **PPP** are very fortunate to have you. Thanks again to **Rowing Australia** and **ACTAS** for their ongoing support.

**GO ACT!**

## INTERSTATE CREWS

### PR3 Women's Single

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Nikki Ayers PLY – Gold 

### PR3 Men's Single

---

Stuart John – Sixth

### Men's Single

---

Caleb Antill – Bronze 

### Women's Single

---

Cara Grzeskowiak – Bronze 

### Men's Lightweight Four

---

Ishan Shalliker, Jonathon Adams, Matthew Rickard, Alex Tomanovits – Seventh

### Masters PR3 Single

---

Sue Donoghoe – Gold 

### Masters Men's Quad

---

Henry Bridgewater, Mark Partridge, Ian Mongan, Stephen McGlynn – Fourth

## PATHWAYS CREWS

### School Boy Quad

---

Angus Scott, Harrison Braithwaite, Connor Malouf, Hamish McKee, Izzy Faris (c)

### School Boy Quad

---

Campbell Milne, Ben Haywood, Joe O'Brien, Ethan Murphy, Aidan Brooks (c)

### School Boy Eight

---

Cameron Schmidt, Dylan Outram, Garvan Hayes, Rohan White, Harry Budd, Nicolaas Van Der Walt, Austin Bennie, Euan Grieg, Moira Geraghty (c)


### School Girl Quad

---

Zara Turner, Eliza Lilley, Charlotte Bowen, Emily Walker, Chameesha Dayajaweera (c) – Silver 

### School Girl Quad

---

Amelie Brennan, Isabel King, Tahlia Turnbull, Estella Robertson, William Huang (c) – Bronze 

### School Girl Eight

---

Aprillia Mitchell, Cate Oliver, Hannah Griffiths, Addison Perry, Coco Guenther, Sophie Murphy, Sophie Frost, Ronja Staerker-Ashby, Heidi Bell (c)

### Reserves

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Joshua Miller, Charles Carter

### Coaches

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Mike Brady, William Hatcher, Max Meyers, Riley Taylor, Ally McBain

### Team Manager

---

Catherine Garrington

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## AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES

### World Cup I – Italy

Caleb Antill, Anneka Reardon, Hamish Harding, Harry Glackin, Dave Fraumano (coach)

### World Cup II – Switzerland

Nikki Ayers PLY, Kendall Brodie (cox), Stuart John (commentator)

### U21 Trans-Tasman Regatta

Canberra: Jesse Rosin (reserve)

### Final Olympic Qualification Regatta – Switzerland

Caleb Antill, Anneka Reardon, Dave Fraumano (coach)

### Warrior Games (Indoor Rowing) – USA

Luke McCallum

### Olympic Games – France

Kendall Brodie (cox)

### Paralympic Games – France

Nikki Ayers PLY

### U23 World Rowing Championships – Canada

Caitlin McManus-Barrett

### Umpires

Nick Hunter OAM (World Indoor Rowing Championships – Virtual), Geoff Northam (World Rowing Senior, Under 23 and Under 19 Championships – Canada)



# REGATTA ADMIN REPORT



**SARAH DAVOREN**

Executive Officer and  
Regatta Secretary 2023-24

The 2023-24 regatta season was one of growth for Rowing ACT. With some of the biggest individual regatta entries seen since before 2020, it was pleasing to see both the ACT community and beyond enjoy a season with events and competitions for all.

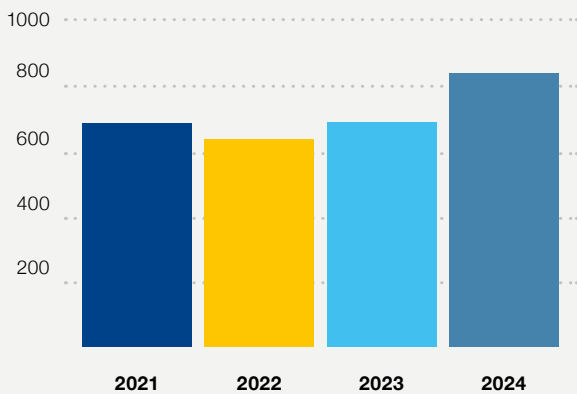
Low numbers forced the cancellation of the **Capital Head Race** in its second iteration, whilst poor weather meant the **Col Panton** marathon was postponed to mid-November. Despite challenges to the early months of the season, the standard regatta program kicked off strongly with the **Black Mountain Rowing Club** and **Daramalan Regatta**. 2023-24 was a strong season with rowing returning to full strength. It was fabulous to see some of the largest-ever participation numbers. Culminating in 850 athletes for the **Head of the Lake** and **Junior Championships** weekend, our community continues to go from strength to strength every season.

The 2023-24 season saw the introduction of the **Volunteer of the Regatta**, which was proudly supported by **Cafe Farmers Daughter** in Yarralumla. **Cafe Farmers Daughter** generously provided ten vouchers which were awarded to the **Volunteer of the Regatta**, as chosen by the President of the Jury and Senior Boat Race Officials. This has been a fantastic way to acknowledge the magnificent contributions of our volunteers each regatta and we look forward to this continuing into the 2024-25 season.

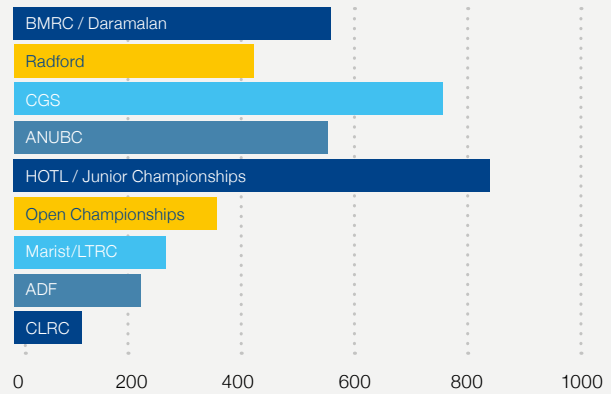
An undeniable highlight of this past year was the **2024 Australian University Championships** which were held in Canberra from 11 to 13 September 2024. The Championships were held on the newly fully buoyed race course and saw 150 university students make their way down the course over the three days. The regatta was a fantastic success, and thanks must go to the team of **Catherine Garrington**, **Owen Hingston**, and **Edwin Bien** who did a wonderful job in supporting the lead up and regatta. Many universities commented on the regatta's success, noting it was exceptionally organized and well run. We hope this marks a sign of bigger and better things to come to the ACT regatta course.



## ACT Head of the Lake - Athlete Numbers



## Season - Athlete Numbers



The **ACT Indoor Championships** returned in 2024, with 164 entries, a large jump from the 122 entries in 2023. The Championships this year were both held in person at the **Red Shed**, and also online, with entries coming from Bold Antarctica, the **Alexander Maconochie Centre** and beyond. To see this competition grow is incredibly pleasing and speaks to the growth of indoor rowing in Canberra.

The **2024 Winter Time Trial series** was one of challenges of this season, with three out of five small boat time trials cancelled due to wind, and the remaining also heavily wind affected. The big boat time trials achieved four out of five run with great competition between our athletes.

As our regattas continue to grow, **Rowing ACT** would like to take the time to acknowledge the support from the community. Our community participation is the key driving force behind the success of our sport, and we look forward to a successful 2024-25 season. To work with all our clubs and schools so positively helps make our regattas so enjoyable.

Individually, I would especially like to highlight and thank **Geoff Northam, Edwin Bien, Catherine Garrington, Martin Sessions, Michael McMahon, Stuart John, India Kazakoff,** and the **Rowing ACT Board** for their support throughout this season. Regatta seasons are full on at the best of times, and the support of these individuals made my first season as Executive Officer and Regatta Secretary far smoother.

## MAJOR AWARD AND TROPHY WINNERS

### Season Point Score

Canberra Rowing Club

### Men's Point Score

Canberra Rowing Club

### Women's Point Score

Canberra Rowing Club

### Phere Niki for the point score winners of the ACT Championships

Canberra Rowing Club

### Governor-General's Trophy for School Boy Point Score Winners

Cranbrook School

### Governor-General's Trophy for School Girl Point Score Winners

Canberra Girls Grammar School

### Volunteer of the Year

Colette Harkin

### Cliff Hill Award for Long Standing Service to RACT

Vince McMahon

### BRO of the Year

Colin McLean



# BOAT RACE OFFICIALS & VOLUNTEERS REPORT



## GEOFF NORTHAM

Rowing ACT  
Chief Boat Race Official

### REGATTAS OFFICIATED

ACT Boat Race Officials (BROs) officiated at 11 regattas over the summer season, comprising:

- 7 one-day regular point score regattas
- 2 Championship regattas
- The Rowing ACT Schools Head of the Lake regatta
- The Disher Cup

### BRO WORKFORCE CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

The capacity of the BRO workforce significantly improved over the regatta season, eclipsing the previous three years. The increase was in part due to a more active engagement by the Executive Officer with the Clubs and Schools to encourage attendance at the BRO recruiting and training seminars held a week before the commencement of the first regular regatta for the season. There was a lower than normal decline in BROs withdrawing after the previous season. Parent participation increased, a cohort from which engagement had been low in previous years.

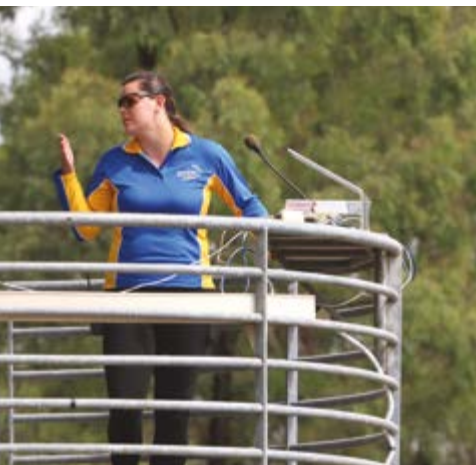
The average number of active BROs provided good flexibility and margins for running safe regattas. It also assisted in providing coaching and mentoring opportunities for novice Level 1 BROs and those seeking higher accreditation. The number of BROs qualified at Level 2 or higher has remained stable. Several Level 1 BROs have expressed interest and have actively developed to achieve Level 2 accreditation. This is an area for attention in the coming season to build a bigger pool of Level 2 BROs.





A workforce summary of the BRO pool is provided below with the previous three years for comparison:

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of BROs officiating at a regatta during the season	33	26	30	41
Number of BROs that officiated at more than 50% of regattas	19	13	17	22
Average number of BROs officiating at a regular regatta	20.9	16	18	21
Number of World Rowing Umpires	3	3	3	3
Number of National Level 3 Umpires (not including World Rowing Umpires)	2	1	2	3
Number of active National Level 2 Umpires	3	3	3	1
Number of active National Level 1 Umpires	25	19	22	34
Female BROs (% of all active BROs)	42%	46%	47%	51%



**Sarah Connor** successfully completed her assessments and was confirmed as a Level 3 National level umpire. The Rowing Australia Umpire Commission has noted the success ACT has achieved in bringing younger, high-quality candidates to Level 3 assessments, and the significance of greater female participation as BROs.

A significant development foundation for upcoming umpires was the opportunity to participate as **State Technical Officials (STOs)** at the **Australian National Rowing Championships. Rowing ACT** supported and contributed to making that participation possible, which was very much appreciated.

A landmark achievement this season was the achievement of gender parity in active BRO numbers. This achievement stands alone amongst state BRO numbers. Also of special note, **Rowing ACT** has three male and three female Level 3 BROs, which is above the per capita representation from other States. The average age of ACT BROs is also significantly less than most other state BRO profiles.

## RECOGNITION

Recognition of BROs is an important element in retaining our BRO volunteer workforce. The 2023-24 season had several worthy candidates for the **BRO of the Year** award. Ultimately, the award was conferred on **Colin McLean**. Colin has been a very cheerful and persistently reliable and productive BRO over the season. Colin is always available to help and the first to volunteer to undertake the maintenance and housekeeping activities required on regatta days. Colin has always stayed on duty until the last training buoy has been replaced on the course and the last BRO boat hauled out of the water. Colin's passion to help and do the best for everyone is no better illustrated from his efforts to scrub clean our catamaran boats in his own time, restoring the boats to pristine condition, if only for a short moment before they became dirty again in our activities. Colin has set a standard and commitment to volunteering effort that is exemplary.

## EQUIPMENT

As foreshadowed in the previous year report, activities to redevelop our start system with brighter daylight beacons has progressed with completion of two prototypes that were deployed for use in the September **2024 Australian University Championships** regatta. The start beacons are floating buoys positioned behind the start line to provide a clear daylight red/green light indication. The prototypes worked well in this first outing. However, one suffered damage when moved, resulting in the loss of its battery and saturation of its control circuitry. Improvements are in hand to address this vulnerability.

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A landmark achievement  
this season was  
the achievement of  
gender parity in active  
BRO numbers

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A multi-year **ACT Government** grant was also secured by **Rowing ACT** to implement IT enablement of regattas, providing IT assets to modernise regatta administration and participation. The concept proposed for the first year of the grant initiative is to eliminate the need for paper draws and updates as scratchings are received at regattas. On-water BROs will be equipped with day-readable tablets and WiFi hotspots so that race draws, scratchings and other information communications can be made in real time from a centralised regatta control centre at Weston Park. The grant also extends to safety improvements for our start platforms, providing for independent floatation to ensure platform stability should one floatation volume be compromised. This will also provide us with a weight margin to install additional assets associated with video streaming and interval timing in future years.

Subsequent year improvements will include technology to enable live streaming of races and commentary, and packaging of the technology into a rapid setup trailer arrangement. This is an exciting opportunity to further enhance how our regattas run and improve the engagement of the rowing community in our regattas through streaming technologies.

I have also embarked on an initiative to modernise our existing start platform electronics to improve the reliability of the technology integration and re-package the technology to minimise the need for user set-up and expertise to operate the start systems. This will help reduce platform weight and improve reliability and useability.

## CHALLENGES

The foreshadowed lowering of the lake to facilitate the Scrivener Dam wall reinforcing work has been delayed, but is expected to affect regatta operations for the 2024-25 season. Additional buoy lines have been installed to facilitate better use of the available lane space as reductions in the lake level impinges on Lane 7 and transit around and near Weston Park. Once the lake level drops, we expect to have less lanes available for racing and may experience longer regattas. We will be working hard to ensure the lowering of the lake has the least possible effect on our regattas and the rowing experience for rowers.

## TRANSITION TO THE FUTURE

As part of a plan to secure the resilience of a future BRO workforce, I will be stepping down from the **Chief BRO** role before the start of the 2024-25 season to commence a process of transitioning leadership of the ACT BROs to the next generation. **Catherine Garrington** has agreed to accept the Chief BRO role, and I will be supporting Catherine through this transition. I believe this change is important to ensure we continue to have a strong pool of BROs to support local ACT Regattas, and to ensure the ACT continues to have a strong leadership role in the national BRO community. The sign at the finish line in 2024-25 will be "Under New Management"!

I am confident that Catherine will continue to promote a healthy and highly capable BRO pool as she settles into the role and places her own style and approach on BRO matters. I will continue to participate as a 'simple BRO' at local regattas and will continue to engage with the passion I have for the sport and participation by all in rowing.

## REFLECTIONS

When I commenced in the role of Chief BRO back in 2006, regattas came together through hard work and effort by many individuals with few technology aids. We did not have any National level accredited BROs, and training for the BRO was entirely done by tossing one into a boat with brief instructions on what to do, how to do it and when. As a new BRO, one learnt very quickly, and made lots of missteps and mistakes.

Over my tenure the evolution of the Rowing ACT BRO environment has been steady and significant in the service we deliver. I recall races were started by red flag and times were manually captured by BROs and relayed to the finish by radio. We rushed up and down the race course in speed boats with a sense of urgency that ultimately diminished the rower experience. Over the years, improved facilities and use of technology has made the work of a BRO simpler and more consistent. Where once there would be several instances of 'no race time' recorded in results, and the regatta schedule would often be delayed by upwards of thirty or more minutes, today with the technology we have developed it is rare for a race time to be missed, and the timing is unquestionably accurate. Today, it is unusual for a regatta to run more than 10 minutes late, and the preparation of assembling races has moved from often chaotic practices to relative calm and comfortable activities.

When I first started as a BRO, the final results were published the next day. Today, they are posted to the web within minutes of a race finishing. The finish line was once a hive of activity and often swept into uncertainty by distraction, mishaps and races merging together at the finish line. The typical finish line environment today is calm and controlled in operation, with tools to resolve uncertainties in the background while operations proceed as normal. With thanks to contributions from the rowing community, BROs have a well-protected finish area structure which ensures weather does not play a hand in lost results.

The greatest changes I have seen over my tenure from which I draw considerable pleasure is the vastly improved culture of BROs over the years, and the enhancement of rowing conditions for competitors achieved through changing the way in which we perform on-water umpiring duties. I recall earlier days of my BRO career where it was not uncommon for BROs to excessively raise their voices and become overbearing and officious. Over time, the BRO culture has turned to be more respectful, engaging and calm, with fewer instances of over-zealous or unnecessary direction to rowers, particularly school rowers. Raised BRO voices and interventions are far fewer, and the level of teamwork is vastly improved. The change is stark from my early BRO days.

The one change I am particularly proud of is the elimination of the BRO boat wash that was once accepted as a necessary part of running a regatta, whereby BRO boats would speed back to the start at full throttle resulting in wash for competitors, and long-period longitudinal waves rolling down the course. It was clear to me that with adoption of zonal umpiring techniques, better on-water organisation and maintenance of a consistent race interval that there was no need for any BRO boat to run back to the start at any speed greater than a low idle. This change generally eliminated BRO boat wash from the regatta course and has greatly improved the rower experience. For this old BRO, making the rowing experience better is the reward that encouraged me to continue fronting up for duty each regatta.

As stated earlier, I will continue as a 'simple BRO' and help Catherine apply her direction and approach as we move into the coming seasons. I join everyone in welcoming Catherine into the Chief BRO role and look forward to working together to achieve the best outcomes for the ACT rowing community.



# ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

ROWING ACT INCORPORATED  
ABN 57 627 872 148

PREPARED BY KINSELLA PTY LIMITED



# The Board submits the financial report of Rowing ACT for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

## DIRECTORS

The Rowing ACT Incorporated Board comprises of 9 members comprised of:

- President, who is elected under the Constitution;
- 5 elected Directors; and
- 3 appointed Directors

The following persons were members of the Board during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated were:

**Kent Peters, President**

**Tobias Wehr-Candler, Vice-President**

**Alison Chinn, Director of Finance** - resigned 20 November 2023

**Vinhara Goonesekera, Secretary** - resigned 23 October 2023

**Virginia Hayward**

**Craig Jones** - resigned 23 October 2023

**Catherine Garrington**

**Sebastian Lang**

**Ben Page** - resigned 23 October 2023

**Jaime Fernandez OLY** - elected 23 October 2023

**Alice Arch** - elected 23 October 2023

**Peter Wright** - appointed 23 October 2023

**Hugo Ellwood, Director of Finance** - appointed 23 November 2023

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal continuing activities of the association during the financial year were to foster, promote and develop rowing in the ACT which was achieved by:

- 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; and
- Manage talent identification and elite rowing within the ACT in partnership with Rowing Australia and the ACT Academy of Sport.

## REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The profit for the association amounted to \$96,002 (2023: loss of \$36,274). General business made a profit of \$64,855 (2023: loss of \$10,743) and High Performance and Pathways a profit of \$31,147 (2023: loss of \$25,531).

The financial year saw sustained growth in regatta participation together with a reduction in costs which contributed to the profitability of both regattas and High Performance and Pathways programs.

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

The ACT Government's funding arrangements changed significantly during the year from a general receipt of funding that could be spent on running the organisation to an approved funded activity model which requires the grant funds to be spent only on approved projects. Rowing ACT Incorporated's funded activity project is the "digital optimisation of the regattas".

## MATTERS SUBSEQUENT TO THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

Rowing Australia increased its national affiliation fees effective from 1 July 2024 to capture all competitive members (including juniors) where previously only senior members were counted. For the 2024-25 membership year only, Rowing Australia will charge the member states based on the number of Junior Competitive Members who compete at a Senior State Championship level and above. This has led to an increase in affiliation fees payable to Rowing ACT Incorporated for the 2024/25 upcoming season by the member Clubs in ACT.

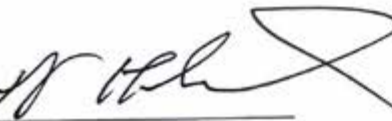
No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the association's operations, the results of those operations, or the entity's state of affairs in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members



**Kent Peters** (President)

Dated: 15 October 2024



**Hugo Ellwood** (Director of Finance)

Dated: 15 October 2024

# Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	NOTE	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Gross Profit</b>			
Revenue		114,976	105,180
Cost of Sales		(98,010)	(87,047)
<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>16,966</b>	<b>18,133</b>
Grants and Other Revenue	5	329,987	368,372
Interest Revenue		24,591	1,858
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>371,543</b>	<b>388,363</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Other Income		23,328	-
<b>Total Other Income</b>		<b>23,328</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>394,872</b>	<b>388,363</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Administration Expenses		42,410	47,320
Advertising and Marketing		7,644	3,183
Depreciation Expense		28,466	20,220
Employee Benefits Expense		181,530	316,454
Other Expenses		3,902	4,486
Travel and Accommodation		32,615	20,817
Uniforms		2,303	12,157
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>298,869</b>	<b>424,636</b>
<b>Surplus before income tax expense</b>		<b>96,002</b>	<b>(36,274)</b>
<b>Surplus after income tax expense for the year</b>		<b>96,002</b>	<b>(36,274)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>96,002</b>	<b>(36,274)</b>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

# Statement of financial position

AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	NOTE	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	642,299	618,778
Trade and other receivables	8	110,926	53,252
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>753,225</b>	<b>672,030</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	9	216,589	160,768
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>216,589</b>	<b>160,768</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>969,814</b>	<b>832,798</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	51,488	17,364
Employee benefits	11	21,893	28,382
Other liabilities	12	58,625	48,450
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>132,006</b>	<b>94,196</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Employee benefits	11	5,677	2,472
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>5,677</b>	<b>2,472</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>137,683</b>	<b>96,668</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>832,131</b>	<b>736,129</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surpluses		832,131	736,129
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>832,131</b>	<b>736,129</b>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

# Statement of **changes in equity**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

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	<b>2024</b> <b>\$</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		
Opening balance (retained surpluses)	736,129	772,403
<b>Increases</b>		
Surplus after income tax expense for the year	96,002	(36,274)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>96,002</b>	<b>(36,274)</b>
Closing balance (retained surpluses)	<b>832,131</b>	<b>736,129</b>

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The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



# Statement of cash flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	NOTE	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>			
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>			
Receipts from customers and grant funding (inclusive of GST)		482,320	502,936
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(391,093)	(486,010)
<b>Net cash generated from operations</b>		<b>91,227</b>	<b>16,926</b>
Interest received		9,572	1,858
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<b>100,799</b>	<b>18,784</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(89,278)	(3,345)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		12,000	-
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(77,278)</b>	<b>(3,345)</b>
Net cash used in financing activities		-	-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		23,521	15,439
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		618,778	603,339
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	7	642,299	618,778

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

### NOTE 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The financial statements cover Rowing ACT Incorporated (the 'Association') as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Rowing ACT Incorporated's functional and presentation currency.

Rowing ACT Incorporated is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

21 Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla, ACT 2600

The Association's principal activity is to foster, promote and develop rowing in the ACT.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 15th October 2024.

### NOTE 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### **New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted**

The Association has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period. The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of the Association.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

#### **Basis of preparation**

In the Boards' opinion, the Association is not a reporting entity as users may obtain the financial information they require upon request.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 and associated regulations. The Board has determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of Rowing ACT Incorporated.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

#### **Historical cost convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Critical accounting estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Association's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 3.

## **Revenue recognition**

The Association recognises revenue as follows:

### ***Revenue from contracts with customers***

Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Association is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the Association: identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

Variable consideration within the transaction price, if any, reflects concessions provided to the customer such as discounts, rebates and refunds, any potential bonuses receivable from the customer and any other contingent events. Such estimates are determined using either the 'expected value' or 'most likely amount' method. The measurement of variable consideration is subject to a constraining principle whereby revenue will only be recognised to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognised will not occur. The measurement constraint continues until the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. Amounts received that are subject to the constraining principle are recognised as a refund liability.

### ***Grants, Government stimulus and other contributions***

Grants, Government stimulus and other contributions are generally recognised as income when the Association obtains control over the granted asset, which normally occurs at the time they are received.

Grants received that have specific performance obligations are brought to account as the performance obligation has been satisfied. Where the grant is refundable it is recognised as a liability.

### ***Interest***

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

### ***Other income***

Other income is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

### ***Income tax***

As the Association is an exempt entity in terms of subsection 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax

## **Current and non-current classification**

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the Association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the Association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

## Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

The Association has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

## Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Reference sheet materials are not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment: 5 - 25 years

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An item of plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the Association. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

## Impairment of non-financial assets

Reference sheet materials are not subject to depreciation and are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired. Other non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use is the depreciated replacement cost of the asset.

## Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within normal trading terms.

## Employee benefits

### *Short-term employee benefits*

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

### *Other long-term employee benefits*

The liabilities for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

## Fair value measurement

When an asset or liability, financial or non-financial, is measured at fair value for recognition or disclosure purposes, the fair value is based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date; and assumes that the transaction will take place either: in the principal market; or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market.

Fair value is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming they act in their economic best interests. For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement is based on its highest and best use. Valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, are used, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

## Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

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 tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority.

## New Accounting Standards and Interpretations not yet mandatory or early adopted

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory, have not been early adopted by the Association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2024. The Association has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

## NOTE 3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS, ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

### ***Estimation of useful lives of assets***

The Association determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation charge for its plant and equipment.

The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

### ***Employee benefits provision***

As discussed in note 2, the liability for employee benefits expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date are recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all

employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

**NOTE 4. CORRECTION OF ERRORS**

(i) During the year, the association decided to account for Employee Benefits in accordance with accounting standards as the board members believe that the reporting of such liabilities gives a more accurate account of the liabilities of the association at the end of the financial year. As a consequence, the provision for employee benefits payable by the association had been understated in prior years by the following amounts respectively:

- Provision for Annual Leave \$28,382
- Provision for Long Service Leave \$2,472

(ii) In prior years, Rowing ACT's subsidy to the HP/Pathways program was incorrectly disclosed separately as 'grant' revenue and expenditure. This grant revenue was not income for Rowing ACT Inc. but a contribution from Rowing ACT Inc to the HP/Pathways area and was reported separately for divisional reporting purposes only. The HP/Pathways division is part of Rowing ACT Inc and so was a payment from and to itself.

The errors have been corrected by restating each of the affected financial statement line items for the prior periods as follows:

	30 June 2023 \$	Increase/ (Decrease) \$	30 June 2023 (Restated) \$
<b>Statement of Financial position (extract)</b>			
Current liabilities			
Employee Benefits	-	28,382	28,382
Non-current liabilities			
Employee Benefits	-	2,472	2,472
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>65,814</b>	<b>30,854</b>	<b>96,668</b>
<b>Net assets</b>			
Retained earnings	766,983	(30,854)	736,129
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>766,983</b>	<b>(30,854)</b>	<b>736,129</b>
	2023 \$	Profit Increase/ (Decrease) \$	2023 (Restated) \$
<b>Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income (extract)</b>			
Grants and Other Revenue	374,372	(6,000)	368,372
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>394,363</b>	<b>(6,000)</b>	<b>388,363</b>
Employee benefits expense	-	(30,854)	(30,854)
Subsidy ACTPP	(6,000)	6,000	-
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(399,783)</b>	<b>(24,854)</b>	<b>(424,636)</b>
<b>Profit/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>(5,420)</b>	<b>(30,854)</b>	<b>(36,274)</b>

**NOTE 5. GRANTS AND OTHER REVENUE**

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Member Contributions	(79,914)	(61,427)
Grant Revenue	(248,648)	(306,945)
Donations	(1,425)	-
<b>Total Grants and Other Revenue</b>	<b>(329,987)</b>	<b>(368,372)</b>

## NOTE 6. EXPENSES

Surplus before income tax includes the following specific expenses:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Defined Contribution Superannuation Expenses</b>		
Superannuation	17,750	26,028
<b>Total Defined Contribution Superannuation Expenses</b>	<b>17,750</b>	<b>26,028</b>

## NOTE 7. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at Bank	239,662	368,778
Term Deposit	402,637	250,000
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>642,299</b>	<b>618,778</b>

## NOTE 8. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade Receivables	77,233	43,396
Other Receivables and Accruals	16,451	-
Prepayments	17,242	9,856
<b>Total Trade and Other Receivables</b>	<b>110,926</b>	<b>53,252</b>

## NOTE 9. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
Plant and Equipment - at Cost	391,828	332,484
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(175,239)	(171,716)
Total Plant and Equipment	216,589	160,768
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>216,589</b>	<b>160,768</b>

**NOTE 10. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Trade Payables	15,116	-
Other Payables and Accruals	36,372	17,364
<b>Total Trade and Other Payables</b>	<b>51,488</b>	<b>17,364</b>

**NOTE 11. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Annual Leave	21,893	28,382
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>21,893</b>	<b>28,382</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Long Service Leave	5,677	2,472
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>5,677</b>	<b>2,472</b>
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>27,570</b>	<b>30,854</b>

**NOTE 12. OTHER LIABILITIES**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Deferred Grants	(58,625)	(48,450)
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>(58,625)</b>	<b>(48,450)</b>

**NOTE 13. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL DISCLOSURES**

Key Management personnel (KMP) are defined as people with authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity. The entity has identified KMP as members of the board and the Executive Officer. As the board is appointed on a voluntary basis there is only one KMP who receives remuneration for their services. Consequently, the Association is not required to disclose KMP remuneration.



#### NOTE 14. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Mainsail Accounting Solutions Pty Ltd, the auditor of the Association:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Audit of the financial statements</b>		
Audit fee	1,925	900

The 2024 audit fee includes both the 2023 audit fee and the accrual for the 2024 audit fee. No audit fee accrual was accounted for in previous years.

#### NOTE 15. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

#### NOTE 16. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

Economic dependency of the Association is dependent on the ongoing receipt of financial assistance from the ACT Government (and its various departments) and Rowing Australia to continue delivering its programs. At the time of this report, the Board was aware that the ACT Government's funding arrangements had significantly changed from previous years however, the Association's application for the Industry Partnership Program had been successful with initial funding received in June 2024. Rowing Australia, in late May 2024, had extended its funding for the RA National Performance Pathways Program for a further six months until 31 December 2024.

The Board have no reason to believe that the government and Rowing Australia will discontinue its support of the Association.

#### NOTE 17. RECONCILIATION OF SURPLUS AFTER INCOME TAX TO NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Surplus after income tax expense for the year	96,002	(36,274)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation	28,466	20,220
Fixed asset disposal	(7,010)	-
<b>Change in operating assets and liabilities:</b>		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	(35,269)	(37,126)
Decrease/(increase) in other assets	(15,019)	-
Decrease/(increase) in prepayments	(7,385)	11,390
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	34,123	8,770
Increase/(decrease) in other provisions	(3,284)	30,854
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	10,175	20,950
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>100,799</b>	<b>18,784</b>

#### NOTE 18. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Rowing Australia increased its national affiliation fees effective from 1 July 2024 to capture all competitive members (including juniors) where previously only senior members were counted. For the 2024-25 membership year only, Rowing Australia will charge the member states based on the number of Junior Competitive Members who compete at a Senior State Championship level and above. This has led to an increase in affiliation fees payable to Rowing ACT Incorporated for the 2024/25 upcoming season by the member Clubs in ACT.

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Association's operations, the results of those operations, or the Association's state of affairs in future financial years.

# BOARD OF MANAGEMENT'S DECLARATION

for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

**In the Board's opinion:**

- The Association, a not-for-profit entity, is not a reporting entity as users may obtain the financial information they require on request. Accordingly, as described in note 2 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 and associated regulations;
- The attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards to the extent described in note 2 to the financial statements;
- The attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board



**Kent Peters** (President)

*Dated: 15 October 2024*



**Hugo Ellwood** (Director of Finance)

*Dated: 15 October 2024*

# AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

## under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Members of Rowing ACT Incorporated

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit of Rowing ACT Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2024 there have been:

- A. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- B. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



**Stephen Maginnity**

BComm (Accountancy), MComm (Professional Accounting, FfPA, FFA)

Mainsail Accounting Pty Ltd ATF Mainsail Accounting Trust  
Erindale Chambers  
Shop 3, 5 Grattan Court  
Wanniassa ACT 2903

*Dated: 15 October 2024*

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ROWING ACT INCORPORATED

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Rowing ACT Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the Director's Report, Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the Year ended 30 June 2024, Statement of financial position as at the Year then ended, Statement of changes in equity and Statement of cash flows for the Year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and a Declaration by the Board of Management of the Committee.

## **Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Committee of Rowing ACT Incorporated is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in the Notes to the Financial Statements is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Australian Capital Territory) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the Members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply 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 Association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, 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 association's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial report of Rowing ACT Incorporated presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Rowing ACT Incorporated as at 30 June 2024 and its financial performance for the Year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to the Financial Statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act(Australian Capital Territory).

## **Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution**

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the Notes to the Financial Statements, which describe the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Rowing ACT Incorporated to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Australian Capital Territory). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



## **Stephen Maginnity**

BComm (Accountancy), MComm (Professional Accounting, FfPA, FFA)

Mainsail Accounting Pty Ltd ATF Mainsail Accounting Trust  
Erindale Chambers  
Shop 3, 5 Grattan Court  
Wanniassa ACT 2903

*Dated: 15 October 2024*



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