

DATE: 27th January 2017

SUBJECT: 2017 Australian Masters Championships –NSW crew for interstate events

The board of Rowing NSW has completed a review of the process used to determine NSW crews to contest the interstate events at the Australian Masters Rowing Championships. A primary concern the board sought to avoid was the likelihood of masters state team selection and training becoming a burden, significantly interfering with athletes' and clubs' usual club based rowing training and racing.

The principal of "cooperative selection" will provide the opportunity for NSW clubs and their masters member athletes to cooperate to form the competitive eligible crews to compete in each interstate masters' event. Furthermore, practical matters such as crew members' locations and ability to get together for training sessions are more readily addressed through a process of self-selection.

Rather than selectors making crew choices based on limited athlete and crew performance data available to them from limited opportunities for testing a trialling, crew members and coaches will determine for themselves the crews they wish to train and race in. These crews may be based at one or more club, providing equal opportunity for athletes from both metropolitan and regional clubs.

Provided crews comply with state team eligibility and minimum age requirements, the final crew composition will be the joint responsibility of the athletes and coaches involved and does not require input from selectors.

1. All state masters team crew members and coxswains must be registered members of Rowing NSW.
2. The Winning Crew in the 2017 NSW Championship D age category for each of the men's and women's coxed eights and coxless quadruple sculls will form the basis of the NSW entrant to compete in the respective interstate event at the 2017 Australian Masters Rowing Championships.
3. The winning crew and coach at their sole discretion (which is not subject to appeal for any reason) may if they choose to do so, substitute up to half rowers in the winning crew with crew members from other crews that competed in any championship event at the RNSW 2017 Masters Championship regatta. Note that mixed races are not championship events.

4. Athletes who did not compete in a championship event at the RNSW 2017 Masters Championship regatta will be ineligible for substitution into a crew.
5. Coxswains may be chosen by the winning crew and coach at their sole discretion (which is not subject to appeal for any reason). Coxswains do not need to have competed at the 2017 NSW Masters Championships to be eligible to cox the NSW state masters crew.
6. Proposed crews must have a minimum average age of 50 years (masters D category) for season 2017 and comply with all Rowing Australia rules for eligibility which may apply to these events.
7. The names of final crew and coach to represent NSW must be advised to the CEO of RNSW before 5 PM on Wednesday 10th of May, 2017.
8. If for any reason the Winning Crew and coach fail to advise the CEO of the names of the final crew by the due date and time, then at the sole discretion of the CEO, the next placed crew may be invited to form a crew and will have 2 business days to do so.

Anthony Blower
Chief Executive Officer

