

DATE: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017

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

*Note that this document has been amended in response to feedback from some clubs regarding the format of the selection racing.*

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The board of Rowing NSW has completed a review of the process used to determine RNSW 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 clubs' and their masters members' usual club based rowing training and racing.

Accordingly, the RNSW crews for the interstate races at the 2017 Australian Masters Championships crews will be determined by a process of "cooperative selection."

This will provide the opportunity for all RNSW member clubs and their masters members to cooperate with members of their own club and other clubs to form crews which will compete for the opportunity to determine the final RNSW crew to compete in each interstate masters event.

Practical matters such as crew members' locations and their ability to get together for training sessions are more readily addressed through this self-selection model. This will also provide opportunities for capable members of smaller clubs and regional clubs to choose and manage how they may be able to participate in this program.

Rather than selectors making crew appointments, crew members and coaches will be able to determine for themselves the crews they wish to train and race in. These crews may be based at one club or be a combination of two or more clubs and will provide equal opportunity for athletes from both metropolitan and regional clubs to participate.

Clubs and their masters members are encouraged to work together cooperatively to build what they believe to be the fastest crew combinations.

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

Ideally crews entering the Selection Races will be Masters D age category however entries will be accepted from C and E age category crews. RA masters handicaps will be applied to C age category crews. No handicap will be applied to crews aged older than D age category. The final crew nominated must be D age category.

1. All state masters team crew members and coxswains must be registered members of Rowing NSW.
2. The winning crew in the **2017 NSW State Masters Team Selection Race** at the RNSW Masters State Championship Regatta 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 be masters D category for season 2017 and comply with all Rowing Australia rules for eligibility which may apply to these events.
7. The final crew and coach to represent NSW must be advised to the CEO of RNSW before 5 PM on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017.
8. If for any reason the winning crew is unable to fulfil the requirements of paragraph 7 above, the right to determine the representative crew will pass to the next placed crew who will have until 5 PM on the Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 to advise the RNSW CEO of the crew and coach to represent NSW in their respective event.

Anthony Blower  
Chief Executive Officer