



BOARD MEETING
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli
Wednesday 23 June 2010 at 6.45pm

MINUTES

Attendees: Norma Perry (President), Tim Clare, Peter Trives, Bryan Weir, Chris Noel, Stephen Handley, Bronwen Watson, and Christian Renford (CEO)

Visitors: Andrew Rowley (Councillor to RA). Items 4.1 and 4.2 only

Apologies: Joe Zammit and Greg James QC

1. Welcome

N Perry welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Previous Meetings Minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 19 May Board Meeting as true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: B Weir Seconded: S Handley

Motion Carried

3. Business Arising

The CEO tabled the Board action sheet. The CEO provided a verbal update on the status of pending items to be actioned from previous minutes.

4. Items For Discussion

4.1 Facilities Development Commission

A Rowley tabled the report on the activities of the Facilities Development Commission (FDC).

It was noted that the Facilities Development Commission meets monthly either face to face or via teleconference. The priority is to identify and negotiate sites to develop rowing facilities for existing and new rowing clubs in NSW, limiting the risk to Rowing NSW and fund the development of the sites without using existing Rowing NSW capital.

A Rowley noted the following priority sites nominated by the FDC:

1. Burroway Rd, Homebush Bay

The Board expressed the desire to cater the expansion of both new and existing rowing programs in the proposed development, however priority should be given to ensuring the financial viability of identified rowing programs limiting the risk to Rowing NSW.

Action 1 – FDC to seek expressions of interest from existing and new rowing programs.

Action 2 – FDC to develop business plan for the opportunity

2. Chifley Dam, Bathurst

The Bathurst community and Bathurst Regional Council (BRC) are keen to see the development of rowing in the community. A site has been identified by Bathurst Regional Council at the Dam, and community consultation has begun:

- Rowing NSW staff have attended Kelso High School, and conducted a level 1 coaching course
- Lake Wallace RC has committed \$5,000 to the project
- FDC want to limit financial risk and believe we can build a compound at no cost to the Council or RNSW
- Note - dam is currently used extensively by water skiers on weekends. However, council believes they can facilitate both parties.

It was recommended that Rob Strange lead negotiations with Bathurst Regional Council on behalf of Rowing NSW.

Action – Facilities Development Commission to seek expressions of interest from the community and identify current and potential schools

Motion: To accept the report and recommendations from the Facilities Development Commission as tabled.

Moved: S Handley Seconded: N Perry

Motion Carried

A Rowley further tabled a secondary report on the 18-20 June 2010, Rowing Australia Council Meeting. The report included issues addressed by the RA Council at its teleconference and at the mid-year meeting:

- Timing of the National Championships
- Club events in the National Championships program
- RA Board appointed positions
- Selections particularly junior selection and retention of athletes' that don't make selection
- NTID and implementation through State programs
- Community/ Development Funding Grant.
- ROMS and the outcomes of the review
- Structure of the council meetings
- Communication between RA and the States
- Council to meet again in September to discuss ROMS

Action – A Rowley to forward T Clare and S Handley RA presentations on the ROMS discussion.

4.2 RA Board – Appointed Director Nominations

The CEO noted that the Rowing Australia Board is seeking expressions of interest for an appointed Director position on the RA Board with recent expertise in schools rowing, preferably with programs extending to the National Championships. Essential knowledge for appointment to this position will be:

- Current or recent experience in the management and administration of a school rowing program
- Current or recent experience in the challenges and opportunities faced by school rowing programs
- Particular knowledge and experience in the transition from school to club
- Extensive knowledge of school rowing programs, preferably both schoolboys and schoolgirls
- Particular knowledge of school programs extending to the National Championships

The deadline for any nomination is Thursday 1st July, 2010.

The meeting debated the suitably qualified candidates for possible nomination by RNSW.

Action – A Rowley, C Noel and B Watson to determine availability and interest of identified candidates.

5. Items For Resolution

5.1 Finance Reports as at 31 May 2010

The CEO tabled the aged receivables and the monthly analysis of the budget as at 31 May 2010.

The CEO highlighted anticipated items of income and expenditure to be expected in June 2010 based on 2008/09 activity, indicating the accounts are in line with the forecast for the end of the financial year.

It was noted that the aged receivables have been considerably reduced by the recent actions of the Finance Officer.

The CEO updated the meeting on the conduct of the pre-audit meeting with VJ Ryan (RNSW Auditors), the Director of Finance, Finance Officer and the CEO. The meeting discussed the requirements of the association for the 2009/10 audit and tabled the existing accounting procedures and debtors process for endorsement by the auditors.

Motion: To accept the financial statements as presented.

Moved: P Trives Seconded: B Weir

Motion carried

5.2 2010 Youth Cup

Youth Cup selection trials were conducted at SIRC on Sunday 30th May 2010 in the format set out in the Selection Policy.

The Selectors recommendation for the team to represent NSW at the 2010 Youth Cup event was as follows:

	Men's Team		Women's Team	
Coxless Pair A	Hamish Playfair Ryan Barraclough	SUBC SUBC	Sarah Jones Johanna Tarrant	Grafton High Grafton High
Coxless Pair B	Spencer Turrin Jason Waddel	Sydney Sydney	Emily Brown Jess Buttel	Queenwood Queenwood
Sculler A	Steven Peile	St George	Eliza Flint	Mosman
Sculler B	Jacob Waller	Mosman	Ellie Winstanley	SUWRC
Lightweight Double Scull	James Waldersee Cameron Kitcher	Balmain Grafton High	Holly Lawrence Maria Doumanis	HVG SUWRC
Reserve	Jack David	Sydney	Laura Brienesse	UTS
Coxswain	William Raven	SUBC	Gabby Poletto	Sydney

Lead Coaches:

Men Alan Bennett (Head Coach)

Women Stani Slavova

Assistant Coaches:

Men Alfie Young

Women Christopher Holliday

Intern Coaches:

Robin Smith

David Gely

Motion: To endorse the team to represent NSW at the 2010 Youth Cup event as recommended by the Selectors.

Moved: S Handley Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

5.3 RA Council Mid-Year Meeting – National Regatta Timing and Club Events

At the October 2009 Board meeting S Handley presented a paper to the Board "Strategy to Facilitate Development of Club Based High Performance Programs".

The purpose of this paper was to "focus discussion on the role Rowing Australia's management of national competition plays in the development and expansion our sport most particularly among those experienced competent athletes aged 18 – 28 who do not wish to participate in high performance programs, or have immediate ambitions for national selection."

This paper was discussed by the RA delegates and RNSW Board prior to the October 2009 RA Roadshow.

The meeting reviewed the seven recommendations outlined in the discussion paper and noted minor additions to incorporate for presentation to the RA Council.

Action 1 – S Handley to update paper as discussed.

Action 2 – A Rowley to present revised discussion paper to the RA Council at the November 2010 meeting.

5.4 Competition Commission

S Handley spoke to a discussion paper identifying three concurrent challenges for RNSW to address in the area of elite development and high performance rowing in NSW;

- a) The selection of NSW State Teams (Interstate Regatta, Youth Cup and Youth Olympics).
- b) Greater coordination of NSW elite development and high performance objectives
- c) RNSW's and clubs relationships with the NRCE, NSWIS, and national programs such as NEDP and NTID.

The discussion paper recognised the need for NSW to restructure our elite development pathways in light of the evolving expectations and opportunities presented by the National Rowing Centre of Excellence and supporting programs.

The meeting discussed the recommendations outlined in the paper and noted minor amendments to the structure as tabled:

1. Maintain the structure of the current Competition Commission, amending the charter to incorporate the High Performance Committee (HPC). Composition to include three Board appointees and CEO as ex-officio
2. Maintain the current Selection Panel structure. Composition to include member of the competition commission and two board appointees.
3. Implementation of the High Performance Committee and supporting structure for the 2010/11 Season (ie post 2010 Youth Cup). Composition to include CEO, NSWIS Head Coach, NSWIS Rowing Manager, Development Officer and up to two Board appointed athlete representatives.

Board to consider nomination / appointment process for the Board appointee position/s on the:

- Competition Commission
- Selection Panel
- High Performance Committee

Motion: To endorse discussion paper subject to the amendments as agreed.

Moved: C Noel Seconded: P Trives

Motion Carried

Action 1: CEO to forward updated discussion paper to Board for final approval.

Action 2: CEO to publish the RNSW Commission and Committee structure and charters on the RNSW website.

6. Items For Information

6.1 RNSW Office and CEO Report

The CEO tabled the Staff Operational report. The report provided an overview of issues/actions that RNSW and NSWIS staff are actioning for the month preceding the Board meeting.

6.2 Supplementary Operational Reports

The CEO tabled the following supplementary reports:

6.2.1 2009/10 Membership

7. General Business

7.1 Australian Masters Championships

The CEO noted the results of the NSW Masters representative crews at the 2010 Australian Masters Championships:

Gold	Women's Quad
Silver	Women's Eight
Bronze	Men's Eight
4th	Men's Quad

The meeting congratulated the NSW Masters representative crews on their achievements.

7.2 Schoolgirl Head of the River

The CEO noted the request from the Combined Independent Schools Sports Council (NSWCIS) to review the RNSW response to their request to change the date of the 2011 Schoolgirl Head of the River.

Action – T Clare, B Watson, M Clarke and CEO to form a working group review the original request and respond to the CIS.

Meeting closed – 9:20pm

Next Meeting – 21 July 2010 @ 6:30pm
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli