



**BOARD MEETING**  
**Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli**  
*Wednesday 15 September 2010 at 6.40pm*

**MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Norma Perry (President), Tim Clare, Joe Zammit, Bryan Weir, Stephen Handley, Greg James QC, and Christian Renford (CEO)

**Visitors:** John Boulton, Murray Clarke

**Apologies:** Bronwen Watson, Chris Noel

**1. Welcome**

N Perry welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Board Discussions**

**2.1 RA Elected Directors - John Boulton Presentation**

J Boulton provided a verbal overview of current activities and strategic direction of the RA Board. It was noted that traditionally the RA Board had placed a heavy focus on high performance activities, however with the recent formation on the NRCE, the RA Board is very happy with the level of activity and quality of output from the NRCE. It was noted that this has afforded the RA Board the opportunity to focus more on other endeavours, such as providing a leadership and guidance role in the area of 'club development'.

J Boulton expressed his desire to re-nominate for the RA Board and sought RNSW's endorsement.

*Action – N Perry to confirm RNSW's endorsement or otherwise to J Boulton.*

The meeting sought clarification from J Boulton for interested members of the RNSW Board to attend the RA Strategic Forum in November. J Boulton noted that additional attendees have been welcome to attend previously, however would be at the cost of RNSW.

**2.2 NSW Maritime Matters - Murray Clarke**

M Clarke provided a verbal update on the status of activities within NSW Maritime and the Rowing Steering Committee.

The meeting noted that the central issues affecting all passive water craft using the Parramatta River and Sydney Harbour are the cumulative impact of

noise, wash, safety and speed. These issues facing rowers and other passive craft have been steadily escalating over recent years, and likely to continue.

The meeting discussed the concept of “STOP WASH”, a representative lobby group whose role may be one of education, advocacy and the promotion of a culture of concern and care within the whole community for the rights and responsibilities of passive watercraft on or adjacent to the water (initially the Parramatta River and Sydney Harbour only).

It was further noted that any actions should consider engagement with Yachting NSW, Paddle NSW, other recreational user groups of the Parramatta River, and interested members of RNSW to assist where appropriate.

The meeting resolved to form a working group to investigate how this could be best achieved. The working group should consider, but not be limited to, the formation of a representative body, registration of domain name/s, identification of key issues – charter, insurance, etc.

*Action – M Clarke, S Handley and CEO*

### **3. Previous Meetings Minutes**

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 18 August Board Meeting as true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: B Weir                      Seconded: J Zammit

Motion Carried

### **4. 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.

Additional advice was provided on the following:

- B Weir provided a verbal update on the status of Drummoyne Rowing Club
- CEO provided an update on the actions undertaken to meet with all ‘new and emerging clubs’. The CEO also tabled a spreadsheet developed to summarise all clubs, schools affiliated associations monthly levies and affiliation fees.
- State Event Management Committee incorporated the inclusion of M Mackenzie as Regatta Secretary.
- The Board confirmed the empowerment of the Facilities Development Commission to commence approaching schools and other interested parties about their interest and possible involvement in the Burroway Road, Homebush Bay project.

*Action – CEO to forward the trust deeds for the LE Steptoe and Bromley trusts to the Board for reference.*

*Action 2 – CEO to circulate summary association affiliation fees and levies of member clubs and, independently affiliated clubs affiliated associations and kindred associations.*

## **5. Items For Information**

### **5.1 CEO Report**

The CEO tabled the reformatted CEO report. This report summarises the activities and comments from the period 11 August to 9 September 2010, referencing alignment to the agreed objectives and priorities in the 2010-2013 Strategic Plan.

Motion: To accept the CEO Report as presented.

Moved: G James                      Seconded: J Zammit

Motion Carried

### **5.2 Supplementary Operational Reports**

The CEO tabled the following supplementary operational reports:

- 5.2.1 2010/11 Membership statistics as at 9 September
- 5.2.2 RNSW Membership Statistics – 5 year historical analysis
- 5.2.3 Regatta Statistics – August to September 2010
- 5.2.4 Regatta Entry Comparison – August to September 2010

## **6. Items For Resolution**

### **6.1 Finance Reports**

The CEO presented a detailed report on the management accounts to 31 August 2010 and highlighted the following items within each business unit:

- i. Administration – income limited to club levies. Provision for leave for G Lee paid in full (approx. 13 weeks)
- ii. Operations – income derived from memberships in line with year to date budget. Credit to Hunter Rowing Club for the 2010 Australian Masters Champs (duplicate invoice)
- iii. Development – no significant financial activity in development in August

The CEO noted that the structural review within Sydney University, has meant that that the Faculty of Business and Economics sponsorship of Youth Day at the 2011 State Championships has yet to be finalised.

Motion: To accept the financial statements as presented.

Moved: S Handley                      Seconded: B Weir

Motion carried

The CEO noted the circulation via e-mail on 3 September 2010, of the Associations 2009/10 audited accounts as presented by VJ Ryan & Co Chartered Accountants.

Motion - To receive and adopt the RNSW Financial Statements for 1st July 2009 to 30th June 2010 as presented by VJ Ryan & Co Chartered Accountants

Motion carried unanimously

## 6.2 Competition Commission

The Board debated the appointment of Andrew Rowley to the vacant position on the Competition Commission.

Motion: To appoint Andrew Rowley to the Competition Commission.

Moved: S Handley                      Seconded: B Weir

Motion carried

The CEO confirmed the composition of the Competition Commission as:

- Stephen Handley – Chairman
- Chris Noel
- Bronwen Watson
- Andrew Rowley
- CEO – ex officio

*Action - The CEO to update the commission structure as published on the website:*

N Perry tabled a letter from Rowing Australia President, Colin Smith confirming the National High Performance Directors' availability to attend the next RNSW Meeting. The letter offered Andrew Matheson to provide the Rowing New South Wales Board with a briefing on the National High Performance Program, specifically those elements relating to the National Talent Identification Program and National Junior Team selection.

*Action 1 – CEO to confirm availability of A Matheson attending a future RNSW Board meeting.*

*Action 2 - Board to submit to the CEO questions that they would like addressed by A Matheson prior to the meeting.*

## 6.3 Board Casual Vacancy – Director of Finance

No nominations were received for the vacant Director of Finance position. The CEO noted that an expression of interests have been received for the position, however no formal nominations received within the timeframe requested.

The meeting confirmed the appointment of J Zammit as the acting Director of Finance until the casual vacancy has been filled.

*Action – CEO to further investigate the received expression of interest and subject to application circulate to the Board.*

## **7. Items For Discussion**

### 7.1 Rowing Australia Circular #1

#### *7.1.1 Annual General Meeting – Call for Notices of Motion and Strategic Forum Topics*

The meeting discussed the e-mail previously circulated from C Noel. The meeting agreed on the following topics to be requested for inclusion in the RA Strategic Forum in November 2010:

- Refunds for Junior and U23 Tours

- Allocation of funding for Development
- Junior Team Selection Policy

*Action – CEO and RNSW Councillor*

#### *7.1.2 RA Rules Review Committee*

RA intends to conduct a comprehensive review of the RA Rules beginning in September / October. As requested in Section 4 Rowing Australia Circular #1, the Board confirmed the nomination of the following members for the RA Rule Review Committee:

1. Keith Jameson
2. Tim Wainman

*Action – CEO to forward nominations to RA*

#### *7.1.3 National Championships Panel*

RA is intending to create a small working panel to consider the future planning of the National Championships. Specifically the working panel will consider balancing the needs and wants of all National Championships stakeholders, and optimising the profile of the Kings Cup and National Championships regatta. As requested in Section 4 of Rowing Australia Circular #1, the Board confirmed the nomination of the following members to the National Championships Panel:

1. Stephen Handley
2. Tony Brown

*Action – CEO to forward nominations to RA*

### 7.2 RNSW Annual General Meeting

The CEO provided a brief overview of the format of the 2010 Annual General Meeting. It was noted that three Board positions expire at the AGM and are due for election:

1. President - election required
  - Norma Perry (North Shore)
  - Charles Bartlett (Leichhardt)
2. Director of Administration - no election required
  - Joseph Zammit (Sydney Women's MLC)
3. One Director - no election required
  - Greg James QC (Balmain)

### 7.3 Laws of Boat Racing update

N Perry noted the cancellation of the Laws of Boat Racing consultation workshop scheduled for 1 September 2010 at Sports House. N Perry acknowledge the amount and quality of work that has already been undertaken by all involved to review the Laws of Boat Racing to date, and that RNSW remains committed to this reviewing the Laws of Boat Racing.

In light of Rowing Australia announcing its intention to conduct a comprehensive review of the RA Rules (ie Laws of Boat Racing) beginning in September/October 2010, a full review of the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing is no longer applicable.

The meeting noted that although a full review of the Laws of Boat Racing will not occur for the coming season, however 'minor' changes to the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing are still warranted in the interim period. Any such recommended amendments should be considered by the membership at the February General Meeting.

*Action 1 – BRO Commission prioritise recommended alterations the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing.*

*Action 2 – CEO to provide update to the membership on the status of activities surrounding the RNSW Laws of Boat Racing, and the Constitution.*

## **8. General Business**

### **8.1 Rowing School NSW**

RNSW has been working with UTS to coordinate coach development and education workshops throughout NSW. All workshops are expected to be eligible for NCAS reaccreditation points. The meeting noted its support of the Rowing School New South Wales (RSNSW) concept, and is encouraged by the development initiatives of its members and constituent clubs.

The Board however noted two immediate concerns to be addressed relating to the RSNSW initiative:

#### **1 - Registration of Business Name - Rowing School New South Wales (RSNSW)**

The Board is of the opinion that the name Rowing School New South Wales (RSNSW) be likely to cause confusion throughout the membership this initiative is being conducted by Rowing New South Wales. The meeting expressed the desire that the name Rowing School New South Wales (RSNSW) be changed to an alternate name that does not cause confusion amongst the membership, and infer association with Rowing New South Wales.

#### **2 - Rowing School New South Wales relationship with the UTS Rowing Club**

RNSW is supportive of all sport and business development initiatives of its constituent members, however commercial operations deriving a profit from the sport are charged appropriate commercial rates. The Board would like further clarification surrounding the commercial relationship between Rowing School New South Wales and the UTS Rowing Club. Once clarified, RNSW can determine what course it may wish to take.

*Action – CEO to write to RSNSW to confirm the above*

Meeting closed – 10:00pm

Next Meeting – 20 October 2010 @ 6:30pm  
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli