



**BOARD MEETING**  
**Sydney Rowing Club, Abbotsford**  
*Wednesday 23 February 2011 at 6:35pm*

**MINUTES**

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

**Apologies:** Bronwen Watson

**1. Welcome**

N Perry welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes and Business Arising**

**2.1 Previous Meetings Minutes**

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

Moved: C Noel                      Seconded: J Zammit

Motion Carried

**2.2 Business Raising**

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

Additional advice was provided on the following:

**2.2.1 *Laws of Boat Racing***

The meeting noted that the alterations to the Laws of Boat Racing endorsed at the February General Meeting come into effect immediately.

*Action: Regatta Secretary to update the RNSW Laws of Boat racing and disseminate the membership accordingly.*

**2.2.2 *Transfers Working Group***

N Perry summarised the debate from the membership at the February General Meeting regarding part one of the Transfers Working Group; Protocol for Ethical Recruiting.

The meeting debated part one of the document. The Board noted that there was adequate discussion at the February General Meeting for views to be aired, and that nothing precluded the Board to endorse part one of the document; Protocol for Ethical Recruiting

Motion: To endorse part one of the Transfers Working Group Document; Protocol for Ethical Recruiting.

Moved: B Weir                      Seconded: C Noel

Motion Carried

*Action – CEO to publish on the RNSW website and communicate to the membership*

Part two of the document: Special Rules regarding the transfer of Year 12 School Leavers; was subject to a motion at the February General Meeting referring it to a second working group. The draft Minutes were not tabled at the meeting, but are inserted here for completeness.

That the meeting defer the Board's recommendation and refer it to a Working Group which shall:

1. convene a meeting for all clubs to attend or make submission to in order to obtain a wider view of the issues that clubs want addressed in any amendment of our rules dealing with transfers and recruitment, and;
2. prepare a recommendation for review and endorsement by the next general meeting.

The Working Group shall comprise three club representatives, Charles Bartlett (LRC), Keith Jameson (SRC), Chris Noel (SUBC), two Board appointees and the CEO.

Resultant from the February General Meeting, the Board also noted the appointment of the following club representatives to review transfer practices as described in the above motion:

- |      |                   |                      |
|------|-------------------|----------------------|
| i.   | Charles Bartlett  | LRC                  |
| ii.  | Keith Jameson     | SRC                  |
| iii. | Chris Noel        | SUBC                 |
| iv.  | Christian Renford | RNSW CEO; Ex Officio |

The Board discussed the composition of the working group and confirmed the following Board appointments:

- |     |            |       |
|-----|------------|-------|
| i.  | Bryan Weir | MRC   |
| ii. | Joe Zammit | SWMLC |

### 2.2.3 *Masters Selectors*

Correspondence submitted by C Bartlett relating the Masters Selection Process noted. The Board reconfirmed its support of the Competition Commissions recommendation to reduce the number of Masters Selectors to three in the coming seasons.

## **3 CEO Update**

### 3.1 CEO Report

The CEO report was for February tabled. This report summarised the activities of RNSW programs and initiatives from the period 11 December 2010 to February 18 2011.

The meeting spoke further to the following sections of the CEO Report:

- A. 2010/11 Budget

- The budget forecast has been completed and incorporated into the January management of accounts. The reviewed forecast is for a surplus of \$24,800; an adjustment of approximately \$10,000 more than the initial budgeted amount. This can be attributed to the submission of a conservative budget, and the positive impact of the national insurance program.
- Budget development and review process has been improved up from this time last year. It is envisaged that the planning for the 2011/12 budget will be commenced in March 2011.

*Action – CEO to confirm meeting schedule with the Governance and Audit Committee*

B. 2011 State Championships

- The CEO congratulated the planning of the State Event Management Committee. Debriefed the event has commenced.
- Several new initiatives were introduced at the championships this season. Heats of the 1x on the Friday afternoon; relocated VIP area, sponsors flags and association signage, event specific website, SMS contingency alerts.
- WCSN DVD production quality is expected to be low due to the weather conditions particularly the rain on the Saturday.
- The State Event Management Committee and Regatta Commission will review this event in due course.
- 5% increase in seats raced 10% increase in the number of competitors attending.

C. RNSW Staff

- Georgie Lee will be returning to RNSW in full time capacity as the Sport Development Officer commencing 14 March.

D. Youth Rowing Survey

- Objective; to provide empirical data to more effectively understand how the sport can best cater to the needs of its younger athletes in club rowing.
- Initiative launched at the state championships and promoted via RNSW website, facebook and twitter, and has included an iPad as a giveaway and has 250+ respondents to date

E. Dissemination of NTID information to clubs

- Noting that RNSW will no longer is responsible for the conduct of NTID testing, the meeting questioned if the data collected will be available for the use of clubs in NSW to assist and aid with the recruitment from school to club rowing programs. Specifically the identification of students that may not meet the NTID criteria to transfer of talented and interested school athletes into the club system
- S Handley noted that this requirement is in the High Performance Development Coordinators (NSW) job description and will effectually be managed in the day to day environment by the NSWIS Rowing Manager

*Action – CEO to write to the NRCE to ensure that NTID testing data and information is disseminated to RNSW and RNSW Clubs*

F. NSW Grade Championships – Edward Trickett Regatta

The meeting discussed the inclusion of an U/21 8+, 4x and 4+ race at the Trickett Regatta.

T Clare provided an overview of the intent of the grade system. The intent of B Grade rowing was to support and promote school to club rowing opportunities. If there is a lack of understanding amongst schools and clubs then there may be a need for an education program.

S Handley highlighted the need for the introduction of an U/21 category at the Trickett Regatta (and possibly throughout the regatta program) as a target event that may more effectively identify with students leaving school in the preceding calendar year

*Action 1 – CEO and Regatta Secretary to develop proposal for U/21 Championship events at the Trickett Regatta based around the eight, coxed four and a coxless quad. NSW and interstate clubs should be requested to submit a statement of intent by the end of April 2011. Consideration also for inclusion in nominated regattas programs preceding the Trickett Regatta.*

*Action 2 – T Clare and Regatta Secretary to discuss at the Regatta Forum*

The original concept for the Edward Trickett Regatta was to develop the sport and provide a focus at the end of the season that would ultimately develop into a national standard event. The Meeting confirmed their support for amending the name of the regatta to the “National Club Championships – Edward Trickett Regatta” or a “National Club Challenge – Edward Trickett Regatta”

*Action – T Clare and Regatta Secretary to incorporate the name change into the 2011/12 regatta program*

G. Letter from Maritime – re Burroway Rd

B Weir noted recent correspondence received from NSW Maritime indicating its support for the Burroway Road project. The correspondence indicated that several conditions must be met, specifically:

*“Agreement by Rowing NSW that rowing activity would be confined to the area between Burroway Rd and the end of Homebush bay to avoid significant increases in impact on other traffic, especially ferries, in their narrow part of the Parramatta River”*

The meeting expressed concern about the requirement as stated, highlighting that rowing needs to be proactive and re-establish our right to use the Parramatta River or it could be eroded very quickly

*Action – Board discussion at the March meeting about the forming a delegation and strategy to present to the incoming Minister for Sport after the state elections.*

The Board noted that this is a concern for all member clubs and schools and commitments must be obtained from all constituent members.

Motion: To accept the CEO Report as presented.

Moved: J Zammit            Seconded: S Handley

Motion Carried



#### 4.2 DRAFT RNSW Constitution

B Weir tabled a revised draft Constitution (Circulation Draft 6 Feb 11) marked up to show changes from the 18 January draft. The CEO confirmed that the draft RNSW Constitution had been circulated to, and received comments from members of the Constitutional Review Committee and the Board

The Board discussed the draft Constitution as tabled and made minor amendments accordingly.

The meeting re-confirmed the following recommended course of action:

- i. RNSW to obtain legal advice to confirm Constitution and Deed of Transfer are in order and to confirm transfer process does not create stamp duty, tax, employment or other problems.
- ii. Drafts of the Constitution and the Deed of Transfer are distributed to Constituent Members and other voting members
- iii. Draft Constitution and draft Deed of Transfer are presented to an informal meeting of interested members at the conclusion of the April General Meeting for discussion.
- iv. Assuming the informal meeting provides a consensus in favour of the documents, final drafts are prepared taking into account any comments from the meeting.
- v. Final Presentation at the June General Meeting
- vi. Implementation begins (incorporation of a new entity, convening meetings, etc)

*Action – B Weir and CEO*

The meeting resolved to aim to have the new Constitution adopted on 1 July 2011.

#### 4.3 State Team Endorsement

As recommended by the selectors and supported by the Competition Commission, the Board confirmed the endorsement of the 2011 NSW State Team

##### **Kings Cup –Men’s Coxed Eight**

Brodie Buckland	Sydney University Boat Club
James Chapman	Sydney Rowing Club
Francis Hegerty	Sydney University Boat Club
Nick Hudson – Reserve	Sydney University Boat Club
Toby Lister – Coxswain	Sydney University Boat Club
Sam Loch	Sydney University Boat Club
Dan Noonan	Mosman Rowing Club
Fergus Pragnell	Sydney University Boat Club
Nicholas Purnell	Sydney University Boat Club
Matt Ryan	Sydney University Boat Club
Nick Garrett – Lead Coach*	Mosman Rowing Club

##### **Queen’s Cup – Women’s Coxed Eight**

Greta Beale	Sydney University Women’s Rowing Club
Sorelle Bowman	Canberra Rowing Club
Tess Gerrand	Sydney Rowing Club
Monique Heinke	UTS Rowing Club
Laura Honson	UNSW Rowing Club

Amy Ives	Mosman Rowing Club
Brooke Pratley	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Renee Kirby	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Beth Smith - Coxswain	Mosman Rowing Club
Anna O'Brien – Reserve	St George Rowing Club
Ellen Randell – Lead Coach*	UTS Rowing Club
David Gely – Assistant Coach	UNSW Rowing Club

\* NSWIS Head Coach, Curtis Jordan will play a key role as a mentor for the King's Cup and Queen's Cup boats.

**President's Cup – Men's Single Scull**

Alexander Belonogoff	Sydney University Boat Club
Mark Prater – Coach	Sydney University Boat Club

**Nell Slater Trophy – Women's Single Scull**

Brooke Pratley	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Curtis Jordan - Coach	

**Penrith Cup – Men's Lightweight Coxless Four**

Rod Chisholm	UTS Rowing Club
Ed De Carvalho	Sydney University Boat Club
Toby Ledgerwood	Sydney University Boat Club
Oliver Zuk	UTS Rowing Club
Simon Nola – Reserve	Sydney Rowing Club
Steve Luker – Lead Coach	UTS Rowing Club
Will Townsend – Assistant Coach	Sydney University Boat Club

**Victoria Cup – Women's Lightweight Coxless Quad Scull**

Sarah Hill	Mosman Rowing Club
Jess Hudson	UNSW Rowing Club
Sarah Pound	Drummoyne Rowing Club
Joanna Wood	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Marianna Doumanis – Reserve	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Gonzalo Briones – Lead Coach	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Robin Smith – Assistant Coach	Nepean Rowing Club

**Noel F Wilkinson Trophy – Men's Youth Coxed Eight**

Phil Blacklaw	Sydney University Boat Club
Michael Bernerius – Reserve	Mosman Rowing Club
Charles Marriott	Mosman Rowing Club
James Medway	Sydney University Boat Club
Hamish Playfair	Sydney University Boat Club
Tom Sacre	Sydney University Boat Club
Harry Thomson	Sydney University Boat Club
Spencer Turrin	Sydney Rowing Club
Nick Wheatley	Sydney University Boat Club
Will Raven – Coxswain	Sydney University Boat Club
Mark Prater – Lead Coach	Sydney University Boat Club
Tom Laurich – Assistant Coach	Mosman Rowing Club

**Bicentennial Cup – Women's Youth Coxed Eight**

Jess Allen – Reserve	UTS Rowing Club
Elise Andrews	UTS Rowing Club
Michelle Battersby	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club

Eliza Flint	Mosman Rowing Club
Sarah Jones	Grafton Rowing Club
Sarah Sackville	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Beatrix Sheldrick	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Johanna Tarrant	Grafton Rowing Club
Ellena Winstanley	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Genevieve Fick – Coxswain	Sydney University Women's Rowing Club
Adam Vine-Hall – Lead Coach	Sydney Rowing Club
Dan Backhouse – Assistant Coach	Drummoyne Rowing Club

Motion: To endorse the 2011 NSW State Team as presented.

Moved: S Handley

Seconded: J Zammit

Motion carried

#### 4.4 2012 and 2013/14 Australian Rowing Championships

RA has been in discussions with both FISA and NSW Events about the possibility of hosting both the 2013 and 2014 FISA World Cups in conjunction with the Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta in those respective years.

Rowing Australia has advised all states that the FISA Executive and Council have indicated that they are supportive of awarding RA the right to host the 2013 and 2014 World Cups and that NSW Events has responded positively to the RA submission for financial support for these events. Whilst NSW Events has not yet provided official approval of funding for the event, the RA Board believes that an immediate decision on the venue for the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta is required to enable the appropriate organisation of the event.

Accordingly, RA has confirmed that the RA Board has approved:

- the Sydney International Regatta Centre as the host venue for the 2013 and 2014 Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta; and
- Rowing Western Australia to host the 2012 Australian Rowing Championships and Interstate Regatta at Champion Lakes.

#### 4.5 NSW Adaptive Rowing Directions

Pamela Hubert has recently commenced employment as the National Adaptive Rowing Development Officer at the NRCE. As a result, she has resigned from her honorary position as NSW Adaptive Rowing Coordinator.

The Board congratulated Pamela on her considerable contribution to adaptive rowing in NSW, and looks forward to her assistance and support whilst at the NRCE.

*Action – Sport Development Officer to advertise for the position of the honorary NSW Adaptive Rowing Coordinator*



## 5 General Business – late agenda items

### 5.1 Elite Crew selections for National Regatta

Following the NSW State Championships, NRCE coaching Staff have made certain “recommendations” to the athletes trialling for selection in the National Team regarding the partners they should row with at the National Rowing Championships.

This has resulted in rowers being prevented from competing for their Club with the partners of their choice.

The meeting noted that the National Championship Regatta is not designated as a selection regatta. It is a regatta at which oarsmen and oarswomen from all over Australia compete for their clubs. Clubs and rowers should (within the laws of boat racing) be free to select and enter the crews they consider will best enhance their prospects of winning or will best advance the particular interests of their club.

*Action – B Weir to draft letter of complaint to Rowing Australia*

### 5.2 Head Regattas for the 2011/12 Season

C Noel highlighted the need to try and identify 3-4 local Head Regattas on the RNSW Calendar of Events.

*Action – C Noel to develop proposal for presentation to the Regatta Commission.*

Meeting closed - 9:45pm

Next Meeting – 16 March 2011 @ 6:30pm - Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Kirribilli