

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ACT ROWING ASSOCIATION INC HELD AT ACT SPORTS HOUSE ON THURSDAY 17 MARCH 2005 AT 6.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Brendon Prout, Nick Hunter, Pat Davoren, Peter Wright, Kate Borger, Ross Jones, Gordon Marcks.

**APOLOGIES:** Dafydd Gwynn-Jones, Taryn Langdon, Alan Borger.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of meeting held on 17 February 2005 read and confirmed (Davoren/Hunter).

**MATTERS ARISING:** Waterskiing trial – it was agreed that the two sports are largely incompatible and that NCA decision must take full account of significant safety issues. Presentation arrangements for championships – agreed that there is no suitable pontoon for presentations on the water and that presentations will be made from commentary area. In the longer term there is a need for improvement of finish facilities to allow for presentations on the water.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Outwards – Les Williams confirming support for dragon boat championships – there will be a \$5,000 fee for provision of boat race officials. Simon Leonard of Shoalhaven RC concerning his status proposals.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Women's coaching grant not acquitted due to Camilla Mather's resignation. Ken Norris' agreement will be sought for acquittal against coaching activities by Taryn Langdon and Bec Satin.

Level of support we give our athletes at nationals was discussed. It was agreed that we should make clear to ACT athletes how much support they get compared to other states where rowers are required to pay seat fees of hundreds of dollars.

Association had cash at bank of \$87,530. Draft budget was discussed. In regard to significant Club debts, it was agreed that they should be resolved before the start of next season otherwise entries of offending clubs will not be accepted. Once women's grant is acquitted Association will receive 2005 grants of \$36,000. Report Accepted (Hunter/Borger).

### **HEAD COACHES REPORT**

ACTAS is proceeding with lower numbers because of recruitment of ACTAS athletes by AIS. Both ACTAS and talent search programs are going well. Head Coach considers surplus resources could be used for short-term scholarships for juniors. He will run this idea past the joint management committee on the basis of two boys and two girls with good ergometer scores and the endorsement of their rowing masters.

Composite rules at the Nationals have been changed at short notice preventing interstate composite entries. This discriminates against smaller states such as ACT and should be opposed. Mr Prout suggested this should be opposed at July and December Rowing Australia council meetings. He also observed that the state of domicile rule looked ridiculous following the significant Italian presence in Western Australia's King's Cup crew.

Excellent results were recorded at the NSW Titles and whilst some results at the Nationals were encouraging in many areas these were balanced by some disappointing performances. Mr Marcks highlighted the difficulties that the ACT faces in the King's Cup and felt it was now appropriate for an options paper to be circulated for discussion. He further raised the problems of access to high quality equipment, particularly in the eights. A full report would be distributed in the following days.

## RECORDER'S REPORT

Black Mountain RC Regatta was regrettably cancelled due to poor/dangerous weather conditions. Entries in the ACT Championships were somewhat disappointing but it was acknowledged that the holiday weekend had been a factor in that result. There was good support from visiting schools and the program is well balanced over the two days. WTT organisation is well underway with dates to be confirmed at the next meeting.

Special Regatta Committee Meeting – Proposed due to the number of outstanding regatta issues that the next Regatta meeting in May be conducted as a Saturday morning workshop to ensure that full discussion can be accommodated.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

- National Dragon Boat Championships – Agreed BRO fee of \$5000 for services and course buoying to suit requirements of dragon boats.
- Australian Masters Selections – Crew and selector(s) nominations circulated. Closing date extended until 11 April at request of clubs.
- Strategic Review – Need to complete process with the preparation of Strategic Plan. Process will be discussed at the next meeting with Brendan Lynch.
- BRO Function – End of season function planned for Sunday 4 April. Secretary and General Manager to attend as President will be overseas. Agreed to approve expenditure to cover the cost of the above function to a maximum of \$1000.00.
- Recognition of the ACT Team Manager – The President drew attention to the outstanding service provided by Bob Cook in the many team management roles he has undertaken with the representative teams. Following discussion it was agreed that a letter of commendation and appreciation be sent to Bob under the President's signature.
- 2000m Course – The President and Peter Wright provided reports on the progress to date and the current position of the NCA in relation to the various proposals. It was agreed that Peter would follow up with his NCA contacts and that a future meeting be arranged to include the President. The General Manager stressed the need to reinforce whenever possible the status of the sport both at a national and local level – the need for sports to justify their call on funding has recently been reflected in ACT political and Sports and Recreation ACT statements. Parallel with discussions on the course we also need an effort to lift our funding status with SRACT.

MEETING CLOSED: 8.05 pm

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CHAIRMAN  
21 April 2005