



RULES

OF

Rowing ACT

Incorporated

28 October 2022

Contents

1.	DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS	4
2.	OBJECTS	5
3.	CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP	6
4.	MEMBER CLUBS	6
5.	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	6
6.	ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	7
7.	LIFE MEMBERS.....	7
8.	RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBER CLUBS.....	7
9.	RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS	7
10.	MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS NOT TRANSFERABLE.....	8
11.	CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP	8
12.	RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP	9
13.	FEES, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SERVICES.....	9
14.	MEMBER CLUBS' LIABILITIES	9
15.	DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS	9
16.	RIGHT OF APPEAL OF DISCIPLINED MEMBER.....	10
17.	POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD	11
18.	CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD	11
19.	ELECTION OF THE BOARD	12
20.	SECRETARY	13
21.	DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	13
22.	VACANCIES	13
23.	REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS.....	14
24.	BOARD MEETINGS AND QUORUM	14
25.	DELEGATION BY BOARD TO SUB-COMMITTEE.....	15
26.	VOTING AND DECISIONS OF BOARD	15
27.	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS – HOLDING OF	16
28.	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS – CALL OF AND BUSINESS AT	16
29.	GENERAL MEETINGS – CALLING OF	16
30.	NOTICE.....	17
31.	GENERAL MEETINGS – PROCEDURE AND QUORUM	17
32.	PRESIDING MEMBER.....	18
33.	ADJOURNMENT	18
34.	MAKING OF DECISIONS.....	18

35.	ATTENDANCE AT GENERAL MEETINGS	19
36.	VOTING.....	19
37.	APPOINTMENT OF PROXIES.....	19
38.	FUNDS – SOURCE	19
39.	FUNDS – MANAGEMENT	19
40.	ALTERATION OF OBJECTS AND RULES.....	20
41.	BY-LAWS	20
42.	CUSTODY OF BOOKS	20
43.	COMMON SEAL.....	20
44.	INSPECTION OF BOOKS	21
45.	SERVICE OF NOTICE	21
46.	DISSOLUTION	21
47.	TRANSITION	21
	APPENDIX 1 – Rule 4.1	23
	APPENDIX 2 - Rule 7	24

1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

1.1 Definitions

In these Rules, unless a contrary intention appears:

“**Act**” means the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* (ACT);

“**Annual general meeting**” means an Annual general meeting held in accordance with Rules 27 and 28;

“**Associate Member**” means a person appointed as an Associate Member in accordance with Rule 6;

“**Board**” means the Board constituted in accordance with Rule 18;

“**By-laws**” means the By-laws of Rowing ACT made pursuant to Rule 41 and are policies of Rowing ACT including those in respect of governance, the running of rowing events and the conduct of Clubs and their members.

“**Chief Boat Race Official**” means the person appointed by the Board, from time to time, to manage Boat Race Officials used for Rowing ACT events.

“**Club**” means a Member Club of Rowing ACT;

“**Director**” means a person serving on the Board of Rowing ACT;

“**Director of Finance**” is the person exercising the powers at Rule 21;

“**Executive Officer**” means the person appointed or employed by Rowing ACT as the principal executive officer of Rowing ACT and includes, where the context so admits, persons acting as the delegate or substitute for the Executive Officer as the principal executive officer of Rowing ACT whether described as Executive Officer or by some other name or title.

“**Financial Year**” means the year ending 30 June;

“**Life Member**” means Life Member in accordance with Rule 7;

“**Member**” means a Member Club or an Individual Member provided for under Rule 3;

“**Member Club**” means a club whose application for membership has been approved in accordance with Rule 4. Where there is a reference to the actions of a Member Club, it is within the terms set out at Rule 4.4.

“**Public Officer**” means the Public Officer of Rowing ACT as defined in the Act;

“**Regulations**” means the *Associations Incorporation Regulations 1991* (ACT).

“Rowing ACT” means Rowing ACT Incorporated (ABN 57 627 872 148), an Association incorporated under the Act;

“Rowing Australia” means Rowing Australia Limited (ACN 126 080 519), a company limited by guarantee;

“Rules” means the provisions set out in these Rules of Rowing ACT, unless otherwise specified;

“Secretary” means the person holding office under Rule 20 or, where no such person holds that office, the Public Officer of Rowing ACT;

“Special Resolution” means a resolution made in accordance with section 70 of the Act. This means, subject to the Act, a special resolution will be passed where 21 days’ notice has been given and the resolution achieves at least three-quarters of the votes of Member Clubs present; and

“Written” means communications in visible form, whether made by hand or electronic device.

1.2 Interpretation

1.2.1 In these Rules a reference to:

1.2.1.1 a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty; and

1.2.1.2 the exercise of a function includes, where the function is a power, authority or duty, a reference to the exercise of the power or authority or the performance of the duty.

1.2.2 The *Legislation Act 2001 (ACT)* applies to these Rules in the same way as it would if they were an instrument made under that Act.

2. OBJECTS

2.1 The objects of Rowing ACT are to foster, promote and develop rowing in the Australian Capital Territory.

2.2 To the extent it is consistent with the objects of Rowing ACT and reasonable in the circumstances, Rowing ACT will:

2.2.1 contribute to the objectives and strategies underpinning the Australian Sport Commission’s National Sport Plan that are relevant to the sport of rowing;

2.2.2 adopt, implement and comply with the Australian Sport Commission’s National Sport Plan policies relevant to the sport of rowing; and

2.2.3 cooperate with Rowing Australia to facilitate the effective management of the sport of rowing in Australia.

3. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

3.1 The categories of Members of Rowing ACT are:

3.1.1 Member Clubs; and

3.1.2 Individual Members.

3.2 The Board may determine any other category of Membership of Rowing ACT.

4. MEMBER CLUBS

4.1 A club wishing to become a Member Club of Rowing ACT shall:

4.1.1 make a formal application in writing in the form set out in Appendix 1 to these Rules or in a form approved by the Board; and

4.1.2 lodge the application with the Board in the manner determined by the Board from time to time.

4.2 After an application has been received it may be approved at a general meeting with a majority vote.

4.3 The Secretary will as soon as practicable notify the applicant club of the outcome of the membership decision made pursuant to Rule 4.2 including any conditions attached to an approval.

4.4 For the purposes of these Rules, Rowing ACT will:

4.4.1 rely on formal communications of the Club President, Secretary or other persons appointed by the Club;

4.4.2 where there is conflicting advice from members of a Club - rely on any motions by that Club advised by the Secretary of that Club;

4.4.3 at a general meeting - rely on the vote of the natural person representing the Member Club as being the position of the Member Club in question.

4.5 Rowing ACT may keep a public register of Member Clubs.

5. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

5.1 Subject to Rule 11, Individual Members are:

5.1.1 members of Clubs;

5.1.2 the Chief Boat Race Official and Boat Race Officials managed by the Chief Boat Race Official;

5.1.3 Associate Members; and

5.1.4 Life Members.

5.2 The Board may put in place any means of identifying Individual Members including by establishing a database of Individual Members.

6. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

6.1 The Board may appoint any person as an Associate Member under guidelines it determines.

7. **LIFE MEMBERS**

7.1 A person may be nominated for Life Membership by the Board.

7.2 If the Board nominates a person for Life Membership, it should bring forward a special resolution to a general meeting.

7.3 A person will become a Life Member if the nomination made by the Board is passed by special resolution at a general meeting.

8. **RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBER CLUBS**

8.1 Member Clubs, in addition to any other rights conferred under these Rules, have the right to:

8.1.1 attend all general meetings of Rowing ACT;

8.1.2 vote on all resolutions put to such meetings including (without limitation) special resolutions to amend these Rules;

8.1.3 nominate any Individual Member as a candidate for election as President or an elected Director of Rowing ACT;

8.1.4 vote on the election of the President or elected Directors of Rowing ACT; and

8.1.5 examine the books of Rowing ACT in accordance with Rule 4.

8.2 Member Clubs shall assist Rowing ACT in the achievement of its objects set out under Rule 2.

8.3 Member Clubs shall, consistent with Rule 41.2, adhere to the By-laws of Rowing ACT.

9. **RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

9.1 Individual Members, in addition to any other rights conferred under these Rules, have the right to:

9.1.1 attend and speak at all general meetings of Rowing ACT;

9.1.2 nominate any Individual Member as a candidate for election as President or an elected Director of Rowing ACT;

- 9.1.3 be nominated for President or an elected Director of Rowing ACT;
- 9.1.4 be registered as a rower in the ACT for competition, which, subject to By-laws, includes the right to participate in regattas and championship events.
- 9.2 An Individual Member is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of Rowing ACT.
- 9.3 Life Members and Associate Members are not subject to fees for being Life or Associate Members of Rowing ACT.
- 9.4 Individual Members shall assist Rowing ACT in the achievement of its objects set out under Rule 2.
- 9.5 Individual members shall, consistent with Rule 41.2, adhere to the By-laws of Rowing ACT.

10. **MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS NOT TRANSFERABLE**

- 10.1 A right, privilege or obligation by reason of being a Member of Rowing ACT:
 - 10.1.1 is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person; and
 - 10.1.2 terminates upon cessation of membership.

11. **CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 11.1 A Member Club ceases to be a Member of Rowing ACT if the Member Club:
 - 11.1.1 is wound up;
 - 11.1.2 resigns from membership of Rowing ACT in accordance with Rule 12;
 - 11.1.3 is expelled from Rowing ACT; or
 - 11.1.4 fails to meet financial obligations to Rowing ACT within 3 months of a letter of demand from Rowing ACT setting out the nature of the financial obligation.
- 11.2 An Individual Member ceases to be a Member of Rowing ACT if the person:
 - 11.2.1 dies;
 - 11.2.2 is an Individual Member only as a result of being a member of a Member Club or a Boat Race Official and ceases to be a member of a Member Club or ceases to be a Boat Race Official;
 - 11.2.3 is an Individual Member only as a result of being an Associate Member and resigns or the Associate Membership is withdrawn by the Board;
- 11.3 is an Individual member only as a result of being a Life Member and resigns or whose Life Membership is terminated pursuant to the provisions of these Rules and the Life Member is notified in writing by the Board; or

11.3.1 is expelled from Rowing ACT.

12. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 12.1 A Member Club is not entitled to resign from membership of Rowing ACT except in accordance with this Rule.
- 12.2 A Member Club which has paid all amounts payable to Rowing ACT may resign from membership of Rowing ACT by first giving notice (being not less than 2 months or, if the Board has determined a shorter period, that shorter period) in writing to the Secretary, advising of the Club's intention to resign and, upon the expiration of the period of notice, that Club ceases to be a Member Club.
- 12.3 Associate Members and Life Members may resign from membership of Rowing ACT by giving notice in writing to the Secretary and such resignation shall take effect immediately.

13. FEES, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND SERVICES.

- 13.1 The Board shall have the power to impose fees on Member Clubs in the course of its administration of rowing in the ACT including affiliation fees, fees for the registration of competitive rowers and coxswains, and seat fees.
- 13.2 Rowing ACT may base the fees imposed under Rule 13.1 on the number and/or the rowing activities of members of Member Club.
- 13.2.1 Rowing ACT may collect fees directly from Individual Members where authorised by the Member Club of which they are members.
- 13.3 Rowing ACT may impose fees for any services it renders, including the sale of merchandise and the running of special events.

14. MEMBER CLUBS' LIABILITIES

- 14.1 The liability of a Club to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of Rowing ACT or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of Rowing ACT is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the Member Club in respect of membership of Rowing ACT in accordance with Rule 13.

15. DISCIPLINING OF MEMBERS

- 15.1 The Board may expel a Member from Rowing ACT, or suspend rights for periods it specifies, where it decides the Member has persistently:
- 15.1.1 refused or neglected to comply with a provision of these Rules or By-laws; or
- 15.1.2 wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of Rowing ACT.
- 15.2 A resolution of the Board under this Rule is of no effect unless the Board, at a meeting held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service on the Member of a notice under Rule 15.3, confirms the resolution.

15.3 Where the Board passes a resolution under this Rule, the Secretary shall, as soon as practicable, cause a notice in writing, signed by the President, Secretary or other Board member authorised by the Board, to be served on the Member:

15.3.1 setting out the resolution of the Board and the grounds on which it is based;

15.3.2 stating the date, place and time of the proposed meeting;

15.3.3 informing the Member that the Member may attend and speak at that meeting and submit written representations relating to the resolution; and

15.3.4 requesting written material to be submitted 3 days prior to the meeting to allow its full consideration.

15.4 Subject to the provisions of the Act, at a meeting of the Board referred to in Rule 15.2, the Board shall accord the Member procedural fairness including:

15.4.1 providing an opportunity to the Member to make oral representations;

15.4.2 considering any written representations submitted to the Board by that Member at or prior to the meeting; and

15.5 The Board by resolution determine whether to confirm or to revoke the resolution of the Board made under rule 15.2.

15.6 Where the Board confirms a resolution under this Rule, the Secretary shall, within 7 days after that confirmation, by notice in writing inform the Member of that confirmation and of the Member's right of appeal under Rule 16.

15.7 A resolution confirmed by the Board under this Rule takes effect:

15.7.1 where a Member advises that no appeal will be made before the expiration of the period, at that time; or

15.7.2 at the time Rowing ACT confirms the resolution where an appeal is made under Rule 16.

16. RIGHT OF APPEAL OF DISCIPLINED MEMBER

16.1 A Member may appeal to Rowing ACT in general meeting against a resolution of the Board which is confirmed under Rule 15.5, within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the Member, by lodging with the Secretary a notice to that effect.

16.2 Upon receipt of a notice under Rule 16.1, the Secretary shall notify the Board which shall convene a general meeting of Rowing ACT to be held within 21 days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice or as soon as possible after that date.

16.3 Subject to the provisions of the Act, at a general meeting of Rowing ACT convened under Rule 16.2:

16.3.1 no business other than the question of the appeal shall be transacted;

- 16.3.2 the Board and the Member shall be given the opportunity to make representations in relation to the appeal orally and/or in writing; and
- 16.3.3 the vote, on the question of whether the resolution made under Rule 15.2 should be confirmed or revoked, shall be by secret ballot.

17. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

17.1 The Board, subject to the Act, the Regulations, these Rules and By-laws, shall:

17.1.1 be responsible for fulfilling the objects of Rowing ACT set out in Rule 2;

17.1.2 control and manage the affairs of Rowing ACT;

17.1.3 exercise all such functions as may be exercised by Rowing ACT other than those functions that are required by these Rules to be exercised by Rowing ACT in general meeting;

17.1.4 perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to the Board to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of Rowing ACT.

17.2 The Board is to seek, from time to time, feedback from Members and external stakeholders on the fulfilment of the objects of Rowing ACT set out in Rule 2.

17.3 The Board may, in exercising its powers, delegate day-to-day operations to the Executive Officer.

17.4 The Board shall keep a conflict of interest register and ensure that any such conflicts are effectively managed.

18. CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD

18.1 The Board shall consist of the following 9 Directors:

18.1.1 the President of Rowing ACT, being an Individual Member;

18.1.1.A The Vice-President of Rowing ACT, being an individual member appointed by the Board for the purposes of Chairing the Governance Sub-Committee, representing Rowing ACT at stakeholder meetings (as determined by the Rowing ACT Board), deputising (at Board meetings, and other meetings as determined by the Board) for the Rowing ACT President when the President is unavailable and accompanying the President, when appropriate, to stakeholder events.

18.1.2 5 elected Directors, being Individual Members; and

18.1.3 3 appointed Directors, being any person appointed by the Board for the purposes of supplementing the skills, outlook and diversity of the Board, including addressing gender equity, governance, audit and risk.

18.2 Each Director shall, subject to these Rules, hold office until the conclusion of the second annual general meeting following election or appointment and is eligible for election or appointment for up to a maximum of 10 consecutive years.

- 18.3 Where a Director is ineligible to stand for election or be appointed by virtue of Rule 18.2, the Director will become eligible again at the second annual general meeting following the expiration of the Director's term.
- 18.4 No Director may hold simultaneously more than 1 position on the Board.
- 18.5 A person who is employed as an Executive Officer of Rowing ACT shall not be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Rowing ACT.
- 18.6 A retiring Executive Officer of Rowing ACT shall not be eligible to serve as a Director until after 3 years from the time the Executive Officer had ceased to be employed by Rowing ACT.
- 18.7 In the event of a vacancy in any elected Director's position, the Board may appoint an Individual Member to fill the vacancy or, in the case of President, elect a Board Member.
- 18.8 The Director appointed under Rule 18.7 shall hold that position, subject to these Rules, until the conclusion of the annual general meeting which would mark the end of the term of the vacancy being filled.
- 18.9 In the event of a vacancy in any appointed Director's position, the Board may appoint any person to fill the vacancy.
- 18.10 Where a President resigns, that person may choose to remain on the Board where a vacancy exists or a vacancy arises following appointment by the Board of a President.

19. **ELECTION OF THE BOARD**

- 19.1 Subject to the provisions in this Rule, elections will be held according to procedures determined by the Board.
- 19.2 Nominations of Individual Members for election as President and other elected Directors:
- 19.2.1 shall be made in writing, signed by 2 Members of Rowing ACT and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate; and
- 19.2.2 shall be delivered to the Secretary not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.
- 19.3 Where there are more nominations under Rule 19.2 than vacancies for any elected Director position, including for the position of the President, a poll must be taken at the annual general meeting and the filling of the vacancy or vacancies shall be according to the most votes received.
- 19.4 If the nominations received under Rule 19.2 is equal to the vacant positions, including specifically for the position of President, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be elected.
- 19.5 If insufficient nominations are received under Rule 19.2 to fill all vacancies, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be elected and further nominations shall be received at the annual general meeting. Then:

- 19.5.1 if the number of nominations received at the annual general meeting is less than, or equal to, the number of remaining vacancies, those persons nominated shall deem to be elected;
- 19.5.2 if the number of nominations received at the annual general meeting is greater than the number of remaining vacancies to be filled, a ballot shall be held.
- 19.6 All elected Directors become Directors at the conclusion of the meeting held under this Rule to elect members of the Board. All Directors whose positions were subject to election cease to be Directors at the conclusion of the meeting unless re-elected under the provisions of Rule 19.

20. **SECRETARY**

- 20.1 The Directors shall elect 1 of their number to be the Secretary of Rowing ACT by a majority vote.
- 20.2 The Secretary shall cause minutes to be kept of:
 - 20.2.1 all elections and appointments of the Board;
 - 20.2.2 the names of Directors present at a Board meeting or a general meeting; and
 - 20.2.3 all proceedings at Board meetings and general meetings.
- 20.3 Minutes of general meetings will be approved at the next general meeting and minutes of Board meetings will be approved at the following Board meeting.
- 20.4 The Secretary shall act as the Returning Officer at a general meeting in accordance with Rule 36.4.

21. **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

- 21.1 The Directors shall elect 1 of their number to be the Director of Finance by a majority vote.
- 21.2 The Director of Finance of Rowing ACT shall ensure:
 - 21.2.1 the efficient accounting operations including dealings with the Australian Taxation Office;
 - 21.2.2 in accordance with these Rules and the By-laws, the collection of all moneys due to Rowing ACT and payments necessary for the running of Rowing ACT or as approved by the Board; and
 - 21.2.3 the maintenance of financial records including details of all revenue and expenses associated with Rowing ACT.

22. **VACANCIES**

- 22.1 For the purposes of these Rules, a vacancy for Director occurs if the member:
 - 22.1.1 dies;
 - 22.1.2 ceases to be a Member of Rowing ACT and is not a Director appointed under Rule 18.1.3;

- 22.1.3 resigns the office;
- 22.1.4 is removed from office pursuant to Rule 23;
- 22.1.5 suffers from incapacity of sufficient severity that the Board believes the person is incapable of continuing to serve on the Board;
- 22.1.6 is disqualified from office under a section of the Act; or
- 22.1.7 is absent without the consent of the Board from all meetings of the Board held during a period of 3 months.

23. REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- 23.1 Rowing ACT in general meeting may by special resolution, subject to the provisions of the Act, remove any Director from the Board before the expiration of that Director's term of office.

24. BOARD MEETINGS AND QUORUM

- 24.1 The Board shall meet at least 6 times in each financial year at such place and time as the Board may determine.
- 24.2 Additional meetings of the Board may be convened by the Board.
- 24.3 Written notice of a meeting of the Board shall be given to each member of the Board at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting. A meeting can be held within a lesser period without notice if no Board member objects.
- 24.4 Notice of a meeting given under Rule 24.3 shall specify the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting. Directors may present additional business at the meeting if it is unanimously agreed. Any Director may require such additional business to be relisted at the following meeting if they were absent from the Board meeting and that business had not been notified.
- 24.5 Any 5 Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Board.
- 24.6 Subject to the Act, a Board meeting may be held by the Directors communicating with each other by any mutually agreed technological means allowing reasonable participation in discussion.
- 24.7 No business shall be transacted by the Board unless a quorum is present including Directors communicating under Rule 24.6. A meeting may be deferred by a majority of attending Directors if a quorum does not exist after half an hour has elapsed since the notified time.
- 24.8 Meetings of the Board shall be chaired by:
 - 24.8.1 the President; or
 - 24.8.2 if the President is absent, by a Director attending the meeting elected by Directors also attending the meeting.

25. DELEGATION BY BOARD TO SUB-COMMITTEE

- 25.1 The Board may, by instrument in writing, delegate to 1 or more sub-committees, consisting of such Member or Members as the Board thinks fit, the exercise of such of the functions of the Board as are specified in the instrument, other than:
- 25.1.1 this power of delegation; and
- 25.1.2 a function which is a function imposed on the Board by the Act, by any other law of the Territory, or by resolution of Rowing ACT in general meeting.
- 25.2 A function, the exercise of which has been delegated to a sub-committee under this Rule may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised by the sub-committee in accordance with the terms of the delegation.
- 25.3 A delegation under this Rule may be made subject to such conditions or limitations as to the exercise of any function, or as to time or circumstances, as may be specified in the instrument of delegation, and may be varied from time to time.
- 25.4 Notwithstanding any delegation under this Rule, the Board may continue to exercise any function so delegated and any decision taken by the Board overrides a decision taken by a delegated committee.
- 25.5 Any act or thing done or suffered by a sub-committee acting in the exercise of a delegation under this Rule has the same force and effect as it would have if it had been done or suffered by the Board.
- 25.6 The Board may, by instrument in writing, revoke wholly or in part any delegation under this Rule.
- 25.7 A sub-committee may meet and adjourn as it determines.

26. VOTING AND DECISIONS OF BOARD

- 26.1 Questions arising at a meeting of the Board or of any sub-committee appointed by the Board shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members of the Board or sub-committee present at the meeting, including those present in accordance with Rule 24.6.
- 26.2 Each member of the Board shall be entitled to 1 vote on each motion upon which a vote is to take place.
- 26.3 In the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.
- 26.4 Subject to Rule 24.5, the Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy on the Board.
- 26.5 Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the Board or by a sub-committee appointed by the Board, is valid and effectual notwithstanding any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the Board or sub-committee.

27. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS – HOLDING OF

27.1 Rowing ACT shall, at least once in each calendar year and within the period of 5 months after the expiration of each financial year of Rowing ACT, or any other period specified in the Act, convene an annual general meeting of its Members.

28. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS – CALL OF AND BUSINESS AT

28.1 The Annual general meeting of Rowing ACT shall, subject to the Act, be convened on such date and at such place and time as the Board thinks fit.

28.2 In addition to any other business which may be transacted at an annual general meeting, the business of an annual general meeting shall be to:

28.2.1 confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting and of any general meeting held since that meeting;

28.2.2 receive from the Board reports on the activities of Rowing ACT during the previous financial year;

28.2.3 elect members of the Board; and

28.2.4 receive and consider the statement of accounts and the reports that are required to be submitted to members pursuant to the provisions of the Act.

28.3 An annual general meeting shall be specified as such in the notice convening it in accordance with Rule 29.

28.4 Rules 30 to 37 apply to the conduct of both annual general meetings and general meetings.

29. GENERAL MEETINGS – CALLING OF

29.1 The Board may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a general meeting of Rowing ACT.

29.2 The Board shall, on the requisition of not less than 3 Member Clubs, convene a general meeting of Rowing ACT.

29.3 A requisition by those Member Clubs for a general meeting:

29.3.1 shall state the purpose or purposes of the meeting;

29.3.2 shall be signed by authorised representatives of the Member Clubs making the requisition;

29.3.3 shall be lodged with the Secretary; and

29.3.4 may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by 1 or more of the Member Clubs making the requisition.

29.4 If the Board fails to convene a general meeting within 1 month after the date on which a requisition of Member Clubs for the meeting is lodged with the Secretary, any 1 or more of the Member Clubs who

made the requisition may convene a general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.

- 29.5 A general meeting convened under Rule 29.3 shall be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the Board. Rowing ACT shall meet reasonable costs normally associated with a general meeting.

30. **NOTICE**

- 30.1 Except where the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution, the Secretary shall, at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, notify in writing all Member Clubs and announce the meeting in any convenient way including electronic media used by Rowing ACT. The advice and announcement shall specify the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.
- 30.2 Where the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution, the Secretary shall, at least 21 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, ensure the notifications specified at Rule 30.1 are given and that these notifications include the proposed special resolution.
- 30.3 A Club desiring to bring any business before a general meeting may give a signed notice in writing of that business to the Secretary. The Secretary shall include that business in the next notice calling a general meeting.
- 30.4 On receipt of a notice of a general meeting under this Rule, a Member Club shall forward copies of the notice to its members.
- 30.5 No business other than that specified in the notice convening a general meeting shall be transacted at the meeting except, in the case of an annual general meeting, business which may be transacted pursuant to Rule 28.2.

31. **GENERAL MEETINGS – PROCEDURE AND QUORUM**

- 31.1 No item of business shall be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of Member Clubs is present during the time the meeting is considering that item.
- 31.2 A quorum exists for the transaction of business of a general meeting if more than half the Member Clubs are represented.
- 31.3 If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting if convened upon the request of Member Clubs shall be dissolved. In any other case, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same place and day in the following week or, if that is not practicable, to an alternative time and place within the next fortnight specified by the person presiding at the general meeting.
- 31.4 If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the Member Clubs present shall constitute a quorum.

32. PRESIDING MEMBER

- 32.1 The President, or in the absence of the President, a Director, shall preside at each general meeting of Rowing ACT. Where more than 1 Director is present and the President is absent, those Directors will decide who shall preside at the meeting by a simple majority.
- 32.2 If the President and all Directors are absent from a general meeting, or if agreement is not reached by a majority of Directors, Member Clubs present shall elect an Individual Member to preside at the general meeting.

33. ADJOURNMENT

- 33.1 The person presiding at a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the majority of Member Clubs present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and place to place. No business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.
- 33.2 Where a general meeting is adjourned but no date to resume is set, the Secretary shall give written notice 7 days before the adjourned meeting to each Member Club stating the place, date and time of the meeting and nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- 33.3 Except as provided in Rules 33.1 and 33.2, notice is not required for an adjournment of a general meeting or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

34. MAKING OF DECISIONS

- 34.1 A question arising at a general meeting of Rowing ACT shall be determined on a show of hands unless, before the declaration of the show of hands, a poll is demanded. Such a declaration stated by the person presiding that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried shall be final. The minutes are evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that resolution.
- 34.2 At a general meeting of Rowing ACT, a poll may be demanded by the person presiding or by not less than 3 Member Clubs present at the Meeting after allowance is made for any valid proxies held.
- 34.3 Where a poll is demanded at a general meeting, the poll shall be taken:
 - 34.3.1 immediately in the case of a poll which relates to the election of the person to preside at the meeting or to the question of an adjournment; or
 - 34.3.2 in any other case, in such manner and at such time before the close of the meeting as the person presiding directs, and the resolution of the poll on the matter shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting on that matter.
- 34.4 Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the Board as a result of a decision taken at a general meeting is valid and effectual notwithstanding any defect that may afterwards be discovered.

35. ATTENDANCE AT GENERAL MEETINGS

35.1 All Members are entitled to attend general meetings of Rowing ACT.

36. VOTING

36.1 Upon a question arising at any general meeting of Rowing ACT, each Member Club is entitled to 1 vote by the person nominated by the Member Club as the Member Club's representative.

36.2 The President of Rowing ACT, or the person otherwise presiding at the meeting, may cast a deciding vote where the motion is tied.

36.3 Member Club votes may only be cast personally or by proxy.

36.4 The Secretary shall act as the Returning Officer. If the Secretary is not present or declines that role, another person may be appointed by the Presiding Officer.

37. APPOINTMENT OF PROXIES

37.1 Each Club shall be entitled to vote by proxy subject to notice being given to the Secretary no later than 24 hours before the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.

37.2 The notice appointing the proxy shall be in the form set out in Appendix 2 to these Rules or as otherwise determined by the Board.

38. FUNDS – SOURCE

38.1 With the exception of Rule 38.2, the funds of Rowing ACT shall be derived from annual subscriptions of Members, sales, donations, sponsorship and, subject to any special resolution passed by Rowing ACT in general meeting and to the provisions of the Act, such other sources as the Board determines.

38.2 Rowing ACT may only borrow money where approved by special resolution.

38.3 Where money is received or paid electronically, those electronic records may be regarded as being sufficient for record purposes.

38.4 All cash received by Rowing ACT shall be deposited as soon as practicable and without deduction to the credit of Rowing ACT's bank account. A receipt should be issued by Rowing ACT as soon as possible, except where not practicable such as for sales to the public of merchandise or similar material.

39. FUNDS – MANAGEMENT

39.1 Subject to any resolution passed by Rowing ACT in general meeting, the funds of Rowing ACT shall be used for the objects of Rowing ACT set out in Rule 2 in such manner as the Board determines.

39.2 All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments shall be signed by any 2 authorised members of the Board or employees of Rowing ACT.

39.3 Where electronic commerce processes represent normal business practice and are secure, the Board may approve, with or without limitation, the use of debit and credit cards or other forms of electronic commerce.

39.4 For the purposes of Rule 39.2, 'signed' shall include electronic authorisation in accordance with electronic approvals processes associated with the relevant Rowing ACT on-line banking payment facility or other forms of commerce approved by the Bard.

40. ALTERATION OF OBJECTS AND RULES

40.1 The objects of Rowing ACT set out in Rule 2 and these Rules shall only be altered by special resolution in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

41. BY-LAWS

41.1 The Board may (by itself or by delegation to a sub-committee) formulate, approve, issue, adopt, interpret and amend such By-laws as for the proper advancement, management and administration of Rowing ACT. Such By-laws must be consistent with these Rules.

41.2 All By-laws made under this Rule shall be binding on Rowing ACT and all Members.

41.3 The By-laws regulate matters including, but not limited to:

41.3.1 the governance and day-to-day management of Rowing ACT;

41.3.2 the management of rowers and rowing in the ACT; and

41.3.3 the expected conduct of Members of Rowing ACT.

42. CUSTODY OF BOOKS

42.1 Subject to the Act, the Regulations and these Rules, the Secretary shall ensure effective custody of all records, books, and other documents relating to Rowing ACT.

42.2 Subject to the Act, the Regulations and these Rules, the Director of Finance shall ensure that all financial records are maintained necessary for the sound governance and operation of Rowing ACT.

43. COMMON SEAL

43.1 The common seal of Rowing ACT shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary.

43.2 The common seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Board and the affixing of the common seal shall be attested by the signatures of 2 Directors or as the Board shall otherwise determine from time to time.

44. INSPECTION OF BOOKS

- 44.1 The records, books and other documents of Rowing ACT shall be open to inspection within a fortnight of the request by a Member Club being made in writing, at a mutually agreed time at a place in the Australian Capital Territory, free of charge. Inspection may be made by the President or Secretary of the Member Club calling for the inspection along with another person nominated by that Member Club.

45. SERVICE OF NOTICE

- 45.1 For purpose of these Rules, a notice served by or on behalf of Rowing ACT upon any Member either personally, by post, or electronic mail, is taken to have been properly served if sent to the last address advised by the Member.
- 45.2 Where a document is sent, the document shall be deemed, for the purposes of these Rules, to have been served on the person at the time the document would have been delivered in the ordinary course of delivery.
- 45.3 Member Clubs must notify their Individual Members of any notices received by the Club, notwithstanding any notice given by Rowing ACT to that Individual Member using information stored in a membership database under Rule 5.2.

46. DISSOLUTION

- 46.1 Rowing ACT may be dissolved by a special resolution at a general meeting convened specifically for dissolution. A quorum of two-thirds of the Member Clubs must be present.
- 46.2 On the dissolution of Rowing ACT, the surplus assets of Rowing ACT shall be held in trust for a future body representing the interests of rowing in the Australian Capital Territory, as designated by the national body governing at the time rowing in Australia.
- 46.3 The trust created under Rule 46.2 should be held with the national body governing rowing in Australia or, in the event that the trust fails with the national rowing body, in a trust identified or created by the Board existing at the time of the dissolution of Rowing ACT or failing that, an agency within the Australian Capital Territory Government.

47. TRANSITION

- 47.1 All Members of Rowing ACT Association Incorporated at the time of the adoption of these Rules continue to be Members under these Rules.
- 47.2 The President of the Rowing ACT Association Incorporated at the time of the agreement to adopt these Rules remains to be the President of Rowing ACT until an election is held at the 2019 annual general meeting, in accordance with Rule 19.
- 47.3 Directors of the Rowing ACT Association Incorporated at the time of the agreement to adopt these Rules remain Directors of Rowing ACT Incorporated until the 2019 Annual general meeting if they were elected or appointed in 2017.

APPENDIX 1 – Rule 4.1

**APPLICATION FOR CLUB MEMBERSHIP OF
ROWING ACT**

As President/Secretary of (insert club name)

I, (full name of applicant)

of(address)

hereby apply for my club to become a Member Club of Rowing ACT. In the event of the admission as a Member Club, the club agrees to be bound by the Rules and the By-laws of Rowing ACT for the time being in force.

.....
(Signature)

.....
(Date)

I, (full name)

as President/Secretary of (insert Member Club name)

nominate the above club for admission as a Member Club of Rowing ACT.

.....
(Signature of Proposer)

.....
(Date)

I, (full name)

as President/Secretary of (insert Member Club name)

second the nomination of the above club for admission as a Member Club of Rowing ACT.

.....
(Signature of Proposer)

.....
(Date)

APPENDIX 2 - Rule 7

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I,
(full name)

of
(address)

as the representative of
(insert Club name)

hereby appoint
(full name of proxy)

of
(address)

being a Member of Rowing ACT, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the general meeting of Rowing ACT(annual general meeting or other general meeting, as the case may be) to be held on theday of20..... and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (*delete as appropriate*) the resolution (*insert details*).

.....
(Signature of member appointing proxy)

.....
(date)