



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CGS Shed Monday 4 December at 6.00pm

Attendees

Board: Kent Peters (President), Tobias Wehr-Candler (Vice President), Catherine Garrington, Peter Wright, Hugo Ellwood (Director of Finance), Alice Arch

Staff: Sarah Davoren (Acting Executive Officer), Dave Fraumano (Head Coach)

Apologies: Jamie Fernandez OLY, Sebastian Lang, Virginia Hayward

1. Welcome. President opened meeting at 1810 with an Acknowledgement of Country. President welcomes new board members Jaime Fernandez OLY, Alice Arch, Peter Wright and Hugo Ellwood.

2. Register of Interests. None. New board members reminded to fill out the conflict of interests form circulated in the induction packs.

3. Acceptance of Minutes.

a. October 2023. Minutes accepted. One amendment to note Catherine Garrington was present

b. Outstanding Actions. All items ongoing.

4. Director of Finance Report: Papers tabled and accepted. Being Hugo Ellwood's first meeting as DOF, the papers were prepared by Kent Peters

- Strong position remaining
- The DOF will look to amend formatting in the new year

5. High Performance Report (Dave Fraumano). Report tabled.

- Athletes invited to Senior and U23 Australian Team trials: Cormac Kennedy-Leverett, Anneka Reardon, Hamish Harding, Caleb Antill with Caitlin McManus-Barrett invited to U23 trials
- Good results from the Reindeer Regatta in Sydney over the weekend
- For noting ACTAS have had a number of staff changes, with Rowing Australia supporting the ACT athletes where there is gap due to departing staff members

6. Rowing Australia Strategic Forum Update (Kent Peters): Verbal update.

- Primary item of business was the approval of the Rowing Australia 2024 budget.
- The Rowing Australia Foundation was launched
- An update was provided regarding the work RA has been leading on Cyber Resilience. Advice will be provided to all State bodies and RACT will look into our own resilience.
- Discussion amongst states and RA about participation, membership and volunteer numbers through the country, and how all bodies can look to increase, with a general trend of declining numbers.

7. Executive Officer (Sarah Davoren). Report Tabled

- Positive to have such high numbers of athletes competing at the CGS regatta over the weekend, despite the rain ending the competition earlier than scheduled. 750 athletes and 1383 seats overall
- Colin McLean was named as Café Farmer's Daughter Volunteer of the Regatta for the CGS Regatta by the president of the jury
- Email newsletters have had a mostly positive response with approximately 50% read report.
- Safety Quizzes were launched in the last newsletter.

8. Safety Sub-Committee (Catherine Garrington). Report Table. Minutes from the Safety Officers Meeting:

- General theme of the Safety Officer's Meeting was increased and updated maps and education resources for clubs and schools rather than increased action on behalf of the board
- The proposal for the no-wash zone on the regatta course was presented to the group. The safety officers meeting was not in favour of a no-wash trial due to concerns around school supervision requirements which require coaches to be in relatively close proximity to their crews, something that a no-wash trial may limit; the general preference from the room that coaches should be able to provide feedback when training on the course that may not be accessible during a no-wash zone trial; the concerns around the limited ability of RACT to enforce, especially when there is limited staff and volunteers to enforce, especially compared to a regatta day; and a general consensus amongst the clubs and schools that Rowing ACT should not be acting as an enforcement agency on the lake, and implanting a trial such as this may go against this principle.
- Action item: With Summer months approaching the board enquired about the probability of visiting schools and asked the EO to prepare communications and resources for local and visiting clubs and schools to help better inform and prepare the community.

Question presented to the group regarding the safety concerns when the lake level lowers next year. EO and President assures the board and the community that this remains a priority, however RACT is awaiting a response from the NCA regarding confirmation of supporting infrastructure. EO to report back to the board following Lake Users Group Meeting and discussions with David Wright from the NCA.

9. Governance Sub-Committee (Virginia Hayward). Strategic Priorities for 2024 presented. Decision on priorities deferred to the first meeting of the new year as VH was an apology

10. Items for Decision

a. Positions Vacant. All positions up for renewal following the AGM were discussed by the board. The following individuals were agreed upon:

Role	2022/23 Office Holder	2023/24 Office Holder
Director of Finance	Alison Chinn	Board decision circulated out of session with Hugo Ellwood to be appointed
Secretary	Vinhara Goonesekera	Circulated out of session. Sarah Davoren to act as secretary in the interim
Public Officer	Patrick Davoren	Patrick Davoren
Member Protection Information Officer	Keturah Whitford	Keturah Whitford
Chief BRO	Geoff Northam	Geoff Northam, with Catherine Garrington to take over post 23/24 season
Regatta Secretary	Stuart John	Sarah Davoren

Also considered and approved were:

Position	2022/23 Holder	2023/24 Holder
State, Youth and Pathway Team Selectors	Bruce Hick Donna Marti	Bruce Hick Donna Martin
Masters Team Selectors	Craig Jones Luke Letcher	Renae Domaschensz Neil Smith

Note Peter Wright will assist the Masters selections with the review of the 2023 selection policy.

Ombudsmen for State, Youth, Pathways and Masters teams are still being considered and will be named in due course.

b. Term Recalibrations: Following the special resolution approved at the AGM to change the term length of the RACT Board Directors to three years, the terms of current board directors have been recalibrated to reflect the change in term length and to ensure that there is one elected and one appointed direction each year

Name	Original Term	Re-calibrated Term	New Maximum Term Length
Kent Peters (President – elected)	2023 – 2025	2023 - 2025	2019 – 2028
Tobias Wehr-Candler (Appointed)	2023 – 2025	2023 - 2026	2021 – 2030
Virginia Hayward (Elected/Casual Vacancy)	2022 – 2024	2022 – 2024	2022 – 2031
Sebastian Lang (elected)	2022 – 2024	2022 – 2024	2022 – 2031
Peter Wright (Casual Vacancy/Elected)	2023 – 2024	2023 – 2025	2023 – 2032
Catherine Garrington (Appointed)	2022 – 2024	2022 – 2024	2019 – 2028
Jaime Fernandez (Elected)	2023 – 2026	2023 – 2026	2023 – 3032

Alice Arch (elected)	2023 - 2026	2023 – 2026	2023 – 2032
Hugo Ellwood (appointed)	2023 - 2025	2023 – 2025	2023 - 2032

11. Items for Discussion

a. Board Meeting Dates for 2024: Dates have been circulated to the board. Due to the number of apologies, the decision was postponed to be out of session, with preferred days of the week poll to be circulated by the EO to all board members.

12. Items for Noting

a. Participation Numbers reports: The EO presented a range of participation tables, graphs and data to the board representing the participation and membership trends over a number of years. Overall theme seems to be that our membership and participation numbers are stable, with the board to consider the data as part of the strategic plan going forward.

Meeting closes 2005h.

Other events:

Viking Cup 13 January 2024