

October Board Meeting:
Canberra Grammar School Rowing Centre
22nd October 2024

Attendance:

Board: Kent Peters (President), Tobias Wehr Candler (Vice-President), Virginia Hayward, Peter Wright (Teams), Jaime Fernandez (Teams), Sebastian Lang, Hugo Ellwood (Director of Finance), Catherine Garrington, Alice Arch

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

Meeting open 6:05pm

Acknowledgement of Country

1. Register of Interests

- a) Catherine Garrington declared subsidy received for the work on University Championships as it was part of the costs of the championships arranged with UniSport

2. Acceptance of Minutes

- a. Minutes from the September Meeting

Moved Peter Wright, seconded Hugo Ellwood

- b. Outstanding Actions

Discussion throughout the meeting

3. Director of Finance Report (Hugo Ellwood)

- a. Final Budget for Decision

Budgets are nearly finalised and being accounted for in the monthly report.

- b. Annual Report Accounts

Reports are developing in format, including comparisons against budget. Currently in the Financial Year to Date, are at a loss, however that is expected with less income generated during the first quarter of the financial year.

Overall the position is strong, with strong cash balance, especially following University Championships providing some income.

Moved Hugo Ellwood, Seconded Kent Peters all in favour.

Action item: Board to consider whether the current audit format is suitable.

4. Head Coach Report

Report taken as read.

The Head Coach spoke to his professional development that he has been undertaking, including tertiary studies, professional coaching provided through ACTAS, and the Rowing Australia coach development program, working closely with Tim McClaren as his mentor. A particular outcome of this professional development has been reviewing and developing new systems to better assist the athletes in the Performance Pathway Program.

Tobias Wehr-Candler noted the changes Dave has made to his report as requested by the board and that will be an ongoing exercise as we iterate and advance the reporting. The board acknowledged Tobi's work in supporting Dave through his role as PPMG chair and his work with RA and ACTAS. Catherine Garrington acknowledged the changes in the reporting, and requested the board continue to look at how we are capturing progress against KPI's and tasks in the Performance Pathway Program.

The board acknowledged and congratulated Catherine Khan on being categorised as an emerging athlete after an extremely positive season.

Noting ACTAS have advised RACT that they will not be able to support athletes on RACT training Agreements from January 1, the head coach provided the following update:

- ACTAS are taking the lead on running TID testing, and athletes identified through the program will be supported through the Red Shed with oversight by RACT through the Head Coach.
- Training Agreement athletes that won't receive any support from ACTAS from January 1 and RACT are reviewing options to provide an important aspect of the performance pathway. HC is waiting on the RACT HP review feedback.

The High-Performance Review group are meeting in the coming week, and have undertaken to provide guidance to the Head Coach on a preferred approach to address the gap created by ACTAS' withdrawal from the TA space, and they will provide an update at the next board meeting as to the progress of the review.

Action item: High-Performance Review group to provide directive to the Head Coach for the review of options in the provision of TA services moving forward post January 1.

Action item: Head Coach to review Interstate Selection Policies and update dates prior to the next board meeting for the board to review.

The board acknowledges and congratulates Dave on 5 years with Rowing ACT.

Dave is on part-time annual leave for the next month, reducing his hours of work to 12 hours per week for a duration of 4-5 weeks.

5. Executive Officer Report (Sarah Davoren)

Report taken as read. Executive Officer noted outside of the written that Col Panton marathon was a strong success.

EO reported on the CEO meeting updates and IPP grant which are all progressing well.

EO working with TWC on setting KPI's for the regatta season:

- a. Refining and recording of regatta management systems to ensure a new staff member can adequately support the EO for event management.
- b. Learn to and build confidence in management of a new staff member during the season including providing direction, support, guidance and leadership.
- c. Innovation of regattas, specifically the successful implementation of the IPP digital innovation program.
- d. Ongoing development of the regatta calendar and events, specifically in creating a stronger presence of ACT and interstate participants at regattas and successful

activation of Weston Park with the wider community (creating an atmosphere which draws people to the venues).

- e. Developing RACT's commercial nous, looking at our infrastructure needs, sponsorship opportunities, and preparing ourselves to bid for events such as the Australian Masters Championships.

6. Safety Sub-Committee Report

Taken as read. Since the report, issues presented of crews using lane 2 against the protocols, as well as an issue with the MV Southern Cross. Tobias Wehr-Candler raised that he would like the RACT board to review and consider the reallocation of lanes on the course (in conjunction with the NCA, RA, and the wider community) now that the course is fully buoyed, for example Lane 2 being reassigned as an additional 'transit' up to start lane, with Lane 3 as the 'no go zone'.

Action Item: SSC (Sarah and Catherine) to develop plan for consideration of expanding transit lane to be 1+2

7. Governance Sub-Committee Report

- a. Strategic Priorities 2024 Update

Consideration of ongoing priorities that are not being reached

- I. Volunteer drive: It was agreed that this had been met, with Catherine running a RACT training seminar which had strong engagement.
- II. School Leavers engagement: Sarah and Tobias have discussed this previously and agreed with Seb Lang that we needed to engage with and discuss ideas with clubs and schools to continue developing ideas around programs. S

Action Item: Add to agenda for next club captains and presidents meeting. Sarah and Dave to also raise this with coaches at the next RACT coaching seminar to canvas ideas for development.

8. Items for Decision

- a. Medals and Prizes for the upcoming season

Action Item: Executive Officer to order medals and prizes as suitable.

9. Items for Discussion

- a. East Hotel Sponsorship Proposal

Board is comfortable with the East Hotel discount proposal, with Sarah and Kent to further develop a sponsorship package.

Action: Sarah to discuss with Canberra Park. Sarah and Kent to continue to develop a sponsorship package for East Hotel.

- b. 2024 Winter Time Trial Point Score

Board is comfortable with the point score as it stands. Sarah to reach out to trophy holders

c. Annual Report Presentation

Board is happy with the presentation of the report.

10. Other Business

a. Late Entry Fees – 2024 Season

It was noted that there were instances in the last season where there were many late entries which become an administrative burden for the EO. Rather than resort to charging late entries fees to clubs and schools, the board would like to educate and change the standard around late entries but said it would resort to considering the implementation of late entry fees if the approach taken by some clubs and schools did not improve.

b. Donation of the Decorated Oar to the Red Shed

Catherine Garrington has created a decorated oar to present to the Red Shed, and it was agreed that it would be appropriate for her individually to present this oar to them at the AIRC.

c. Rowing Australia Life Membership nomination

Sarah, Catherine and Tobias to develop a nomination and present to the board in the next month before consideration by RA's Honour and Awards Committee.

d. Rowing ACT Life Membership to be tabled at the AGM. RACT agreed to put Geoff Northam forward for Life Membership for member consideration.

Sarah Davoren left 7:39pm

11. In camera session

Required.