



MARCH BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Rowing Australia Board Room
Tuesday 18th March 2025 – 6pm

Attendees

Board: Tobias Wehr Candler (Vice-President) (Chair), Virginia Hayward, Peter Wright, Jaime Fernandez, Kathryn Ross, Hugo Ellwood (Director of Finance), Catherine Garrington, Alice Arch

Staff: Sarah Davoren (Executive Officer)

Apologies: Kent Peters, Alice Arch

Meeting opened 6:07pm

Acknowledgement of the Ngunnawal people as the traditional owners of the land.

1. Register of Interests

No new register of interests.

All board members are asked to review the register and ensure that they are accurately represented.

ACTION: Sarah Davoren to circulate the current register of interests, with all board members asked to review prior to the April board meeting.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

a. Minutes from the February Meeting

Minutes from the last meeting agreed as an accurate representation. Proposed Hugo Ellwood, seconded Peter Wright, all in favour.

Minutes from the January were circulated out of session as were the interstate team representatives. All approved the changes to the circulated minutes from January and will be uploaded to the website.

Interstate Team was approved and noted. One late nomination has been put to the board for consideration for consideration for the Men's PR3 Interstate Single. The board requested that the eligibility of all athletes be clarified before final endorsement.

The board considered whether athletes who have significant debts owing to Rowing ACT should impact on athletes being eligible for selection. The board determined that whilst it was not suitable within the time frame for the 2025 team to put into effect, this may be something to consider moving forward.

The board decided that reserves for interstate teams should be formally selected and approved through the same selection policy and be formally recognised and announced moving forward.



b. Outstanding Actions

Of the action items listed:

- Kent Peters and Sarah Davoren to follow up on the longstanding outstanding debtors
- Virginia Hayward to present an update to the Risk Management Plan at the April Board meeting
- Peter Wright and Sarah Davoren to update the board on ongoing interactions and discussions with potential sponsors at the April Board meeting
- Sarah Davoren to follow up with individual clubs and schools on the concerns highlighted by the Course Traffic Flow Review, with a view to process the permanent mooring of the start platforms
- Sarah Davoren and Catherine Garrington are continuing to develop a full asset management plan, inclusive of replacement of aging assets

i. Vacant Positions

During the previous period, Tobias Wehr-Candler circulated position descriptions for the vacant positions that need to be filled under the RACT by-laws and constitution. These included the Board Secretary and the Regatta Sub-Committee Chair, both of which are appointed by the board.

Peter Wright volunteered to fill the secretary role. The motion was moved by Tobias Wehr-Candler with all in favour.

ACTION: Peter Wright to work with Sarah Davoren on a handover for the secretary position.

Hugo Ellwood volunteered to move from BRO representative to Regatta Sub-Committee chair. This was moved by Tobias Wehr-Candler will all in favour.

ACTION: The board will recommend Hugo Ellwood to the RSC as chair.

3. Director of Finance Report (Hugo Ellwood)

A loss of \$6,000 for the month of February. There was a loss of \$26,000 for the YTD however, this is less than budgeted. There is several expense accruals that will be visible in the coming reporting period.

The income versus the year previously was decreased though this can be explained by the differences in timing for months.

There are discrepancies in the budget vs actuals which are explained by the differences in reporting of the budget.

Moved Catherine Garrington, Seconded Virginia Hayward



4. Operations Report (Sarah Davoren)

Report taken as read. Outside of the report. Sarah Davoren noted the completion of the second season as Executive Officer, and that it was for the most a strong success, with things to continue to develop in coming seasons.

Sarah Davoren thanked Catherine Garrington for her work as Chief BRO throughout the season and for her support throughout the season.

An update on the active athletes in the RACT PPP program was provided in conjunction with the Lead Coach

a. Staff and Volunteers Integrity Requirements Update

An update on staff and volunteers' integrity and accreditations was provided by the Executive Officer and Catherine Garrington.

The umpires currently sit at 94% compliance, with the ones not compliant all underage. The board queried whether underage volunteers should be asked to get an WWVP. The board looked to discuss with Sport and Rec/NIF whether this is requirement.

ACTION: Sarah Davoren to investigate the WWVP requirements for underage volunteers.

5. Safety Sub-Committee Report (Catherine Garrington)

Taken as read. Three incidents reported, two of which were near misses, and one of which was a minor collision between two doubles. De-identified reports submitted to the board.

Hugo Ellwood queried whether there was any pattern to the safety reports, of which Catherine Garrington noted that whilst there was consistency in who reported incidents, there was not an identifiable pattern to the incidents themselves.

Catherine Garrington noted that she and Sarah Davoren have been working on developing a video of the winter time trial course, with the intent to provide support athletes. This is part of a greater review of the winter time trial safety format.

6. Governance Enhancement Working Group Update

Focus was on the filling the important roles with a greater update in the April board meeting.

7. Items for Decision

a. Club Captains and President Forum Agenda

The board considered the agenda for the Club Captains and Presidents Forum as discussed with Brendan Lynch.

Virginia Hayward recommended the board ensure the title of the forum reflects the safety discussion that is set to occur.



Peter Wright queried whether there should be more than 3 representatives, to help ensure this is The board looks to ensure that the discussion is amongst RACT members, not necessarily the clubs' members. The board would like the community to own the discussion with Rowing ACT to create the discussion environment.

The board queried whether the National Capital Authority should join the discussion, but felt that this discussion was best to be held between the rowing users rather than involving government groups who's role is more towards setting regulations and enforcement of regulations rather than rowing community focused initiatives.

The board agreed to the agenda as laid out, with the amendments to the participation of club members as noted. The meeting will be held at the CGS Boat shed from 6pm to 8pm on the 7th April

ACTION: Sarah Davoren to send out an email invitation tomorrow 19/3

b. Performance Pathways Program Delivery Agreement Proposal

The board was asked to consider the draft RACT/ACTAS/Rowing Australia Performance Pathways Program Delivery Agreement and whether the agreement is suitable for the outcomes the board wishes to see form the program. It was noted that the majority of aspects in the agreement are replicas of the previous agreement.

The board was also asked to consider whether RACT should include any further contributions including Value in Kind or direct monetary contribution.

After considering the agreement, the board agreed to continue the discussion offline.

ACTION: Tobias Wehr-Candler to follow up with the board around the Agreement through circular resolution

ACTION: As part of the ongoing discussion around the program, Tobias Wehr-Candler, Tom Westgarth, Sarah Davoren and Hugo Ellwood will develop an 'ideal' budget for the board to consider.

8. Items for Discussion

a. Yarramundi Reach Community Consultation

The board would like to progress with permanent moorings of the platforms, pending risk mitigation strategies and agreement of the community.

Catherine Garrington did note that the moorings for the current 1000m platform need to be replaced regardless.

9. Items for Noting



10. Other Business

a. Point allocations

The EO asked the board to confirm the interpretation of the by-laws in relation to point score allocation for the ACT Championships, as there was not clarity on the allocation of points.

After considering the by-laws and noting that there were different interpretations possible, the board agreed with the EO's interpretation that all races must meet a minimum of two clubs, 2 entries for Open, A and B Grade Events and Eights Events, and 3 entries for all other events for entered for points to be applied.

b. 40th anniversary of the winter time trial

Virginia Hayward noted that this winter season would be the 40th Anniversary of the Winter Time Trial competition, and that we should ensure that this season is a celebration of the great contribution of some members of the community. The board considered ideas such as a dinner and new logo for the event.

ACTION: Sarah Davoren to develop a plan for the 40th anniversary celebrations of the winter time trials

11. In camera session – required