

**Minutes for the 128th Annual General Meeting of
Rowing Queensland**

11.00am, Sunday 20th May 2018

Rowing Qld Ltd. Boardroom
150 Jane St, West End, QLD

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The meeting was declared opened at 11.00am.

Rowing Queensland (RQ) Chairman, Nick Parr welcomed all to the meeting.

Attendance (per register):

- N. Parr (RQ Chairman/UQBC member)
- E. Brown (RQ Deputy Chair/RA Councilor/TRC member)
- J. Rynne (RQ Director)
- C. Schauble (RQ Director/T&JCU Rep) – via Teleconference
- S. Daly (RQ Director)
- M. Stewart (RQ CEO/Vikings Rep)
- R. Alexander (RQ Life Member/RQ Regatta Secretary)
- W. Alexander (RQ BRO)
- K. Mills (RQ BRO)
- M. Partridge (RQ Manager- Sport & Development)
- P. Howard (Brisbane & GPS Rep/State Team Selector)
- N. Alcorn (Brisbane Grammarians Rep)
- P. Hayes (Centenary Rep)
- P. Dixon (CRC Rep)
- KK. Lakhotia (Rine Rivers Rep)
- C. Cottrell (Riverway Rep)
- G. Clarke (Tattersall's Rep)
- P. Schryver (Toowong Rep) – via Teleconference
- R. Williams (UQBC Rep)
- M. Sparksman (Tattersall's Member)
- R. Ebert (RQ/PRRC)
- A. Hewish (UQBC Secretary)
- J. Price (Toowong Club Captain)
- Jirik Haselgrove

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

- S. Hinchy OAM (RQ Life Member)
- D. Free (RQ Director/GUSPRC member)
- Iain Smith (RQ Director)
- N. L'efevre (GPSA)
- R. Kininmonth (BSRA)
- I. Holzberger (Brisbane & GPS President)
- Gavin Van der Wath (Wide Bay President)
- Peter Thoren (Cairns President)
- Ray Ebert (RQ Board Member – Resigned)

3. Confirmation of Club Representatives and Proxies

Club Representatives and Proxies were confirmed.

Moved: R. Williams
Seconded: G. Clarke
Carried

4. Confirmation of Minutes from AGM held on Sunday 14 May 2017.

Motion: That the minutes are a true and accurate record of the 2017 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: E. Brown
Seconded: C. Schauble
Carried

5. Chairman's Report

2017 opened with the largest Queensland State Championships in many years with a 35% increase in athlete numbers based on the previous 5 year average. The Rowing Queensland headland was used for the first time after a busy Christmas with the RQ crew dedicating many hours to clearing and preparing the site. A late storm on Saturday tested the temporary roads but the feedback from the rowing community was that we were on a winner. State Champs was quickly followed by the GPS season with all regattas, including the Head of the River, being held at Wyaralong. The RQ team refined processes and systems each week and by the end of the season the temporary arrangements were working well. What was unexpected was the number of spectators for the Head of the River. We filled the 1400 carparks onsite and then squeezed cars in every spare piece of real estate. Approvals for the infrastructure side of the facility were progressing but finding the funding was still proving challenging. The funding received from the Queensland State Government must be matched by funding from the Qld rowing community and RQ had used up all its reserves with the construction of the course.

After a very wet and wild Australian Masters in 2016, cyclone Debbie decided to wreak havoc on the 2017 Queensland Masters. One week out from the event massive rains in the Gold Coast hinterland resulted in the complete destruction of the Coomera Course and

a depositing of mud all through the boat park and car park. A monumental effort from the local rowing community got the course partially back in the water so the event could go on. A huge thanks to all that helped. The City of Gold Coast regional council was able to secure federal funding and a new removable course is planned for 2018.

One of the highlights of the year was the inclusion of Springwood State High School in the Gold Coast Region All Schools Rowing Association regattas. Springwood was one of the trial schools for the Riggers program and it was great to see them now with their own boats and competing at regattas. Deputy Principal Michael Ogier was recognised at the 2017 Hancock Prospecting Rower of the Year Awards being a finalist in the Participation Ambassador Award.

The North Queensland rowing community tested a modified fixed regatta calendar which enabled certainty around regatta and event times. The feedback was positive and while this saw a slight decrease in seat numbers we hope this new format will work in the other regions as well. The tyranny of distance that our great state possesses means that regattas need to finish early so trailers can get on the road. For example, it is an 8-hour drive for the Rockhampton crew to attend a Townsville regatta.

The Queensland Pathway program also gained traction this year with a strong bond being formed between the RA, QAS, RQ and clubs. With the focus on athletes and outcomes rather than interclub rivalry we saw big improvements in the Queensland underage athletes. With an altitude training camp planned for early 2018 RQ is looking forward to some strong results at the 2018 Nationals. Special thanks must go to RA and the QAS for their support of this program.

The Brisbane Schoolgirl Rowing Association season also moved from Kawana to Wyaralong and the 10 lanes proved a big benefit for the 10 schools participating. The overall time of the regatta was halved, and girls were able to be back home early afternoon. Continual improvements to the venue saw an improved spectator experience and the fair course saw some excellent racing across all age levels.

Commercial Rowing Club celebrated its 140-year anniversary in 2017. The party has continued at the club with the "Going Forward, Looking Back" song still being played. Congratulations to the all the club members who were recognised at the celebration in October.

While the proposed development of the Wyaralong centre was planned to occur at the end of the BSRA season, bureaucracy beat us. This did not hinder the RQ's teams commitment and a special committee of Queensland Rowing Vice Presidents and alumni was formed to support the RQ crew. A partnership with Hutchinson Builders was brokered and RQ was able to now push through barriers that were standing in our way. The new timeline of development to start in April 2018 was put in place. RQ would like to recognise the support of Hutchinson Builders. This support along with the continued support of the Queensland Government will deliver a great facility for all rowers in Queensland.

The Rowing Queensland Board underwent some change with the resignation of Ray Ebert (Pine River Rowing Club) mid-year. This saw Chloe Schauble (Townsville JCU) move into the casual vacancy and Duncan Free (Griffith University Surfers Paradise) and Simon Daly (St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace) elected as appointed directors. Emma Brown (Toowong Rowing Club) also stepped onto the RA Council. Peter (Hicksy) Hicks also resigned from the SDM role to return to teaching. This triggered a small restructure with the combining of the Education and Safety Officer role and the SDM into the new Manager – Sport and Development role. Mike Partridge, long time Qld rowing doyen, decided to actually get paid for his hard work and started in the role in April. This saw Steph Krippner leave RQ with the restructure. Huge thanks to Peter and Steph for all their hard work while at RQ. Lucy Benjamin continued in her role as Clubs Coordinator and needs to be thanked for the many additional hours she spends at Wyaralong Dam and the varied tasks required on any given day. A big thank you also to Andrew Service the High Performance and State Team Manager who's commitment to the cause is unquestionable. He spent many weeks away from his family travelling the state supporting athletes and coaches and creating the pathway for their continued improvement and opportunities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Murray Stewart and his family (Nat, Georgie and Campbell) for their ongoing commitment and the untold hours they have invested in our sport. You will find them helping out at just about every regatta and rowing event, always wearing a smile and willing to get the task completed.

The organisations volunteer's dedication and commitment often goes well beyond what would normally be expected and I would like to sincerely thank our many volunteers across the state for their ongoing efforts.

6. Adoption of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2017.

The 2017 financial accounts have now been audited in line with the corporations act 2001 and are presented in the Annual Report. Some notes for your information from the auditor:-

- Reported deficit of \$115,477 including Wyaralong Amortisation and Depreciation equalling \$110,804. This large amortisation figure is due to the current Licence Agreement which expires in 7 years being used as the determination of depreciation rate. A new lease is being finalised with SEQWater which will provide security over the Wyaralong assets.
- Revenue: (see note 3 page 15) increased to \$1,191,231 (2016 \$1,139,570). Two major changes occurred in the revenues:
 - Operating income reducing by \$90,001 due to the Australian Masters (\$218,709) being held in 2016.
 - Rowing Australia pathway grants (\$232,698) came to RQ rather than the QAS under the new pathway agreement.

- Expenses: increased by \$198,257 to \$1,306,708. Like revenue there are some key changes effecting this:
 - Wyaralong cost recoveries for non RQ regattas are shown in administration which increased in 2017 with the GPS and BSRA schools using the facility.
 - Pathway costs are shown in Development and High Performance per the Pathway Agreement.
 - While operational cost dropped (\$94,368) this was an increase as cost relating to Australian Masters in 2016 totalled \$205,931. The cost of hosting regattas at Wyaralong in its current temporary state dramatically increases costs to RQ and for the first time RQ had to pay to host a regatta with CQ Schools Championships at Bundaberg resulting in a loss.
- The ongoing impact of the Wyaralong development and the structure of the Grant Deed requiring set benchmarks to be achieved before funding becomes available has placed stress on the company's cash flows and profitability. The additional cost of consultants for the Development Application and delays in approvals has contributed significantly. The current deficit in current assets to current liabilities has been identified by the RQ board and is addressed in note 3 on page 17. While strategies are in place Rowing Queensland needs all the support it can muster from the rowing community to complete this fantastic asset.

No questions were raised from the floor.

Motion: That the audited report for the financial year ending 31 December 2017 be accepted.

Moved: KK. Lakhotia

Seconded: J. Rynne

Carried

Motion: To re-appoint Morris & Batzloff Chartered Accountants as auditors for 2018.

Moved: N. Parr

Seconded: M. Stewart

Carried

7. Election of Board and other Office Bearers

The Chairman outlined two (2) Director positions are up for election at this AGM. Three (3) nominations were received for the General Director position:

1. Emma Brown
2. Chloe Schauble
3. Jirik Haselgrove

As an election is required, Nick Parr advised that voting is now to take place. All representatives and proxies were provided with the ballot paper. Representatives were then asked to cast their votes and they were collected by the scrutineers. The Chair appointed K. Mills and W. Alexander as scrutineers with M. Partridge as onlooker. No concerns to these appointments were raised from the floor.

The scrutineers returned and provided the Chair with the outcome of the election of officers. There were a total of 78 votes cast. The Chairman announced the outcome of the ballot.

Elected Director – Ms Emma Brown

Elected Director – Ms Chloe Schauble

7. General Business:

- R. Ebert commended M. Stewart on everything he has been doing at Wyaralong, dealing with SEQWater and all of his work dealing with the bureaucracy and red tape.
- N. Parr seconded R. Ebert's comments and thanked M. Stewart and his family for their tireless efforts.
- N. Parr further commended I. Smith, also for his time and effort at Wyaralong, ensuring the course is at the high standard it currently stands.
- M. Stewart mentioned recent discussions with MSQ regarding registration of boats and safety requirements. Will most likely have to move towards coaches and umpires wearing life vests in the near future. Currently still working through details.
- RA AGM occurring in Brisbane in two weeks.
 - R. Ebert running for RA Board, as such will have to resign from RQ Board if successful.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.30pm



Chairman – Nick Parr

Company Secretary – Murray Stewart



Rowing Queensland Limited
150 Jane Street, West End, QLD 4101
P.O. Box 3575, South Brisbane, QLD 4101
P +61 7 3842 1200 **E** info@rowingqld.asn.au
W www.rowingqld.asn.au **ABN** 80 797 302 873 **ACN** 603 297 981



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