

**Minutes for the 121<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of  
Rowing Queensland Inc**

10.00am, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Sportshouse Milton  
Cnr Caxton and Castlemaine Streets, Milton

**1. Welcome by the Chairman**

The meeting was declared opened at 10.05am.

Meeting Chairman, Nick Parr welcomed all to the meeting. Chairman, Peter Schryver is an apology as he is stranded in Tasmania due to the cancellation of his return flight.

**2. Attendance:**

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • P. Kerr (NBC)              | B. McCarthy (BRC)                |
| • S. Wallace (DRC)           | N. Parr (TRC)                    |
| • B. Eaton (VVRC)            | M. Sparksman (Tatts)             |
| • E. Brown (TRC)             | R. Ebert (PRRC)                  |
| • R. Alexander (B&GPS)       | D. Wright (RQ Board)             |
| • P. Howard (Brisbane & GPS) | D. Sandford (RCWRC)              |
| • R. Symonds (RQ CEO)        | E. Nelson (RQ Minutes Secretary) |

**3. Apologies**

Apologies were taken from:

- |                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • S. Newcomb (Cent)     | E. Campbell (NYRC)              |
| • I. Holzberger (B&GPS) | P. Schryver (TRC & RQ Chairman) |
| • T. Conrad (RQ Board)  |                                 |

**4. Confirmation of Delegates**

Delegates and Proxies were confirmed.

**5. Confirmation of Minutes from 120<sup>th</sup> AGM held on Friday 19 March 2010.**

Motion: That the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting.

*Moved: Robert Alexander*

*Seconded: Sue Wallace*

*Carried*

**6. Adoption of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2010.**

Rowing Queensland Inc is in a solid financial position. As a brief summary of the accounts, the CEO drew the meeting's attention to the following components of the audited financial report.

Revenues from Ordinary Activities returned an \$8,716 surplus in 2010. The complete audited financial accounts were pre-circulated to all clubs and available on the RQ website.

Factors impacting the revenue included revenue primarily from the Brisbane City Council carryover grant for the Boat Light Subsidy program, financial contributions from the GPS and BSRA school associations towards the Education & Safety initiatives, a one off grant for high performance initiatives, and the increased participation of the Regatta program.

With regards to operating expenses, three significant increases require some comment. The increases in Administration and Employment expenditure is related to the growth of the administrative capacity of the Rowing Queensland Office including the employment of a new position in the Education & Safety Officer, the Education and Safety initiatives and the Regatta costs. These activities were offset by the resulting increase in revenue derived from these activities.

The CEO congratulated Kylie Conway and Rachael Zumaeta on the preparation of the audited reports and the management of the organisation finances throughout 2010.

*Motion: That the report for the financial year ending 31 December 2010 be accepted.*

Moved: Damian Wright  
Seconded: Deborah Sandford  
Carried

## **7. Notices of Motion:**

The RQ Board proposed the following motions. The meeting agreed to discuss and vote on all By Law amendments as a block.

### **1. BY LAW 3.12 PREMIERSHIP POINTS**

#### **FROM**

- (c) Points awarded at Queensland Premiership Regattas and North Queensland Premiership Regattas for Elite, Elite Lightweight, Youth and all Group 1 to 4 races including State and Regional Championships will count towards the relevant Premiership(s).

#### **TO**

- (c) Points awarded at Queensland Premiership Regattas and North Queensland Premiership Regattas for Elite, Elite Lightweight, Senior B (including Under 23 and Under 22), Senior B Lightweight, Youth (including Under 21 and Under 20), Junior (including Under 19 and Under 18) and all Group 1 to 4 races including State and Regional Championships will count towards the relevant Premiership(s).

#### **NOTES**

By-Law updated to reflect changes to By-Law 4.0 – Status of Competitors and events currently offered at Queensland Premiership Regattas.

### **BY LAW 4.0 STATUS OF COMPETITORS**

#### **TO (Changes highlighted)**

#### **4.0 STATUS OF COMPETITORS**

- 4.1 Competitors shall be divided into the following classes although they are to be a minimum age of twelve for each class:

- (a) **SCHOOL**

A school competitor is one who is attending a secondary school as a full time day student and is representing his / her school. This definition also applies to the coxswain of a school crew.

School competitors may be divided into Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Year 11 and School Open categories.

- (b) UNDER 14  
A competitor ceases to be Under 14 on 31 December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of thirteen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 14 crew.
- (c) UNDER 15  
A competitor ceases to be Under 15 on 31 December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of fourteen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 15 crew.
- (d) UNDER 16  
A competitor ceases to be Under 16 on 31 December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of fifteen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 16 crew.
- (e) UNDER 17 – also known as JUNIOR “B”  
A competitor ceases to be Under 17 on 31 December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of sixteen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 17 crew.
- (f) UNDER 18  
A competitor ceases to be Under 18 on 31 December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of seventeen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 18 crew.
- (g) UNDER 19 – also known as JUNIOR  
A competitor ceases to be Under 19 on 31 December of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of eighteen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 19 crew.
- (h) UNDER 20  
A competitor ceases to be Under 20 on 31 December of the year in which he/she reaches the age of nineteen. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 20 crew.
- (i) UNDER 21 also known as YOUTH  
A competitor ceases to be U 21 on 31 December of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of twenty. This definition also applies to the coxswain of a Youth crew.
- (j) UNDER 23 also known as SENIOR “B”  
A competitor ceases to be Under 23 on 31 December of the calendar year he/she reaches the age of twenty-two. This definition also applies to the coxswain of an Under 23 crew.
- (k) LIGHTWEIGHT  
Elite Lightweight and Senior B Lightweight races are restricted to male competitors weighing 72.5 kilograms or less and female competitors weighing 59 kilograms or less in the case of single sculling races and in all other classes of boat to male competitors weighing 72.5 kilograms or less and female competitors weighing 59 kilograms or less provided that the average of all members of the crew in which such competitor races (excluding the coxswain) does not exceed 70 kilograms in the case of male competitors and 57 kilograms in the case of female competitors.

Lightweight rowers shall be weighed in racing uniform, by a person duly appointed by the Organizing Committee conducting the regatta, not less than one (1) hour and not more than two (2) hours before the starting time appearing in the program for their first race on each day of racing.

If a rower has races in other events on a day of racing, the weight recorded for the first event may be applied to qualify for subsequent events.

Rowers may re-weigh after their weigh-in for their first event on a day of racing, within the time limits applicable to that event. This weight may also be carried forward for any other races in which the rower competes on that day of racing.

(l) ELITE (Group 1) also known as "Senior A"  
All competitors (male and female) shall be eligible to compete in Elite category.

(m) ROWING QUEENSLAND SCORE (RQS)

All competitors seeking to enter Group 4, Group 3 or Group 2 races at regattas conducted under the auspices of this Association, must obtain from the Association a Queensland Rowing Score. The Rowing Score is a number that represents a competitors rowing ability and is allocated to each individual by the Association. To receive a Rowing Score, the individual must comply with Bylaw 3.7(e).

The Rowing Score is a number with a maximum score of 4.000 and a minimum score of 0.000. The number is calculated to three decimal places.

Group 1

Group 1 events are open to all competitors

Group 2

A Single Sculler may enter a Group 2 event if his/her RQS is more than 2.000. In the case of a crew the average RQS for the crew (excluding coxswain) must be more than 2.000.

Group 3

A Single Sculler may enter a Group 3 event if his/her RQS is more than 2.750. In the case of a crew the average RQS for the crew (excluding coxswain) must be more than 2.750.

Group 4

A Single Sculler may enter a Group 5 event if his/her RQS is more than 3.500. In the case of a crew the average RQS for the crew (excluding coxswain) must be more than 3.500.

**Progression and regression of scores**

Progression and regression of scores is determined by the following relationships:

Win Recalculation: = Current RQS – (RQS x Win Multiplier x Distance Multiplier x Age Multiplier x Course multiplier)

Loss Recalculation = Current RQS + ((RQS x Win Multiplier x Distance Multiplier x Age Multiplier x course multiplier) x (Win Multiplier))

Progression and regression rates are controlled by the following tables.

Win Multiplier
Maximum 0.0
Minimum 0.33

The Win Multiplier shall, within the range above, be determined by the Board.

#### Distance Multiplier

Distance	Multiplier
250	0.125
500	0.250
750	0.375
1000	0.500
1250	0.625
1500	0.750
1750	0.875
2000	1.000

#### Age Multiplier

Age	Multiplier
11	0.00000
13	0.25882
15	0.50000
17	0.70711
19	0.86603
21	0.96593
23	1.0000
27	1.0000
36	0.86062
43	0.62935
50	0.38459
55	0.23736
60	0.12683
65	0.05490
70	0.01648
75	0.00207
80	0.00001

#### Course Multiplier

Lanes	Multiplier
1 to 5	0.500
6 or more	1.000

A win recalculation is conducted for any competitor or a crew achieving first place result only in either a final or division of any **Queensland** Premiership Regatta (including the Queensland State Championship Regatta).

A loss recalculation is conducted for all competitors or crews that did not place first in the final placing in either a final or division of any **Queensland** Premiership Regatta (including the Queensland State Championship Regatta).

**Results in Masters, Under16, Under 15, Under 14 and School races will not affect a Competitors Rowing Score.**

For each regatta, a competitor's status will be that applying at the close of entries.

The determination of the classes of competitors is made each season by the Regatta Secretary of the association

### **Allocation of Score**

#### ***Allocation of Rowing Score to new members with no previous Rowing experience and members with no status history***

- |    |                                  |     |             |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| 1. | Allocate Base Score              |     | (4.000)     |
| 2. | Any Representative History       | Yes | (-0.750)    |
|    |                                  | No  | (No Change) |
| 3. | Championship Holder in any event | Yes | (-0.250)    |
|    |                                  | No  | (No Change) |

#### ***Allocation of Rowing Score to New Members with School Rowing Experience***

- |    |                                      |     |             |
|----|--------------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| 1. | Allocate Base Score                  |     | (4.000)     |
| 2. | Rowed at school in previous year     | Yes | (-0.500)    |
|    |                                      | No  | (No Change) |
| 3. | Rowed at school more than 1 year ago | Yes | (-0.250)    |
|    |                                      | No  | (No change) |
| 4. | Won School Championship over 2000m   | Yes | (-0.2500)   |
|    |                                      | No  | (No change) |
| 5. | Competed in HOR first 8 (GPS/BSRA)   | Yes | (-0.500)    |
|    |                                      | No  | (No change) |

#### ***Allocation of Rowing Score to returning members***

- |    |                         |                                       |
|----|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Allocate previous score |                                       |
| 2. | Years out of the sport  | Less than one year (No Change)        |
|    |                         | More than 1 year less than 3 (+0.500) |
|    |                         | More than three years (+0.750)        |

### **Score adjustments – National Selection Candidates**

**Competitors entering a National Selection Event will have their Rowing Score reduced to 2.65 if currently higher.**

A competitor may request, in writing to RQI to have their Starting Rowing Score reviewed.

- 4.2 (a) Status of competitors seeking to enter Group 4, 3 and 2 races may be affected by their results in races conducted at National and International Championships and races at interstate regattas that affect the status of competitors in that State.
- (b) Competitors who are members of an Interstate Rowing Association may be permitted to enter races of the status equivalent to the status they hold in their Home State.
- (c) Any Competitor wishing to dispute the Rowing Score either his/her own or that of another Competitor shall place all relevant information before the Board for final determination.
- (d) Competitors' eligibility to compete in age restricted races will not be affected by their Rowing Score.
- (e) The emergency of a representative crew of this Association having not raced shall retain his/her original status.
- (f) Handicap races will not affect the status of any competitor.
- (g) Except for a State Championship race, a competitor's Rowing Score will not be adjusted in the event of a row over.
- (h) Any Club wishing to enter a member in an event where age restriction applies must provide proof of age upon registration.

## NOTES

### Summary of Changes

- Addition of Under 18 & Under 20 categories introduced to avoid confusion with current Under 19 and Under 21 categories. Subsequent clauses have been renumbered.
- Rule for Under 23 brought in to line with Rowing Australia.
- Allowing competitors on narrow courses (less than 6 lanes) to have their Rowing Scores adjusted by only half that of competitors on courses of 6 lanes or more. RQI was finding that the scores of Northern competitors for whom most regattas are on narrow courses were decreasing faster than those of their Southern counterparts.
- Any competitor entering an Australian Rowing selection event will have their score reduced to 2.65 if not already below this. It is felt that any competitor, including those seeking selection for the Under 19 team, would be competitive at the current Group 2 level.
- Races affecting a Competitors Rowing Score have been clarified.
- By-Law 4.2 has been revised to eliminate conflicts with and duplications of By-Law 4.1. There has been no change to meaning except as above.

Moved: Robert Alexander  
Seconded: Bruce McCarthy  
Carried



## **8. Election of Board and other Office Bearers**

The Chairman addressed the meeting outlining the incumbent Directors and the 3 Director's positions up for re-election in 2011.

Three nominations had been received for the three vacant Board positions by the due date:

1. Ms Emma Brown
2. Ms Susan Wallace
3. Mr Damian Wright

As there were no other nominees, no election was required and that Ms Emma Brown, Ms Susan Wallace and Mr Damian Wright be appointed to the Board of Rowing Queensland Inc. All three Director's term expires in March 2013.

*Moved: Robert Alexander*

*Seconded: Deborah Sandford*

*Carried*

The meeting acknowledged the excellent work of outgoing Directors, Chris Morton and Deborah Sandford who did not re-nominate for the Board.

## **9. Appointment of Auditor for 2011.**

The Board's nomination for 2011 is Mr Norman J Hoare, Morris and Batzloff, Chartered Accountants.

*Moved: Sue Wallace*

*Seconded: Paul Kerr*

*Carried*

## **10. General Business**

### **10.1 RQ proposed constitution**

It was noted that this general business item is for discussion only and that no motions for voting have been put to the membership at this time.

As an outcome of the 2010 Rowing Queensland Strategic Plan review the Rowing Queensland Inc Board undertook a review its current constitution. Recognising that the current Association's constitution was in many ways outdated and confusing, the Board decided to review and reform the Association's constitution. A draft was circulated to all clubs in late 2010 for comment and discussion at the 2010 General Meeting held in conjunction with the 2010 State Championships. The comments received were included in the revised draft and again circulated to the clubs for discussion at the 2011 AGM. As a result of all comments received from the clubs and individuals, the Board engaged the services of Mr John Mullins a respected sports lawyer at Mullins Lawyers located in Brisbane.

The major proposed changes include:

- Changing its legal entity status from an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Qld) to incorporation as a Company Limited by Guarantee under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) that would be called Rowing Queensland Limited;
- Under the proposed constitution, only Member Clubs and School Association Members will have the right to vote. Participant Members will no longer have the right to vote on the election of office bearers and the Board. Under the federated sports system in Australia as rowing is, the individual participant members are considered members of their respective clubs, the clubs are members of the State Association and the State Associations are members of the national body;
- a quorum for any RQ meeting would be 6 member clubs and not 6 individual members;



- Under the proposed constitution, the Board will consist of up to a maximum of 7 but not less than 4 Directors. 4 elected by the Member Clubs and School Association Members and a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 3 appointed by the Board. The Chairman must be one of the Directors elected by the Member Clubs;

There was general discussion amongst the members in attendance as to the positives and negatives of the proposed changes.

Such items for noting included:

- Rowing Queensland was once an “unincorporated association” or “club” that had rules and powers, but its members were each ultimately liable for the debts of that association or club and there were other restrictions and limitations, such as those that made it difficult to hold property or contract other than through cumbersome trust arrangements. In 1981 the Queensland Government recognised the need for new structures to encourage unincorporated associations and clubs to develop their businesses through the enactment of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Qld)*.

Subsequently RQI became what it is now, an incorporated association under that Act. It was afforded various powers and rights and assumed various duties and liabilities on that incorporation, but essentially it created an entity that was separate from the collective body of members in the association. Over time the management, activities, business and affairs of RQI have grown and reached a point for a body that has all the powers and rights of a corporation with all of the duties and liabilities of a corporation regulated by Federal law.

Whilst it is common for small not-for-profit associations to incorporate under the Associations Incorporation Act, as the association develops and grows into a more substantial body, it is sensible to consider incorporation under the federal *Corporations Act 2001*. There is no set rule or size that dictates when an incorporated association should convert to a company limited by guarantee.

- The Old Rules enable “Ordinary Members” (that covers “Competitive Members”, Junior Competitive Members” and Volunteer Members”) and “Life Members” to attend meetings, speak and vote on any issue, stand for election and (with the exception of volunteer members) compete at regattas, will be repealed by the proposed Rules 5 and 10. The proposed Rules will remove the current “Ordinary Members” of their rights. Under the proposed Rules there will be a reversion to a “Club only” voting system.
- Proposed Rule 11 allows for the appointment of 3 Directors and whilst it is prudent to permit certain members of a Board to be recruited and appointed because of their special skills or experience, the number should not be so close to the number of elected Directors (being only 4). The absence of one or two elected Director at important meetings may mean that the non-elected Directors control the outcome and that is unacceptable. More importantly, the notion of paying the non-appointed directors (under proposed Rule 11.11) to govern an association that comprises amateur athletes (including under-paid elites) and volunteer officials at all levels is well in excess of the good governance requirements of the existing association and unnecessary for good governance at a Board level of this association.

While there was general support for the conversion of RQI to a Company Limited by Guarantee, there was some opposition to changes of the voting rights of the existing Ordinary Members and Life Members. This discussion items will be further discussed by the Board and club committees.

### **Close of Meeting**

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 11.18am