



## Rowing Ireland Board Bulletin December 2015

This Bulletin summarises the items discussed at the Rowing Ireland Board Meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

Those present at the meeting were: C Cronin, F Coghlan, D Buckley, K Kerr, B Ewing, G Farrell, L O'Callaghan, E Colclough, G Young, H Adams.

The following were the main items arising:

- 1 A recommendation on the use of the Rowing Ireland tour boats has been posted on the Rowing Ireland website.
- 2 Information regarding the reasons why rowers leave the sport will be sourced through an online questionnaire.
- 3 A proposal to change the Rowing Ireland registration year to the 1<sup>st</sup> September will be presented to the next AGM.
- 4 In future any registered member can change clubs once in any calendar year without payment of a second Rowing Ireland registration fee.
- 5 The 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 remains the date for application for events to be held in 2017
- 6 The purchase of Concept 2 blades for High Performance was approved
- 7 A presentation on developments to date and future plans for the regatta course at Lough Rynn was made to the Board.
- 8 The Rowing Ireland branch subsidies for 2014 and 2015 will be paid to all four Branches shortly.
- 9 The High Performance Director, M Espersen, joined the meeting and presented his view of the current state of the High Performance Programme and plans for its development. The following items were covered:
  - Four additional volunteer coaches have been appointed to the HPP for the 2016 season – D Mannion, P McInerney, J Mangan and J Armstrong.
  - In the HPD's view the development pipeline at all levels is strong particularly regarding junior men and U23s and good support structures for the HPP are being put in place at club/regional level.

- The priority for any extra money received from Sport Ireland in 2016 would be the hiring of an additional full time coach for the HPP.
  - A HP development plan for women is to be addressed in the HPP documents.
  - The Rio Olympics
    - The qualification of 2 crews for Rio was a significant achievement and delivers what we had committed to Sport Ireland.
    - Further qualifying possibilities at Lucerne in 2016 included the W1X, W2-, ML4- and W2X.
    - It would be desirable to have a full time coach for the Olympic qualified LM2X and achieving this is a priority.
  - A non-Olympic 2016 ambition is to have a LM8- entered for the 2016 World Championships.
  - The HPD will explore development of the Belfast Academy with the Ulster Board members.
- 11 K Kerr was endorsed as a candidate for one of the four technical officers supporting the Coupe de la Jeunesse.
- 12 The next Board meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Frank Coghlan**  
**Secretary**  
**December 2015**