

Rowing Ireland Board Bulletin

November 2013

This Bulletin summarises the items discussed at the Rowing Ireland Board Meeting on the 2nd November 2013.

The following directors were present at the meeting: C Cronin (President), F Coghlan (Secretary), S Dunlea (Treasurer), B Ewing (Ulster), L Gibson (Leinster), G Farrell (Leinster), K Kerr (Munster), L O'Callaghan (Munster), E Colclough (Connacht).

H Adams (CEO) in attendance. M Espersen (HPD) in attendance for part.

The following were the main items arising from the meeting:

- 1 P McInerney will be Irish Junior Coach for 2014. In addition he will continue to focus on driving and supporting Coach Development and Club Development.
- 2 The financial accounts are being well managed and for the second year in a row a healthy surplus on the Core accounts was being forecasted for 2013.
- 3 €10,000 p.a. will be targeted for an NRC sinking fund
- 4 Revenue from licence fees of approximately €5,000 will be ring-fenced for supporting domestic events.
- 5 The eFlow sponsorship of the Grand League was not being renewed for 2014. eFlow have not explained the reason for their decision. The net impact of the loss in 2014 will be €10,000
- 6 The annual fee charged to the Irish Coastal Rowing Federation will be kept at €1,000.
- 7 Insurance quotations have been sought for 2014 from a number of providers. Advice will be sought on club insurance.
- 8 The High Performance Director detailed his requirements for new boats and equipment based on selection prospects for Rio. The cost will be covered by the money raised from the sale of equipment earlier in the year. The Board approved the purchases as follows:
Filippi 80kg 4-/X
Filippi Heavyweight 2x/-
Filippi Lightweight 2x
Filippi Lightweight 1x (x2)
Empacher Heavyweight 1x
Concept 2: Rowing ergometers Model D x 10
Sculling blades: Two sets W LW, Two sets W HW, Two sets M LW, Two sets W
- 9 A request received from FISA for a transfer of eligibility by an athlete from Rowing Ireland to the British Rowing Federation was considered. The Board agreed that, in

accordance with FISA's Rule 19, the two year gap period between competing for different National Federations must apply as there are no circumstances rendering this situation "exceptional" in terms of the Rule.

- 10 The cut-off for international squad selection will be March 2014. Clear, agreed, fair procedures backed by valid data in arriving at inclusion/exclusion decisions will be applied and it will be made clear to unsuccessful athletes that they are not being discarded but will have opportunities to try again in future seasons.
- 11 It was recognised that releasing squad athletes for club events like the IRC, Henley etc could be a problem in some cases but that the HPD will discuss any such conflicts with clubs and coaches well in advance.
- 12 It was agreed that in future HP strategy plans will be based on eight years forward rather than focused on the next Olympic Games.
- 13 A mission statement for the organisation will be drafted and presented for approval at the next meeting.
- 14 The recommendations of the recently issued Sport Northern Ireland Audit Report of Rowing Ireland were considered and corrective actions agreed where necessary.
- 15 The engagement of The SIA Group to carry out a Rowing Ireland governance review was confirmed. The review will start immediately with a target of a report being presented to the January 2014 Board Meeting.
- 16 It was agreed that the admission charge for the series of presentations on Talent Identification by P Shakespear will be reduced to €10.
- 17 A list of Board sub-committees was agreed as follows: Audit, Championship, Disciplinary (ad hoc), Domestic Events, Para Rowing, Safety, Touring and Recreational, Umpires, Universities, Youth and Ethics. Terms of reference for these committees will be drafted.
- 18 RI registration cards will be issued only to new registrations for 2014.
- 19 The Board acknowledged the very generous donation to Rowing Ireland by Joe Cunningham of a boat for adaptive rowing.
- 20 The Board recorded its good wishes to J McGeehan on his retirement as a FISA umpire at the end of the year.
- 21 The next Board Meeting will be on Saturday 14th December.
- 22 The postponed EGM will be held following the Board Meeting at 1.00pm in Moran's Red Cow Hotel, Dublin.

F Coghlan
Secretary