

Rowing Ireland Board Bulletin

March 2014

This Bulletin summarises the items discussed at the Rowing Ireland Board Meeting on the 8th March 2014 and the Board Meeting of the 19th March.

The following directors were present at the 8th March meeting:

C Cronin (President), F Coghlan (Secretary), S Dunlea (Treasurer), K Kerr (Munster), L O'Callaghan (Munster), L Gibson (Leinster), G Farrell (Leinster), B Ewing (Ulster), E Colcough (Connacht). H Adams (CEO) in attendance.

The following were the main items arising from the meeting:

- 1 Following discussions with the University of Limerick Sports Department the proposal for a Munster Rowing Academy based in the University is not going ahead at this time.
- 2 A Youth and Ethics Policy will be presented to the next Board meeting for review and agreement.
- 3 Suggestions regarding how the Branches might best support club development in their provinces will be considered after a Club Development proposal is presented by Gordon Reid to the first Board Meeting after the AGM.
- 4 A survey on Coach Development and other matters will be sent to all RI members over the next few weeks and the results should be known, and published, by April.
- 5 Grand League
 - 5.1 A standardised format for the Grand Leagues has been agreed at a meeting of the Grand League event organisers.
 - 5.2 The newly appointed Communications Officer, Amy Bulman, will be tasked to provide efficient rollout of information at the Grand Leagues.
 - 5.3 An Observer for all four Grand League events will be appointed.
- 6 Under the new competition system being introduced in April 2014 it will be essential that regatta results are communicated to the Rowing Ireland office in a timely fashion. In the event of results being communicated too late the Board will consider recommending to the Disciplinary Officer that a substantial fee be levied on the relevant regatta committee.
- 7 A special €20 registration fee for Associate members allowing entry for two HOR events per annum was agreed. This will be implemented for the 2015 season.

8 High Performance

The High Performance Director presented his report to the Board which highlighted the following:

- 8.1 Regional HP support structures continue to be put in place in the four provinces.
 - 8.2 Selection and coaching concentration is on areas where Ireland has the best chances of producing internationally competitive athletes - i.e women and lightweight men.
 - 8.3 There are good international prospects across a number of rowing categories particularly in W1X, WL1X and W2X. There are also good squads of athletes in the men's lightweight and men's and women's U23 categories.
 - 8.4 There will be a review of Paralympic prospects for Rio at a meeting in March.
- 9 The Board is considering applying for the FISA World Masters Regatta in 2019. A final decision will be made after discussions with experienced advisors in the summer.
- 10 D Troy of RI's insurance brokers, O'Driscoll O'Neill, made an insurance presentation to the Board. The Board will issue an insurance guideline document for clubs on receipt of same from O'Driscoll O'Neill.
- 11 Terms of Reference for the Recreational Committee and the Disciplinary Committee were approved. Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee were approved pending selection of the committee members.
- 12 A report from the Safety Committee highlighted that 40% of clubs have not recorded the names of their safety officers in the annual RI club survey.
- 13 The Para Rowing Committee report proposed additional regatta events for para rowing. The Chairs of the Domestic Events Committee and the Para Rowing Committee will discuss the proposal.
- 14 Lough Rynn will be ready for rowing by May 2014 and for regattas in 2015.
- 15 The Risk Assessment working group were asked to submit a list of the top 10 identified risks to the next Board meeting.
- 16 A meeting of Board members has been arranged for Friday 18th April to consider the proposals of the SIA Report on Rowing Ireland Governance.
- 17 Two Board proposals were submitted for consideration at the AGM. One is to include Just Sport Ireland as the final arbitrator in our grievance procedure and the second is to allow the AGM to be called at anytime in the year rather than restricting

its holding to between April and June. There were no other AGM proposals received.

- 18 The next Board Meeting will be scheduled after the new Board is appointed by the AGM.

The following item was discussed at the meeting of the 19th March:

- 19 The 2013 Statutory Accounts were approved by the Board. The accounts show an operating cash surplus of c€65,000

Frank Coghlan
Secretary
Rowing Ireland