

Rowing Ireland Board Bulletin

May 2014

This Bulletin summarises the items discussed at the Rowing Ireland Board Meeting on the 18th May 2014.

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 - Part (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 As this was the first meeting of the new Board, members reviewed and signed Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct forms.
- 2 The CEO will ensure that 2013 draw winners are paid immediately and that the draw will proceed in a timely fashion in 2014.
- 3 After some discussion regarding a registration fee for Associate Members it was decided to ask the Recreational Rowing Committee to consider the matter and report back to the Board.
- 4 M Espersen, HPD, joined the meeting and the following points regarding the high performance programme were raised.
 - 4.1 A winter training camp is being planned for Italy in winter 2014/15 as part of the preparation for the 2015 Olympic qualifying regattas.
 - 4.2 The para rowing programme was developing with some experienced rowers returning and some good new additions.
 - 4.3 The target of developing the University Rowing Clubs as centres of excellence was progressing slowly.
 - 4.4 All new boats required are now purchased and on site in the NRC.
 - 4.5 The HPD would like to see more engagement by the Branches in the HP programme. He would like to see provincial indoor rowing events in order to provide more winter rowing for young people and to create an early pipeline for the HPP.
 - 4.6 The HPD stated that Newry was not a financially efficient location for running trials. Portora was being considered as a future venue.
- 5 The Board considered a proposal whereby 10 touring boats could be purchased by Rowing Ireland and sold on to clubs. The payback period would be two years with

repayment in three stages. Proposals were considered from two suppliers of tour boats - Baumgarten and Wintech. After consideration of the benefits of both proposals the Board decided to offer the Wintech boats for purchase conditional on 10 prior orders being received from clubs.

- 6 Regatta results will be published on the RI website in a timely fashion, i.e. before they appear on that of other organisations.
- 7 The Board approved €18,450 to finish the current phase of tracker development.
- 8 The Quarterly Accounts to March 2014 were considered. The accounts showed a surplus of €124k which was €48k better than budgeted. Expenditure was €18k more than budgeted while income was €66k better. The improvement in income was due largely to better than budgeted grant income from the OCI and Sport NI. The apparent overspend in expenses was due to timing issues with certain HP expenses being incurred earlier than budgeted for.
- 9 An affiliation application received from Kenmare Rowing and Boating Club was approved.
- 10 Gordon Reid joined the meeting and presented an overview of the Club Mark system currently being rolled out in NI. Club Mark is a club support and accreditation system which encourages clubs to develop their operations in the areas of Management, Coaching and Competition, and Safety. The programme provides developmental support documentation and resources. The plan is to roll out the programme over all four provinces over the next 3 years. Individuals will need to be found in each province to act as a trainer/mentor to clubs. This process will commence after the pilot in NI is completed. The documentation templates will be put on the website shortly.
- 11 The Governance Implementation plan was reviewed and some changes were agreed. The plan will be posted on the website.
- 12 It was agreed that all sub committees would report directly to the CEO except for the Audit, Championships, Domestic Events and Umpires Committees. All sub committees will report twice a year except for the Championships and Umpires committees which will report once per annum - as will the Branches.
- 13 The Board meetings schedule to the end of 2014 was agreed as follows: 6th July, 6th September, 4th October, 15th November.

F Coghlan
Secretary
Rowing Ireland

