

# Rowing Ireland Board Bulletin

## October 2014

This Bulletin summarises the items discussed at the Rowing Ireland Board Meeting on the 10th October 2014.

The following directors were present at the 6th September 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), G Young (Ulster), E Colcough (Connacht), R Cooke (Connacht). H Adams (CEO) in attendance.

The following were the main items arising from the meeting:

- 1 Staff salary increases for 2015 as recommended by the Remuneration Committee were agreed by the Board.
- 2 The future plans for the Talent ID Academy in Belfast were discussed in the context of the proposed sale of the heavyweight boats bought by RI a number of years ago for developing heavyweight rowing in Northern Ireland. It had proved very hard to find heavyweight men in Belfast and a more practical focus on lightweights and women had been adopted, rendering the purchased boats largely unsuitable. It was agreed that the boats be sold at best price. The Ulster Branch clubs will be offered first refusal in any sale.
- 3 A report on the NI Talent ID Programme will be considered at the next Board meeting.
- 4 It was agreed that it was important that the HP programme include structures and programmes focused on delivering success at Tokyo in 2020 as well as at Rio de Janeiro. Such objectives will be included in the HP plan.
- 5 An equality policy is being developed at the request of both SNI and the ISC.
- 6 The Board approved the expenditure of €4,000 on a catamaran engine and €5,000 on an infra red security camera system for the NRC.
- 7 P Gallen, the newly appointed Chair of the Audit Committee, joined the meeting. Paul introduced himself and briefed the Board on his understanding of his role. To date he had reviewed relevant policies and financial accounts, met the auditors and drafted a committee terms of reference. The terms of reference as drafted was adopted by the Board.
- 8 The CEO presented the draft 2015 Core budget for approval prior to submission to the ISC. The budget was approved subject to some changes suggested by the Board as follows:

The inclusion of a sum for establishing a RI accredited Learn to Row Programme which clubs would be encouraged to adopt and run.

The purchase of the ESB leased land in the NRC over a number of years.

The inclusion of a €10k NRC sinking fund for facility upkeep and development.

- 9 The HP budget as presented was also approved by the Board for submission to the ISC. The draft budget is significantly greater than the 2014 grant received from the ISC reflecting the training and coaching expenditures required in an Olympic Qualifying year.
- 10 The Board discussed the objectives of the Rowing Ireland Women In Sport programme for which continued ISC support is being sought in 2015. It was agreed that the overall objective had to be the increase in the numbers of women rowing in events on the water and not just dry rowing numbers. A full discussion on the programme's targets will be had at the next Board meeting.
- 11 It was agreed that all coaches as well as being registered with their clubs should be licensed by RI as well. A means of achieving this will be considered at future meetings.
- 12 Implementation of the new Grand League timing system is targeted for 2016.
- 13 Use of Lough Rynn for training camps as well as regattas is to be encouraged
- 14 Seamus Scully, Carlow RC, was agreed as the new chair of the Irish Rowing Championships Committee.
- 15 The delay in producing the trophies for the 2014 Irish Rowing Championships, due to the illness of the supplier, will be addressed by the CEO.
- 16 The 2015 AGM will be postponed to October 2015 as the Board believed that it made more sense to have the AGM after the end of the season rather than in the middle. A provisional date of Saturday 10th October 2015 was agreed.
- 17 Next meeting 10.00am Saturday 15th November 2014

Frank Coghlan  
Secretary  
Rowing Ireland  
23rd October 2014