

Rowing Ireland Board Bulletin November 2018

This Bulletin summarises the items discussed at the Rowing Ireland Board Meeting held on 11th November 2018 at Sport Ireland office.

Board Members:

E. Colclough (President), D. Buckley (Treasurer) B. Leader (Secretary) Independent Director: Dominic Burke

	Vice President	Representative
Munster Branch	Lisa O'Callaghan	TJ Ryan
Ulster Branch	Not in attendance	Garth Young
Leinster	Leo Gibson	Not in attendance
Connacht	Deirdre O'Hara	N. Maxwell

Board Meeting: 11th November 2018

The following is a summary of the key items discussed:

- The HPD Antonio Maurogiovanni report acknowledged the success of the HP team selected to compete in Plovdiv.

LM2x Gold: Paul and Gary O'Donovan.

Coach: D. Casey

W1x Gold: Sanita Puspure.

Coach: D. McGowan

W2 6th (Olympic quota) Emily Hegerty, Aifric Keogh.

Coach D. McGowan

M2x 9th (Olympic quota) Ronan Byrne/ Phil Doyle.

Coach: D. McGowan.

W2x 12th (Olympic quota) Aileen Crowley/Monika Dukarska.

Coach: D. McGowan.

M2 16th Shane O'Driscoll, Mark O'Donovan.

Coach: Dominic Casey.

ML4x 5th Fintan McCarthy, Ryan Ballantine, Jacob McCarthy, Andrew Goff.

- A homecoming was organised at the NRC in collaboration with Cork County Council. The Minister of State for Sport Brendan Griffin attended with local counsellors, the Mayor and CEO of Cork County Council.
- 2019 is Olympic qualification year and Ireland will qualify as many boats as possible. Success in qualifying boats will bring financial pressures, and the HP coaches must ensure the athletes are well prepared and competitive. Sport Ireland has secured additional funding of €6.5m and as Rowing has achieved significant success in 2018 at world events, we are confident of Sport Irelands continued support to help Rowing achieve its objective of delivering Olympic medals in Tokyo in 2020.
- One quarter of recent FISA finalists for awards include Rowing Ireland athletes and coaches. Dominic Casey as World Coach, Sanita Puspure – Women's single sculls, Gary and Paul O'Donovan Lightweight men's double sculls.

- A strong communication package was put in place for the World Championships. Rowing featured on all National Press front pages on 17th September 2018 and RTE gave extensive coverage. Our thanks to Sinead Jennings, Neville Maxwell and Claire Lambe who were excellent panellists on the RTE sports program covering the Worlds.
- High Performance is building a solid platform across all of the boat categories to repeat the success achieved in 2018.
- The HP team are working towards establishing Regional Pathways in Dublin, Belfast, Limerick, Galway, and Cork.
- The HP Strategy document for 2019 has been published on the website.
- Rowing Ireland Strategic Plan 2019-2024 has been prepared by the Board and will be presented and discussed with Clubs by CEO Michelle Carpenter in the coming weeks. An A3 poster of the plan is available.
- Booking for Coaching Courses is now available on the RI website. Please complete the Garda/Access NI Vetting form if you have not already received clearance.
- "We are all Rowing Ireland", is a club support initiative which will be launched in January. Two clubs will be able to apply for this pilot scheme to support further club development.
- Funding has been secured for a Festival of Rowing in Dublin City centre from 12-14th May 2019. The event will be: Thursday; Schools, Blitzit. Friday: Corporate/Workplace Blitz. Sunday: Master recreational event.
- The fourth annual #Blitzit in Trinity College took place. The event was at maximum capacity and 650 additional schools will take part in provincial competitions.
- The number taking part in the GGGR programme will exceed 30,000 individual participants in 2018.
- Get Going Get Rowing program will be launched in Belfast this week.
- 22 new schools in Cork have signed up for the GGGR program.
- A "Women in Sport" Cork program is taking place in Shandon and Cork Boat Clubs.
- As our sport grows the number of volunteers needed is increasing. A volunteer initiative will be developed in 2019.
- A discussion paper was presented by E. Colclough regarding the optimisation of the domestic events calendar. Our organisation needs to plan for the ever increasing number of junior athletes joining our sport and participating in the junior high performance pathway. As junior athletes become more competitive we must ensure that we offer every opportunity to compete at the highest level at home and abroad.
- Pat Kiely has been appointed Chair of the Safety Subcommittee.
- A presentation was made by Rowing Ireland Offshore and Coastal subcommittees.

Breda Leader

Secretary