

N.S.W. Union of Rowers Inc. Minutes of the 10th December, 2024 held at Sydney Rowing Club.

1. Present: John Johnson (Chair), David Sollom OAM, Brabara Ramjan OAM, Dr. Philip Sharp Z, David Clark , Brian Guthrie, Phillip Titterton OAM, Barry Moynahan OAM, James Johnson & Terry Maher. Z = attended by Zoom Conferencing.

Apologies: Liam James, Anthony Brown, Neil Holmes.

2. Opening: The Chairman welcomed Executive members and opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

3. Obituaries: One minute's silence was observed in respect for the passing of John James of North Shore RC.

4. Adoption of the Minutes: Moved D. Sollom that the minutes of the 23rd October, 2024 be adopted as a true and accurate record. Seconded by B Guthrie and *Carried*.

5. Correspondence Inward

D Sollom – Membership numbers inquiry.

D Sollom – Australian Business Registry requirement for 4 members transacting business to have Directors ID numbers.

Dept. Fair Trading – New forms for notification of Public Officer – to Dr. Phil Sharp.

Peter Stroud – re promotion of book “Crew Builder” on website. Request a copy of book for review.

D Sollom suggested that the book be advertised as a tax deduction for Peter.

Liam James – Constitution Review Draft of 7/12/24 (circulated to Executive)

Outward

D Sollom - Life & Permanent members 152; Financial Scholarship members 35 ordinary members 14. Total 201.

Executive – Meeting Zoom link. Treasurer's Report to 6/12/24.

President – NSW Union of Oarswomen approach re possibility of amalgamation.

6. Financial Report

NSW UNION OF ROWERS INC FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 6 DECEMBER 2024

DATE	ITEM	AMOUNT
	Bank Account CBA	
01-Jul-24	Opening Balance	19,531.89
	+ Deposits	
	Fund Raising/Social	1,700.00
	Membership	120.00
	Total Deposits	3,668.62
	- Payments and Transfers	
	Affiliation fees	205.00
	Total Payments	208.30
06-Dec-24	Closing Balance	\$ 22,992.21
Term Deposit	CBA @ 4.45% matures 4 August 2025	40,000.00
	SEE ATTACHMENT 2 to these Minutes.	
	Balance	\$ 40,000.00
Total Funds	Balance at 6 December 2024	\$ 62,992.21

D. Clark reported that the current signatories of the Term Deposit are Phil Titterton, Kim Rudder and Anne Craig. A letter was drafted and signed by the signatories to set up the current Term Deposit.

At the moment Phil Titterton and Kim Rudder are active signatories on the Term Deposit and operating account on the CommBank Platform. Terry Maher and David Clark are signatories on the CommBiz Platform which is separate.

D. Clark proposed to marry those together that Phil Titterton, Kim Rudder, Terry Maher & David Clark become signatories on both platforms.

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The Treasurer tabled a resolution and form which required the chairman's and signatories signatures for the paperwork to be completed. . SEE ATTACHMENT 1 to these minutes.

T. Maher pointed out that Kim was no longer an officer of the Union and should not be a signatory and that Dr Phil Sharp was supposed to be a signatory as Public Officer.

Resolved that we proceed with the incorrect paperwork and then correct the signatories after the bank corrects the existing errors.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved by D. Sollom, seconded by Brian Guthrie and *Carried*.

D. Clark tabled a Commbank form for the current signatories to sign prior to the removal of Kim Rudder and replaced by Dr Phil Sharp.

The signatories attention was drawn to the requirement for each of them to have a Directors ID Number.

7. Sub-Committee Reports:

D. Sollom requested information regarding the aims and composition of Sub Committees. SEE ATTACHMENT 3 **Recruitment & Fund Raising** D. Sollom said that recruitment was the key to the Union's financial success and that he would be happy to work with a group to reinvigorate membership. Young people are not financially affluent. Masters are the cohort who are the most affluent and said the State Championships and Australian Masters was the opportunity to reach out and gain more members.

B. Moynahan suggested approaching RNSW seeking their support with recruiting masters and adding a Union membership form to their website.

It was pointed out that many Union members are volunteering at regattas.

Constitution Review L. James has finalised the Draft Constitution and is happy for the document to be disseminated. Some input has already been received from the Committee. P. Sharp questioned the meaning in Objects 3 of "and it's affiliates". B. Ramjan said that affiliates of the change from time to time.

It was noted that the revisions excluded Rowing Australia throughout the document.

Moved Phil Titterton seconded David Sollom that the Constitution (December revision) be disseminated to members and comment invited. *Carried*.

Archives B. Moynahan and B. Ramjan suggested the Union should annually nominate athletes of both genders for the NSW Hall of Champions to RNSW. The Chairman was of the view that Board Members of RNSW need to be lobbied to achieve any outcome.

B. Moynahan is trying to find a home for a old fly wheel ergometer and was attempting to approach the Powerhouse museum.

Newsletter & Website Results of all recent regattas are available from the website

8. General Business:

A news item from RNSW advising the appointment of the new IT provider is WebUrban. Unfortunately after 37 years of service RNSW Life Member Stephen Croot was not recognized.

T. Maher said that he was extremely disappointed with the lack of appreciation. B. Moynahan supported the comments saying after many years' service as a commentator he did not receive a letter of thanks on his retirement after Covid.

B. Ramjan suggested that the Chairman formally write to the RNSW President (Sinclair Taylor) and that the Secretary draw up bullet points to assist in the preparation of the letter.

P. Sharp spoke of the heat problems experienced during the 8km Head of the Yarra with 14 participants taken to hospital by ambulance. B. Ramjan observed that the heat policy was not fit for purpose; it was poorly managed; it was dangerous; no RA Officials were present and did not call a halt until Paramedics complained that it was impossible to treat over 100 people for heat exhaustion or heat issues (2 heart attacks and a cardiac arrest). It was reported that Community RC almost lost 2 rowers at the Head of the Yarra.

It was the general view further review was necessary the RNSW Heat Policy where the Officials make decisions based on real data based on BOTH temperature and humidity and incorporate Masters in the policy. A new heat policy had recently been implemented and the decision to cancel or suspend racing is still not in the hands of the Officials!

The President spoke on the approach by the NSW Union of Oarswomen regarding the possibility of amalgamation and further correspondence was awaited.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.

ApprovedChairman /2025.