



SCOTTISH ROWING BOARD MEETING

Zoom call 6.30pm – 23rd August 2023

| Board Attendees | Initial |
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| Matt Taylor | MT |
| Sam Winton | SW |
| Dot Roberts | DR |
| Alistair Neill | AN |
| Neil MacIver | NM |

| In attendance | | |
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| Amanda Cobb | AC | Scottish Rowing |
| Lee Boucher | LB | Scottish Rowing |
| Mark Senter | MS | Scottish Rowing |
| Carol Ann Ellis | CAE | Scottish Rowing |
| Charlotte MacBeath | CM | sportscotland |

| Item | Topic |
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| 1. | Welcome and apologies MT welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies received. |
| 2. | Declaration and Conflicts of Interest SW declared a conflict of interest in relation to the Transgender Policy-BR Statement (item 6) as he is the founder of Here for Sport which advocates transgender inclusion. |
| 3. | Minutes of Previous Meeting Approved by the Board subject to minor changes to wording in items 6.3 and 9. |
| 4. | AGM Business 4.1 Fees Amanda previously emailed the Board with her proposal for the 2023-24 Scottish Rowing membership fees. After discussing, the Board agreed on a one year freeze on all membership fees with a small increase next year, which would be communicated to clubs at the AGM. |



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| | <p>4.2 Appointment of Directors AC advised that the Board vacancies up for election at the AGM were Director of Coaching, Director of Development and a Board appointed director.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding what was constitutionally required for MT's role as President and it was agreed that, although they are not required to do so, it would be good practice to have him appointed at the AGM.</p> <p>4.3 Nominations of Honorary Officers After discussing, the Board agreed that there would be no Honorary Officer nominations at the upcoming AGM.</p> <p>4.4 AOB The Board confirmed that they were happy with a virtual AGM and all agreed that this was the best option to accommodate clubs further afield.</p> |
| <p>5.</p> | <p>Finance Report 5.1 Q1 Management Accounts Paper previously circulated.</p> <p>The Board discussed the running cost of the tank and AC advised that the Active Schools activity currently running at SRC was covering these costs. It was agreed that a full season would need to run to allow them to track usage and income over the winter period to determine whether running the tank was sustainable.</p> <p>MT thanked AC for her report.</p> <p>5.2 Scottish Rowing Ltd Directors Report and Summary Accounts 5.3 Scottish Rowing Ltd Supplementary Accounts (non-statutory)</p> <p>AC requested that they hold a pre-AGM meeting to approve the accounts to allow her time to review. Agreed by the Board.</p> |
| <p>6.</p> | <p>Transgender Policy-BR Statement</p> <p>Paper previously circulated.</p> <p>In light of BR updating their Trans and Non-Binary Inclusion Competition Policy and Procedures, it was highlighted that there was a requirement for SR to determine their stance and direction of travel going forward.</p> <p>SW presented a paper that outlined 5 options for them to consider -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholesale adoption of BR's policy |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hybrid Approach (which prioritises competition) • Hybrid Approach (which prioritises inclusion) • Identity-based policy • No policy <p>After some discussion the Board agreed that they were currently between two options (adopting the BR policy or hybrid focusing on inclusion) and they would continue to work and progress on this.</p> |
| <p>7.</p> | <p>Governance Items</p> <p>7.1 Equality</p> <p>SW provided a verbal update advising the Board that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are making progress with the Transgender Policy • Hugh Torrance became the first EDI Group member after expressing an interest when he was a guest on the Pride webinar. They have a new list of people to reach out to and are hopeful to recruit more members. • They are hoping to publish the Pride webinar soon and use it as a platform to recruit more EDI Group members. SW advised that he would share the recording with the Board to review and feedback. <p>7.2 Safeguarding Update</p> <p>No report.</p> <p>7.3 Anti-Doping</p> <p>No report.</p> |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>Annual Reports</p> <p>8.1 COO</p> <p>Paper previously circulated.</p> <p>AC provided the Board with a review of progress since the last AGM which will be edited to form the basis of the COO report in the annual review.</p> <p>Areas to highlight were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The announcement of the inclusion of Coastal Beach Sprints in the Commonwealth Games sport programme was a huge boost for the sport. Although Victoria has pulled out of hosting there is work being done behind the scenes to find a new host. • Good progress has been made in many areas of the strategic plan. • The need to focus on increasing the number of coaches throughout the sport. Clubs struggle to recruit, retain and develop coaches affecting their ability to deliver activity. SR are currently trying to provide as many coaching opportunities (both paid and unpaid) as possible. |



- The Pathway team have spent a lot of time focussing on SR events and now have clear planning processes in place to allow future events to run smoother with less staff involvement.
- Proud of the performance activities throughout the year and track record of home grown talent representing on the world stage.
- A great number and range of activities now taking place at the rowing centre and generating revenue.
- Good progress in community and outreach with Firhill now a stand-alone SCIO with three years secured funding for staff and continued SR support. River Ayr is continuing to develop with support from South Ayrshire Council.
- Rowers for Change has had a slow start but the first phase (Champions for Change) starts on 9th September.
- SR have reviewed governance and procedures around club governance and safeguarding in light of the Whyte Review, which has opened up conversations with clubs addressing their responsibilities and how SR can support them.

No questions were raised and MT thanked AC for her report.

8.2 Performance

Paper previously circulated.

LB provided the Board with a review of the performance and pathways activity over the last year.

Areas to highlight were:

- Exciting and significant changes to the performance and pathways team with an increase in staff numbers which has greatly expanded their capabilities.
- The Commonwealth Games hosting issue and decision to include Beach Sprints in the 2028 Olympic Games in LA could have a massive impact on SR in terms of funding and resources.

No questions were raised.

8.3 Development

Paper previously circulated.

MS provided the Board with a review of the development activity over the last year and also provided testimonials and feedback from participants.

Areas to highlight were:

- First draft of Instructors course is complete and hopeful that they can pilot in October.



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DR informed the Board that she attended the summer holiday programme and left feeling elated after such a positive day of rowing. She expressed that everyone involved did an amazing job. <p>MT advised that it was a pleasure to read the report and thanked MS.</p> <p>8.4 Pathways and Membership See item 8.2</p> <p>8.5 Scottish Rowing Centre Paper previously circulated.</p> <p>MT expressed that it was great to see so much activity at the rowing centre and passed on thanks to Gillian Stewart.</p> |
| 9. | Matters Arising See actions list. |
| 10 | AOB 2023-24 Competition Calendar Approved by the Board AC advised that she would resend the draft Board agenda items for review and feedback and a meeting schedule will also be put together for next year. MT thanked everyone for their time. |