

# **SCOTTISH ROWING BOARD MEETING**

Zoom call 6.30pm – 6th July 2022

Board Attendees	Initial
Caroline Parker	СР
Matt Taylor	MT
John Gill	JG
Alistair Neill	AN
Neil MacIver	NM
Sam Winton	SW

In attendance		
Amanda Cobb	AC	Scottish Rowing
Lee Boucher	LB	Scottish Rowing
Carol Ann Ellis	CAE	Scottish Rowing

Item	Topic
1.	Welcome and apologies
	CP welcomed everyone to the meeting.
	Dot Roberts, Chris Woods and Charlotte MacBeath sent apologies.
2.	Declaration and Conflicts of Interest
	None
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting
	Approved by the Board.
4.	Rival Kit Partnership
	Paper previously circulated detailing the proposed partnership with Rival Kit to supply the Scotland Rowing Team kit, staff kit and any other kit requirements across the business for a 3 year period.
	Approved by the Board.



# 5. Awards Dinner

AN excused himself from the meeting as he was feeling unwell. The Board agreed it would be best to defer the discussion on the awards dinner.

AN left the meeting.

## 6. AGM Business

AC proposed that the following items added to the upcoming AGM agenda.

- Election of Board members
  - CP advised that they discussed in the pre-meeting with everyone who was present confirmed that they are happy to stand for re-election to the Board.
  - JG enquired how long he has served on the Board. AC advised she would check and let him know.
- Scottish Open Championships
  - AC informed the Board that should there be a proposed change to an open championships, it should be taken to an AGM in the interests of transparency. This would require wide consultation with the membership.
- Safeguarding Code of Conduct
  - AC expressed that it would be a good opportunity to bring to the AGM as a discussion item to raise the importance and increased priority of Safeguarding.

AC advised the Board that the internal referencing on the Articles of Association is incorrect. NM confirmed that changing this does not need approval at the AGM and it can be registered as an update with companies house

AC confirmed that she would make the relevant numbering amendments and resubmit to Companies House and NM agreed to review the document to check if anything else should be updated.

# 7. Finance Report March 2022 SAGE Current year update

Paper as circulated.



Chris Woods emailed prior to the meeting and highlighted that having view of a balance sheet would be helpful and also requested more details on the accrued cost of the ongoing safeguarding investigation and the potential materiality of it.

NM confirmed that the balance sheet looks consistent with the finance reports and last year so he is happy with this.

CP agreed that more details on the potential risk involved in the Safeguarding investigation would be beneficial and highlighted that there was a need to discuss the possibilities and ensure funds are set aside.

# 8. Governance Standing Items:

## 8.1 Safeguarding

Paper as circulated.

AC updated the Board on the Whyte Review which was commissioned by UK Sport and Sport England in response to allegations of mistreatment of athletes within the sport of gymnastics and the accompanying allegations that British Gymnastic had failed to deal appropriately with these concerns. A published final report highlighted concerns and risks and also provided recommendations to sports Governing bodies.

NM advised that it would be sensible to review our own policies and procedures and determine what additional resources were needed to ensure the companies policies and procedures were appropriate and sufficient.

CP advised that **sport**scotland have plans for further investment in support for governing bodies in the area of safeguarding.

AC and Mark Senter will consider the wider implications of the review findings for SR and will present a more detailed update at the next Board meeting.

# 8.2 Equality

No report

# 8.3 Anti Doping

No report

# 9. Operational Updates

#### 9.1 COO

Paper as circulated.

AC advised the Board that Clare Adamson MSP has requested to visit the centre to discuss how rowing can get more people involved locally and they are looking at a date



in September. CP suggested someone from the Board could also attend and AN expressed in the pre-meeting he would be keen to be involved in this. SW also advised that he would also like to attend if timing and other commitments allow him to.

AC informed the Board that Stewart Harris, CEO of sportscotland, will be retiring in October.

AC also highlighted to the Board that it may be beneficial to schedule formal Board reports on Equality and Anti-Doping instead of the current reactive reporting. The Board agreed.

The Board agreed that there should also be an annual report and review prepared for equality/EDI in future.

## 9.2 Performance

Paper as circulated.

LB provided the Board with a brief overview of his report and recent result.

LB advised the Board that, with the Minutes of the previous Board meeting now approved, they now have the last piece of evidence to be submitted for the Anti-Doping assurance framework and he thanked JG for all of his help through the process. He highlighted that the work will be ongoing with a need for monitoring.

CP queried how these results fed into Scottish Rowing's wider funding objectives.LB advised that they were on track in all areas and that there is an encouraging pipeline of younger athletes coming through. Although we lose many of them to American colleges offering scholarships, it is much easier for them to re-enter the GB pathway.

## 9.3 Development

Paper as circulated.

MT asked if a varied range of Clubs attended the safeguarding training and AC advised that it tends to be the same clubs that attend and engage with activities. Mark Senter will be tracking and reporting attendance.

## 9.4 Pathways

# 9.5 Membership

Paper as circulated covering item 9.4 and 9.5.

CP expressed that it was good to see the membership figures in graph form and suggested it would be good to track to allow the Board to have more understanding of membership retention and churn. AC noted that this is something that is being worked on.



## 10. UK Honours Process

Paper as circulated.

There was a discussion regarding the range of awards and honours that could be considered to recognise volunteers and raise the profile of the sport and how best to encourage clubs to nominate.

It was agreed that some communication and awareness raising for club would be a good start.

# 11. Matters Arising

See actions list.

## 12. AOB

SW highlighted to the Board that he has been asked by Leap Sports to compete at the Euro Games funded by them. Although he will be competing as an individual he is keen to promote SR when he is there but was seeking the Board's approval before doing so.

The Board confirmed that they were happy with this and NM suggested putting together some comms prior to the event.

CP asked that AC to circulate the summary of SR insurance to the Board to review.