



Row Nova Scotia
Annual General Meeting
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2018
Oakwood House, Dartmouth

Board of Directors Present: Peter Webster (President), Tracy Brown (Director), Judith Kays, Katie Edwards (Director), Nicole Sanscartier (Treasurer), Tracy Brown (Secretary) and Patrick Thompson (Staff Ex-Officio)

Regrets: Nick Head-Petersen (Director)

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:36pm by Peter Webster.

2. Identification of Member Club Voting Delegates

Antigonish Rowing Club: Katie Edwards

Halifax Rowing Club: Connor Booker and Linda Lee

MicMac Amateur Aquatics Club: Greg Scherkoske and Angela Hersey

North Star Rowing Club: David Read and Jason Balsor

Lunenburg Yacht Club: No club voting delegates

Quorum is met.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Nicole Sanscartier motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Jason Balsor. The agenda was approved as presented. Motion carried.

4. Approval of the AGM minutes from February 20, 2018

Judith Kays motioned to approve the previous AGM minutes, seconded by Nicole Sanscartier. The AGM minutes were approved as presented. Motion carried.

5. Business Arising from Minutes

No business arising from the minutes.



6. Report from the Board

The Board of Directors gave a presentation. Please see the full presentation at:
<http://www.rows.ca/row-nova-scotia-agm-3/>

Annual Overview – A summary of the major events, regattas, results, coaching courses, equipment purchases and programs that occurred in the past year.

Governance – The Governance Committee was key in the development of the Committee structure that is in place. The committee took on three key initiatives this year. First, to develop, review and approve terms of reference for the new committees. Second, to update and approve the terms of reference for the Board of Directors. Third, to create a policy manual for the organization. This task of reviewing, creating and developing policies has been initiated and is targeting a Spring/early summer completion date.

Provincial Advisory Council (PAC) and Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA) – The past year saw a large amount of turnover at RCA. Carol Purcer was elected as the President of the RCA and a number of new staff were hired. The RCA conducted a Masters Survey to assess the needs of the masters rowers across the nation. The RCA Membership Fee Model comes into effect April 1, 2018. Row NS was successful in receiving one of the RCA Coach Grants in 2017 and were once again successful in 2018. Tracy Brown was selected to RCA Mentorship Program. RCA is investigating non sanctioned events and un-registered coaches at clubs in the province. The RCA rules of racing were updated and are now available.

Community Engagement – Row NS facilitated a Province wide come try rowing event with 65 new rowers trying rowing across 4 of our clubs. At the beginning of 2017 we launched our new website and have worked hard to keep it to a high degree of relevancy and accuracy. The committee made a push this year to garner media coverage specifically around regattas, the Canada Games, NRC's. We have put a strong emphasis on improving our presence on social media this year with the growing reliance on social media for communication. – using twitter, facebook and instagram. This was successful as we saw a large increase in followers, interaction and reach of posts. Membership numbers increased approximately 10% in 2017 with 657 total members. Within this ratio we saw increases (even if very small) at nearly every club with significant increases at Mic Mac AAC and HRC. Within the membership we saw a similar ratio of sport and competitive rowers as previous years. The two greatest challenges of this committee are identifying way to promote awareness to rowing in the province and securing new sources of funding from outside the rowing community through sponsorships and partnerships.



Coach and Umpire Development – Tracy Brown was accepted into the RCA Coach Mentorship Program which gave her an opportunity to go to the FISA World Championships in Florida. We also received funding from RCA for the Coach Development which was used to support the training of club LTR, RCA Coach and RCA Performance coaches. Nationally we have seen a bottle neck of coaches not being certified. Row NS sees this national issue here and is hoping to support our coaches this coming year and future years in reaching certification. Linda Lee continues her service as the head umpire in NS. Three umpires went to National regattas this past year- Leslie (Henley), Bonnie (CURA), Joan (NRC's). Report from Head Umpire to be notes in the slideshow posted on www.rowns.ca.

Provincial Team – Three Training Groups with entry in PT program. Based on NSPPI and RCA we have a number of training standards we are working to meet. Camps happen nearly monthly and are testing and identification points for athletes into the PT. In 2017 we have continued to stress that athletes have mandatory membership to the clubs and for those in development and training groups participate in club practices in conjunction with Provincial Team practices.

- Pat Cody does a weekly training plan that is circulated to athletes and club coaches. TID – 24 assessments and 6 referrals to clubs. 75+ TID's.
- Strong partnership with CSCA which includes access to strength training, nutrition, sport psych. Pat Cody has been selected to be part of the coach program at CSCA.
- Continued partnership with the RBC Training Grounds. A number of athletes have been identified at Training Grounds and Row NS will continue to attend events as a recruitment tool.
- The most promising Canada Games (CG) in many years. Every boat qualified for the A finals, although no medals, the level of competition as a team was higher than we have seen in years. Four rowers from the CG team went off to row at universities in other provinces.
- National Rowing Championships (NRC) results were extremely strong. We placed 3rd and 4th in Junior women's Single, 3rd in the junior men's pair, 4th in the junior men's single, and 8th in the senior mens single. Even more impressively Team NS won the NRC Efficiency Award.

Safety and Events – Involved new people in chairing regattas this year which has helped spread the knowledge and experience of running events while reducing the burden from some current volunteers. Began volunteer training at regattas. Looking to review common safety/cold water policies in the coming year as well as look into first aid and emergency training for volunteers, umpires and coaches.

7. Financial Report



Financials presented with particular note of the significant decrease in cash balance in 2017 compared to 2016 which is due to the purchase of two double/pair boats. Although Row NS continues to have financial stability, we are hoping to generate increased revenue through sponsorships and partnerships that will allow Row NS to complete many of the strategic priorities outlined in the strategic plan. No questions from the floor.

8. Membership Fee Changes

Effective April 1, 2018 RCA and Row NS will be implementing new fees. The RCA Fees will be \$20 base fee and \$3.25 per seat fee. The Row NS fees will \$15 base fee and \$1.75 per seat fee. This new structure being implemented by RCA and the majority of the Provincial Rowing Associations across Canada looks to better balance fees across the membership more accurately.

9. 2018 Slate of Officers

The following slate of officers was put forward by Row Nova Scotia.

Katie Edwards – President

Rosalyn Huyhn – Treasurer

Joan Backman – Secretary

Judith Kays – Director at Large

Nick Head-Petersen – Director at Large

Jason Balsor – Director at Large

Greg Scherkoske – Director at Large

Andrew Todd – Director at Large

No nominations were made from the floor.

Peter Webster motioned to approve the proposed slate of officers, seconded by Judith Kays. The slate of officers was approved as presented. Motion carried.

10. New Business

Question from the floor about how long the Provincial Coach new contract is. His contract has been extended until March 31, 2019.



Question from the floor about which policies the Provincial Coach follows following his new contract with the CSCA. The Governance Committee plans to look into this concern make sure we have a clear process in place.

11. Adjournment

Peter Webster motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tracy Brown. Adjournment of the meeting was approved as presented. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm