

ONTARIO ROWING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – November 29, 2015

Mississauga, Ontario

8.1. CALL TO ORDER

Tom Blacchiere called the meeting to order at 9:11 AM. A moment of silence was held in respect of Ontario rowing supporters who passed away this past year. Rowing personnel who passed away in the past year included: Jack Nicholson, Fred Loek, Mike Heward, John Pearce, and Ken Yeo.

8.2. QUORUM, MAJORITY, APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

The President reported that a quorum existed, and that with 54 of 67 members in attendance or by proxy, a majority will be 28 votes. Carol Purcer and Ron (Swede) Burak were appointed as Scrutineers.

8.3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Agenda amended to remove Item 8.1

MOTION: (Orillia Rowing Club/ Ottawa Rowing Club) "That the Agenda be accepted as amended."
CARRIED

8.4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting of the Association were reviewed.

MOTION: (St. Catharines Rowing Club/ UWO Boat Club) "That the minutes of the ORA AGM 2014 be accepted as read."
CARRIED

8.5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM 2014 AGM MINUTES

There was no business arising.

8.6. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

MOTION: (Ridley Graduate Boat Club/ London Rowing Club) "To move into a Committee of the Whole"
CARRIED

8.7. BOARD REPORTS

7.1 Annual Report

Derek Ventnor presented the Annual Report and responded to questions. He noted that reports will be posted on the website in advance of the AGM in future years. He noted that ROWONTARIO will be seeking feedback on the conference to understand what the needs of the clubs are for session offerings at future conferences.

7.2 Financial Reports

7.2.1 Audited financial Statements for Y/E March 2015

Barkwell reviewed the financial statements and the year to date financial report. He noted that many grants received are flow-throughs. General surplus has been reduced over this fiscal year to a balance of \$94,075.00 at March 31, 2015. This does not include balances in the internally restricted funds. He proposed to form a Finance Committee and a Human Resources Committee in the coming months.

7.2.2 YTD Financial Statements – October 31, 2015

Barkwell reviewed the Year To Date and Fiscal Year-End projections for the 2015/16 fiscal year. The Association is projecting a small deficit of about -\$4,923.25, which comprises the projected depreciation expense for the year.

7.2.3 Membership Statistics – October 31, 2015

Barkwell reported that the forecast for individual memberships, as of October 31, 2015, looks approximately even with the results for last year. Clubs were encouraged to ensure that everyone is registered.

MOTION: (London Rowing Club/Guelph Rowing Club) “To come out of the Committee of the Whole”.

CARRIED

MOTION: (UWO Boat Club /Hanlan Boat Club) “To approve the Reports as presented.”

CARRIED

8.8. NEW BUSINESS

8.3. Club Memberships

8.2.1. Approval of full Status Club Membership

MOTION: (Brock U Rowing Club/ Leander BC) “To approve Upper Ottawa Valley Rowing Club for full membership.”

CARRIED

8.1.2. Approval of Probationary Club Applications

One new club has applied to join the Association.

MOTION: (Argonaut Rowing Club/ St. Catharines Rowing Club) “To approve Ayle of Skiff for probationary membership.”

CARRIED

8.4. Membership/Registration Fees for 2016 - 2017

8.2.1. Club and Special Association Fees

Barkwell introduced the proposed membership fees and described the need to increase membership revenue by \$70,000, which amounts to about \$10 per member of the Association. Currently, about

79% of the Association's revenue comes from grants, which restricts the ability of the Association to meet the needs of the members, if the needs do not coincide with the grant requirements. The Ministry has advised the Board that the Association should generate more of its own revenue, and suggested that if it did not, that the Association may not be considered favourably for base funding in the future. The members questioned what would the additional revenue be used for, and were advised that the funds would be directed to the hiring of additional staff.

Members expressed both support for and concern about the proposal. The discussion was extensive. Members were asked to consider the costs of membership in other sports in Ontario where participants and clubs' fees are considerably higher. It was noted that rowing has undervalued itself as a sport for too long, and members were asked to consider what value they place on the services of the Association.

MOTION: (Brockville Rowing Club/Hanlan Boat Club) "To approve the fees for Club and Special Association membership in the Association at \$600 for 2016/2017"
CARRIED

8.2.2. Individual Membership Fees

MOTION: (Argonaut Rowing Club /South Niagara Rowing Club) "To approve the Competitive rower fees at \$50.00, the Sport rower fees at \$20.00 and non-rower fee at \$0.00 for 2016/2017."
CARRIED

2.4 RCA Annual General Meeting – January 2016

8.4.1 Future Membership Structure Proposal

Barkwell reported on the results of the RCA Membership Structure review Committee of which he and Ventnor are members.

- There will be one fee for a member/participant regardless of their involvement (comp, high school, sport, recreational, etc.), which will cover the RCA fiscal year. Those who race will be charged a Regatta Participant's Fee (i.e. racing licence). This fee will be charged to all individuals competing in a regatta (Canadian, USA or International), and both these fees will be mirrored by ROWONTARIO. RCA and the PRAs will set their own rate for these two fees.
- Webreg will be linked with an Online Regatta Registration System to allow for exchange of data and money through an electronic interface and Canadian regatta organizing committees will not bear any cost of the Online Regatta Registration System, but will continue to bear the cost of payment processing service providers.
- Canadian Membership/Participant Fees under the new system will be close to revenue neutral in the first year in which this is implemented (2017-2018)
- Webreg will be able to provide enhanced data on athletes, coaches, and umpires both from a profile and performance basis.
- ROWONTARIO will generate revenue from this from non-Ontarians racing in Ontario regattas approximately \$30,000 in the first year.

Members questions centered around the data that will be gathered by the new WebReg—will it be comparable to existing data collection systems; would it be possible to upload whole groups of participants instead of requiring individual registrations; what will be the cost of implementation against available funding; who collects the racing licences; is the vote in favour of the concept or the fees? Barkwell noted that some questions have yet to be answered but at this point it is clear that the vote at the RCA Semi-Annual General Meeting will be about the concept and not about the fees.

8.4.2 Voting at RCA AGM

Blacquiere reported that the next RCA Semi-Annual Meeting and Coaches Conference is being held in Ottawa on January 28-31, 2016.

8.4.3. Direction to ROWONTARIO President

Blacquiere noted that he had historically sought direction from the members as to how to cast the ROWONTARIO vote at the RCA AGM.

MOTION: (Ottawa Rowing Club /Argonaut Rowing Club) "To direct the ROWONTARIO President to vote in favour of the proposed new RCA membership concept."

CARRIED

8.5. Ratification of Board of Directors' Actions 2014 – 2015

MOTION: (Brock University Rowing Club/Middlesex Western Rowing Club) "To ratify the Board of Directors' actions for the fiscal year 2014– 2015."

CARRIED

8.6. Next meeting

The 2016 Annual General Meeting will be November 26 (Training Conference) and 27, 2016 (AGM) in Mississauga.

9.0 Adjournment

MOTION: (Brock University Rowing Club/Argonaut Rowing Club) "To adjourn the meeting at 1:06 PM."

CARRIED

Judy Sutcliffe
Secretary

**2015 ROWONTARIO Annual General Meeting
Sign-In Sheet
November 29, 2015**

	Voting Delegate	Voting w/Proxy
Argonaut Rowing Club	Latham French	
Ayle of Quinte Skiff Club (non-voting)		
Barrie Rowing Club	Matt Gleben	
Bayside Rowing Club		
Branksome Hall Rowing		Stephen Ross
Brock University Rowing Club	Peter Somerwil	
Brockville Rowing Club	Dane Lawson	
Burnstown Rowing Club		Tom Blacquiere
Cambridge Rowing Club		Tom Blacquiere
Canadian Henley Rowing Corporation		Michelle Kerr
Canadian Indoor Rowing Association	Lynda Dundas	
Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Association	Dave Pelette	
Central Ontario Rowing Association	Joe Lyttle	
Collingwood Rowing Club		
Dominion Day Regatta Association	Judy Sutcliffe	
Don Rowing Club	Lynda Dundas	
Durham Rowing Club		Stephen Ross
Georgian Bay Rowing Club	Tiffany Rusch	
Guelph Rowing Club	Julie Horrocks	
Haldimand Grand River	Pat Hyslop	
Hanlan Boat Club	Nick Matthews	
Hatchets Training Centre		
Havergal Rowing Club	Emmanuel Azaron	
Island Lake Rowing Club		
Kingston Rowing Club	John Armitage	
Kitchener Waterloo Rowing	Lisa Ross-Black	
Lasalle Rowing Club		
Leander Boat Club	Steffan Wagner	
London Rowing Club	Stephen Ross	
Middlesex Western Rowing Club	Scott Matthews	
Muskoka Rowing Club	Cindy Rusak	
Niagara Falls Rowing Club	Wernher Verbraeken	
Niagara Rowing School		
Notre Dame Rowing Club	Dave Pelette	
Ontario Adventure Rowing Assoc.	Richard Vincent	
Orillia Rowing Club	Javier Cappella	
Ottawa New Edinburgh Club	Richard Vincent	
Ottawa Rowing Club	Lana Burpee	
Owen Sound Rowing Club	Karla Lang	
Peterborough Rowing club	Beverly Quirt	
Queens University Rowing Club	John Armitage	
Quinte Rowing Club	Carol Greiner	

	Voting Delegate	Voting w/Proxy
Ridley College Rowing Club		
Ridley Graduate Boat Club	Monika Seymour	
Royal Canadian Henley Regatta Joint Commission		Tom Blacquiere
Severn River Rowing Club	Mike Smith	
South Niagara Rowing Club	Helen Taylor	
St. Catharines Rowing Club	Michelle Kerr	
St. Catharines World Rowing		Tom Blacquiere
St. Lawrence Rowing Club		
Sudbury Rowing Club	Donna Speigel	
Thunder Bay Rowing club		
Tillsonburg Rowing Club		
Toronto Sculling Club		
Trenton Rowing & Paddling Club		Amanda Schweinbenz
University of Toronto Rowing		
Upper Canada College	Jurgen Schubert	
Upper Canada Rowing Club		Tom Blacquiere
Upper Ottawa Valley Boat Club		
UWO Boat Club	Alan Oldham	
Welland Recreational Canal Corporation		
Wellington Sculling Club	Greg Kitching	
President	Blacquiere, Tom	
Treasurer	Barkwell, George	
Secretary	Sutcliffe, Judy	
Director	Dundas, Lynda	
Director	Schubert, Jurgen	
Director	Schweinbenz, Amanda	
Director	Waddell, Chris	
TOTAL		46
TOTAL VOTES		8
TOTAL VOTES		54

Scrutineers - Carol Purcer, Ron Burak