



ONTARIO ROWING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING – September 27th, 2023
Virtual Meeting via Zoom Webinar

Attendance

Argonaut Rowing Club	Brock Rowing Club	Brockville Rowing Club
Canadian Henley Rowing Corporation	Canadian Indoor Rowing Association	Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Association
Central Ontario Rowing Association	Collingwood Rowing Club	Dominion Day Regatta Association
Don Rowing Club	Guelph Rowing Club	Hanlan Boat Club
Island Lake Rowing Club	Kingston Rowing Club	Muskoka Rowing Club
Notre Dame Rowing Club	Ontario Adventure Rowing	Orillia Rowing Club
Peterborough Rowing Club	Ridley Graduate Boat Club	South Niagara Rowing Club
St. Catharines Rowing Club	St. Lawrence Rowing Club	Thunder Bay Rowing Club
Wellington Sculling Club	Director – Boyd	Director – Hobbes
Director – Van Rooijen		

1. CALL TO ORDER

Pippa Hobbes – ORA Chair called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM and opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement followed by a moment of silence was held in respect of Ontario rowing personnel and supporters who passed away this past year. The members of the Board of Directors and the staff were introduced.

2. QUORUM

Confirmation of quorum as there are 28 voting members present of 61 = 45.9%. As per ORA By-laws 40% is quorum.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Don Rowing Club and seconded by Guelph Rowing Club, be it resolved that the 2023 Ontario Rowing Association Annual Meeting Agenda is approved as presented. **CARRIED**

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

On a motion duly made by Argonaut Rowing Club and seconded Hanlan Boat Club, be it resolved that the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Ontario Rowing Association held on September 28th, 2022, are approved as presented. **CARRIED**

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF THE F2023 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

On a motion duly made by Orillia Rowing Club and seconded by Muskoka Rowing Club, be it resolved that the Audited Financial Statements for the period April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

On a motion duly made by St. Catharines Rowing Club and seconded by Argonaut Rowing Club, be it resolved that the auditing firm of Norton McMullen LLP be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year April 1st, 2023, to March 31st, 2024. **CARRIED**

8. ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT

St. Catharines Rowing Club sent a letter via email to the Chair, Secretary and CEO of Row Ontario at 5:42pm on September 27th, 2023, outlining concerns about the range of directors and other concerns about the proposed changes to the By-laws. D. Derry from St. Catharines Rowing Club spoke to the club's concerns about the changes to the Articles allowing for as few as three (3) Directors to be elected to the Ontario Rowing Association Board.

On a motion duly made by Kingston Rowing Club and seconded by Thunder Bay Rowing Club be it resolved that the Articles of Amendment in the form presented and included with notice of meeting of the Members are approved. **DEFEATED**

Action: The Row Ontario CEO will send the SCRC letter to the entire Board of Directors and the Board will consider adjustments and then call a Special Meeting.

9. NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

This item was deferred as it is affected by the decision on the amendments to the articles.

10. AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

This item was deferred as it is affected by the decision on the amendments to the articles, and there were concerns raised by St. Catharines Row Club, in their letter about other proposed changes.

11. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

On a motion duly made by Peterborough Rowing Club and seconded by Ridley Graduate Boat Club, be it resolved that the slate of the Directors presented by the Nominations Committee, Caitlin Beresford and Jirianna Couroux, are elected to the Board of Directors. **CARRIED**

12. RECOGNITION OF OUT-GOING DIRECTORS

Pippa Hobbes recognized the retiring director: Zola Mehlomakulu thanking him for his years of service to the rowing community.

13. TERMINATION

On a motion duly made by Dominion Day Regatta Association and seconded by Brockville Rowing Club, be it resolved that the meeting be terminated at 7:44 PM. **CARRIED**