



**SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS
ROWING UNION**

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 4 MARCH 2016 AT
ROODEPLAAT DAM ROWING CLUBHOUSE

1. PRESENT
 - 1.1. Attendance register circulated
2. APOLOGIES
 - 2.1. David Knowles, Vice President
3. WELCOME AND PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - 3.1. The President Andre Oosthuysen welcomed everybody and gave a brief report of the past year. There were 39 South African schools at champs including: 9 Zimbabwe, 14 Boys, 7 Girls and 5 Co-ed.
 - 3.2. A total of 853 boys and 395 girls totalling 1248 athletes competing in 1116 events. The coastal schools bring smaller contingents due to the costs of travel, but there has been pleasing growth in the new events, including the pairs.
 - 3.3. He also thanked St Andrews for hosting Boat Race including Chris Holiday, Chris Barratt and Courtney Da Barros.
 - 3.4. In regard to the SASRU tour, the selections debate seems to be resolved and thanks must go to Ed Tiago, Coreen and the coaches. The results were pleasing. Special thanks to Neil Warren for the tour budget. Coreen has indicated that she will no longer manage the tour and is looking for a replacement.
 - 3.5. Sponsorship:
 - 3.5.1. RMB have decided to become involved in rowing and will sponsor the National coach and include an advertising campaign, although no finance will accrue to SASRU, RMS will pick up some of the costs and look at improving the facilities at Roodeplaat.
 - 3.6. New Events for SA Champs:
 - 3.6.1. The U15 Oct had 4 entries and the U15 Oct had 6 entries. There is hopefully going to be growth in school rowing because of this.
 - 3.6.2. The question is how do we expand these new events, taking into account the cost of equipment. Are we ready to include the

U16s and opens next year or do we slow down the process. This debate needs to take place at the plenary.

3.6.3. The JW coxed 4+ was a success.

3.7. Demographics:

3.7.1. Andre asked that all coaches provide the ethnicity of their rowers on the regatta.co.za website. Nadine will communicate with those schools who have not done so, so that SASRU can report to RowSA and to the Department of Sport regarding demographics.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1. Karen Fisher's report showed a profit R71 000.00 and taking into account that SASRU's funding comes only from SA Champs, last year there was R262 000 income and R178 000 expenses, but this also takes into account that the security and cleaners provide services at great discounts and so far have renewed the deal every year.

4.2. A portion of the profits is allocated to development funds to get schools to boat race.

4.3. Standard Bank will hopefully continue to support Boat Race and provide extra funding this year for development.

4.4. Special thanks to Kim and Les for organising SA Schools Champs.

4.5. The SA Schools Champs pays substantial amounts towards the costs and repairs to the facilities. Thanks also to a St Andrews College parent who provided cleaners for the ablutions.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

5.1. The office bearers were re-elected – Andre Oosthuysen and Dave Knowles being the only nominations.

5.2. Andre was thanked for the ongoing support.

5.3. The regional reps were asked to let SASRU know of their representatives names.

6. REGATTA DATES

6.1. SA Schools Boat race is to be held from the 8th to 10th December – thanks to Chris Holiday for his work in this regard.

6.2. The date for SA Champs is still to be decided. The proposed date is the 11th March but this received a negative response from boys schools and the girls schools have not yet been consulted.

6.3. The difficulty was, if it was the week earlier, the number of weekends for rowing are greatly restricted taking into account the Easter rugby festivals. Andre would consult with the heads of boys schools in this regard. It is believed that the rowers need exposure to competition to maintain their standards and there would not be adequate preparation for SA Champs. There was much debate about the date.

7. SA CHAMPS

- 7.1. There were a number of requests for a relaxation of the rules after the entries have been finalised. This was not appropriate as many schools had applied the rules in deciding their entries and their entries may differ if they had realised there could be a relaxation of the rules.
- 7.2. Changes of the rules must be presented to the regional reps to the plenary and special decisions / changes must be made through the correct channels, decisions properly considered and made well in advance. Rules, in respect of which changes were proposed, included the points for the 4+, but there was not a unanimous decision.

8. OFFICIALS

- 8.1. Peter Heidstra reported that all the officials were happy and that the regatta ran smoothly without any complaints.
- 8.2. There were school representative meetings at 07h00 every morning.
- 8.3. There were a number of queries about the heads races, but Clive confirmed everything had been done fairly.
- 8.4. The proposed changes to the rules included:
 - 8.4.1. possible changes to the girls 4 points;
 - 8.4.2. adaption of the restrictions to the scull entries;
 - 8.4.3. the award of medals in events with less than 4 entries;

9. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 9.1. Taken as read.

10. GENERAL

- 10.1. Andre thanked everyone for attending and reiterated that debates should happen in the regions with regard to rules and other aspects of concern between the AGM and the plenary.
- 10.2. The clubs had a meeting to discuss their involvement in SA Schools Champs and would present a proposal to Andre.

- The meeting adjourned

ANDRE OOSTHUYSEN
PRESIDENT

4 MARCH 2016