ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE TWENTYSEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BRITISH ROWING held on Saturday 25th September, 2010 at the Royal Over-seas League, Overseas House, Park Place, St. James's Street, London SW1A 1LR at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT –

Directors: Mrs. D.M. Ellis (Chairman), M. Blandford-Baker, G. Harris, P. Ibbotson, C. Killick, R. Mallett, M. Morrice (President Scottish Rowing), Mrs A. Phelps, R. M. Paterson, M. Stallard, W.C. Thomson.

Company Secretary: J.R. Allsop.

Members: C. Anton, Mrs S. Cassidy, J. Clayton, A. Crawford, S. Darnbrough, J. Davey, J.C. Davies, C. Eales, A.J. Evans, Miss A. Faiers, P. Fenoulhet, C. George, M. Green, B. Hawden, N. Jackson, Mrs B. Millns, P. Moore, Ms V. J. Parry, R. Phelps, D. Saoul, Mrs P. Sondheimer, R. West.

In attendance: A. Bryant, P. Clements, C. Eales, Mrs. R. Hatton, Ms F. Rennie, Miss W. Kewley, Mrs. R.E. Napp, D.W. Tanner, Mrs P. Randolph,

The Chairman asked the meeting to stand to remember in silence members of the rowing community who had recently died; Andy Ripley OBE, past President of Tideway Scullers School, and Dr Tony Fox, Honorary Member of London Rowing Club, international sculler, past winner of the Wingfield Sculls and Olympic rower.

1. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The Chairman reported that work in the area of International influence continued. British Rowing had recently hosted a FISA Medical Commission meeting and in January would be hosting the FISA Coaching Conference and the FISA Council meeting. British Rowing has supported the FISA development programme through providing one of the coastal boats to the Maldives. The organisation of the 2011 World Rowing Junior Championships was well in hand and UK Sport were working with British Rowing to explore and prepare future bids for world events. The Chairman congratulated Richard Packer and Heidi Hackett for their recent success in passing the FISA Umpires exam.

Two long-standing members of British Rowing staff, Shirley Nimmo and Irene Townsend were leaving the organisation. Both were well known for their help to the membership, whether with individual, club or event queries. Council thanked them for their contribution to its work over the years and wished them well in their retirement. The other change after 50 years, was the retirement of Keith Osborne, the Editor of the British Rowing Almanack. The Chairman had presented Keith with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the sport.
With prudent management British Rowing’s finances are in good order and the Chairman extended her thanks to John Allsop and Ron Paterson for the work they do in this area. Her thanks also went to the International and National Managers and all the staff, to her fellow officers and particularly to Council and all the volunteers within the sport who contribute so much to the successful organisation to which all belonged. On behalf of the organisation thanks go to UK Sport, Sport England, the Lottery, Henley Stewards’ Charitable Trust, Siemens, AstraZeneca and all British Rowing’s sponsors and supporters.

The Chairman said that there were challenges ahead but that she had every confidence that “with the robust organisation that we have built between us we can face them and British Rowing will continue to be at the forefront of sport nationally and internationally.”

Recently British Rowing has held Coach of the Year and Volunteer of the Year Awards, both very successful events, and today it was the Chairman’s great pleasure to announce the recipients of this year’s Medals of Honour and Medals of Merit, in recognition of those who have given almost a lifetime to the sport:

**Medal of Honour – for outstanding service to the sport of rowing.**
- Peter Morrison, World Events/FISA Masters/Multi-Lane Umpires Commission

**Medal of Merit – for exceptional service to the sport of rowing**
- Louise Hammond, for 20 years service to the National Schools Regatta Shop, the profits from which support grants for Junior rowing.
- Colin Bullock, for his wide-ranging contribution at his club and in his Region.

2. **Apologies for Absence**
M. Brandon-Bravo, C. Jenkins, A. Johnson, Miss K O’Sullivan, J. Purkess, M.D. Williams, J. Veats, A. Weekes.

Council joined the Chairman in sending best wishes to Martin and Sally Brandon-Bravo.

**ORDINARY BUSINESS**

3. **To approve the Minutes of the Twentysixth Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 27th September, 2009.**
The minutes were approved and signed.

4. **The Accounts of the Association for the year ended 31st March 2010**
Together with the reports of the Executive Committee and Auditors, the accounts were presented to the meeting. The Treasurer went through the accounts giving some brief background. It was noted that the low bank interest rates continued to have an impact and that at 31st March the organisation had not recovered any of the value of the coastal rowing equipment purchased for the World Championships. Most areas followed the trend of previous years.
The Treasurer said he would look at the respective costs of the Home International Regatta and the British Rowing Championships and respond to C. Anton’s query about the comparatively high cost of the HIR.  

**Action:** RP

The Accounts had been approved by the Board and the Chairman thanked the Treasurer and the Financial Controller for their hard work in preparing them.

5. **The appointment of haysmacintyre as Auditors of the Company**

It was noted that once the Hon. Treasurer’s successor was in place in 2011 the appointment of Auditors would be put out to tender in line with policy.

The meeting was asked to approve the appointment of haysmacintyre to hold office until conclusion of the next General Meeting at which Accounts are laid before the Company and to authorise the Executive Committee to fix their remuneration.

The appointment of *haysmacintyre* was approved.

Having concluded the formal business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting.

10.35 am