



BRITISHROWING

Role Description

Sport Committee Chair

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SPORT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Role

Like many sports, Rowing is significantly dependent on the experience and time given by volunteers, connected to the governing body through regional representation and through support on a number of committees with specific areas of knowledge and focus. These committees come together at the Sport Committee, which seeks to ensure alignment and support for the strategic goals of British Rowing. The Chair of the Sport Committee, who is *ex officio* a member of the Board of British Rowing, is responsible for ensuring effective two-way communication between the committees and the Board is in place, as well as working closely with the Honorary Rowing Safety Advisor and members of the staff of British Rowing.

There are at least four Sport Committee meetings per year and, sharing responsibility with the Deputy Chair, the Chair attends many of the Standing Committee meetings and, on occasion, Regional Council meetings. The Chair may also often be approached for discussions by British Rowing members at various times on important issues for the sport. There are also up to eight Board meetings per year.

The role requires a high level of contact with the rowing community across all of its disciplines and audiences.

Location

Remote with meetings taking place at British Rowing offices based at 6 Lower Mall, Hammersmith, London W6 9DJ and occasionally its Caversham Performance Centre.

Appointment process

The Chair of the Sport Committee is elected by the Regional Representatives appointed to represent the ten Regions. The election (if required) will take place at a General Meeting. Nominations for the Chair of the Sport Committee position shall be made in writing, proposed and seconded by Regional Representatives and received by the Nominations Committee by (20th October 2023) before the AGM which will take place on 16 November 2023.

The closing date for nominations is 5:00pm on Friday 20th October 2023. Candidates will be voted for by the Members of British Rowing, being the Regional Representatives appointed to represent the 10 Regions and ratified at the British Rowing AGM on 16th November 2023.

Following election, the successful candidate will join the Board for the December 2023 Board meeting on 18th of the month.

The nomination form is attached with any further questions forwarded to Jacqui Traynor, who should be contacted by email at governance@britishrowing.org.

Each Regional Representative may nominate one candidate for election to the post of Chair of the Sport Committee, although there is no obligation to nominate.

Person Specification

Essential

- A broad knowledge of the sport at its grassroots
- Strong co-ordination skills
- Strong communication skills, and the ability to work with people across the sport at every level including the British Rowing Executive.
- Time to commit to the role (circa 12-20 meetings a year)

Desirable, but not essential

- A professional background across a number of areas including Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, sustainability, duty of care, marketing, financial management and tax planning, commercial generation, digital transformation and health and safety.
- A flexible and accommodating approach to managing large and diverse teams
- Experience of regatta organisation and running events
- Knowledge of UK corporate governance (since the role includes a seat on the Board). While previous board experience is not essential, a willingness to get quickly up to speed on the governance requirements of being part of a Board is, in the absence of it
- A commitment to diversity and inclusion in the sport would be welcomed.
- Stakeholder relations – ability to build and manage key external relationships

Responsibilities

To run the volunteer committees, and act as the interface between them and the Board. As a member of the Board, in liaison with the Board Chair Chief Executive and fellow Board members:

1. Act as a Company Director
2. Act as a Trustee of the sport of rowing, sustaining and developing it for current members and protecting it for future generations of rowers
3. Monitor progress annually against agreed goals and objectives
4. Review the core values of the vision as and when relevant.
5. Monitor performance, financial expenditure, risk and resource allocation against the strategic plan at least quarterly
6. Ensure the maintenance of a sound financial position
7. Build effective relationships with external partners as required by the Board
8. Undertake training as appropriate and participate in an annual Board evaluation process and individual evaluation

The successful candidate will be expected to meet standard board competencies as follows:

1. Build effective relationships with the Chair, fellow Board members and Chief Executive Officer and, where relevant, senior team at British Rowing, ensuring all are committed to the common purpose
2. Be capable of expressing, orally and in writing, ideas and information in ways that are appropriate, accurate and concise

3. Listen to all fellow Board members, ensuring their views are heard
4. Identify opportunities in pursuit of the achievement of British Rowing's vision and strategic goals
5. Follow established principles of UK corporate governance, including the Code of Sports Governance and British Rowing's Code of Conduct
6. Ensure that independent judgement is exercised on issues of strategy, performance, resources and standards of conduct
7. Understand the purposes of corporate governance and management, the differences and relationships between them, and frameworks for assurance and accountability
8. Understand and accept the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of being a Director of a not-for-profit organisation

Eligibility

To be eligible for appointment as a Nominated Director for any candidate who has previously served on the British Rowing Board and who has completed the maximum term of office permitted by these Articles at least four years must elapse before that Director may be appointed again as a Director.

Each candidate must be nominated and seconded by two Regional Representatives of British Rowing. Appointment is by the Regional Representatives at a General Meeting.

Equal Opportunities

British Rowing is committed to equal opportunities for all and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, and marriage and civil partnerships.

As the sport continues its transformation to be fully inclusive, accessible and welcoming to all, the Board will welcome applications from beyond the rowing community.

Background information: Key facts about the organisation

British Rowing is the governing body for the sport of rowing, both indoor and on-water, in England. We are committed to ensuring that the sport continues to thrive from the grass roots to winning medals at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The company has an annual turnover of circa £11 million and individual membership of Over 31,000. The majority of its funding is currently from UK Sport and Sport England. There is also income from its affiliated clubs and events, from rowers and supporters who join as individual British Rowing members, and some commercial partners.

British Rowing's vision is to create a sport that welcomes and has an offer for everyone: Whatever your goal, age, background or ability. Whether you are a spectator or participant, a newcomer or a lifer, seeking competition or recreation, indoor or on-water. Rowing has something for you.

Our mission is to create a healthy, inclusive and life-enhancing sport: Working in partnership with the whole rowing community, our mission is to grow rowing as a healthy, accessible and inclusive sport with positive individual and societal impact.

Internationally, we manage the GB Rowing Team on behalf of all the Home Nations, seeking to uphold our position as a leading rowing nation. We are responsible for the training and selection of individual rowers and crews representing Great Britain. We also represent the British team and the wider sport's interests at the international rowing federation, World Rowing, as well as with the British Olympic Association, the British Paralympic Association, the Sport and Recreation Alliance, UK Sport, Sport England, in addition to government and non-governmental agencies and many other organisations.

British Rowing has recently revised its constitution to ensure full compliance with the Code for Sport Governance. The board of directors is of the requisite size, minimum gender diversity, and degree of independence to meet the requirements of the Code. Representation of the sport is through elected Regional Representatives who fulfil the corporate role of members of the company. In addition, this body elects the Deputy Chairman, the Chairman of the Sport Committee and the two Nominated Directors to the board.