



## **REDCLIFFE RED DRAGON BOAT CLUB Inc.**

### **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Saturday 12th February 2022 at 9.30am**

**Venue: The Paddlers' Den**

#### **1. Meeting Opened: 9.41am**

#### **2. Attendance:**

Tina Van Kuyl, Cheryl Rigby, Gillian Robinson, Phil Matthysen, Theresa Lymbery, Jenny Shapland, Simon Argus, Fran Heales, Steve Evans, Jill Aplin, Cherie Robinson, Barb Powell, Rita Beadsmore, Sue Batchelor, Sue Drinkwater, Sonia Anger, Margery Barnes, Del Martin, Peggy Rapley, Rosetta Lynis, Iciar Argus, Debra Hall, Natalie Bliesner, Lisa Dunne, Norma Kelly, Charlene Povey, Natalie Mason, Deb Watson.

#### **3. Apologies:**

Kay Roper, Barb Flynn, Nita Cox, Shelly Baumann, Andrea Coe, Karen Wagner, Paul Hogg, Kate Fagg, Marina Denaro, Ann Matthysen.

#### **4. Minutes from Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

Motion: That the members in attendance confirm that the General Meeting Minutes of 23rd October 2021 are a true and accurate record.

**Result: Motion Carried.**

#### **5. Correspondence In & Out - confirmed.**

#### **6. Management Committee and Other Reports:**

##### **• President - Norma Kelly**

Norma reported that the Committee is ticking along attending to the business required to keep the Club operating. We have organised some social events - which people seemed to enjoy - but are disappointed by the low numbers attending training.

Norma thanked the Committee for their hard work. Debra thanked Norma for being a great Club President and for all of her efforts to support the Club. Debra added that the Committee has been busy finalising items which had rolled over from the previous Committee such as Council's capture of assets.

##### **• Treasurer - Lisa Dunne**

Report attached at Appendix 1

**Motion: That the financial accounts system for Redcliffe Red Dragon Boat Club Inc. be moved over from MYOB to XERO at a monthly subscription of \$54.00 per month.**

Lisa spoke to the Motion explaining that MYOB is a time consuming system eg all bank transactions and receipts are recorded manually and invoices are created manually. XERO is more efficient and is easy to use, with all bank feeds being automatic. XERO allows for everything to be attached within the transactions generating less paperwork. It is cloud-based so the Auditor can access files for audit. Lisa also noted that XERO was a system which a Club Treasurer without an accounting background could be easily supported to manage.

Lisa explained that the cost for moving from MYOB to XERO is an extra \$288.00 p.a. Jenny agreed with Lisa about XERO being easier to use and simpler to hand over. Once Gillian confirmed that the system was compatible with the new auditor's systems, she was confident that this would improve communication and timeliness around the financial audit.

Moved: L. Dunne; Seconded: D. Hall.

**Result: Motion Carried**

- **Team Manager's Report - Iciar Argus**

Report and addendum attached at Appendix 2

- **Coach's Report - Charlene Povey**

Report and discussion attached at Appendix 3

- **Social Events and Fund-raising - Debra Hall on behalf of Peggy Rapley and Nita Cox**

Report and comments attached at Appendix 4.

## **7. General Business:**

### **a) Covid 19 - staying safe**

Due to the increased risks associated with the spread of the Omicron variant across Qld early in 2022, the Club returned to the training attendance limits as per our Covid 19 Safety Plan. When the State government relaxed restrictions recently, we returned to the Club's standard training arrangements.

Norma asked that if Club members are experiencing any symptoms which may be associated with Covid 19, could they not attend training and take appropriate action in relation to testing and isolating.

### **b) Club Fees for 2021/2022 season**

The Committee is looking into this matter in depth. It will use an analysis tool to calculate fees as a starting point for discussion about fees for 2022/2023. We are mindful that membership fees plus fund-raising needs to cover the Club's expenses - which are increasing each year eg Club will be charged for electricity in the future and are ongoing eg Club needs to buy a replacement fridge.

Historically, Club fees have remained low and annual fee increases have been modest. Rita asked that the Committee consider that this has been deliberate decision making so that Club fees are seen as value for money when compared with gym membership as well as being equitable across a range of financial demographics.

It was agreed that fundraising by the Club is required to off-set expenses. To address issues of member support for fundraising activities - as raised previously in "Reports" - Tina suggested that members be offered the choice between committing to participate in a set number of fundraising events p.a. or paying an additional fee-in-lieu. It was also suggested that those who did not fulfil their commitment would be invoiced for the fee-in-lieu amount.

### **c) Committee 2022/2023**

Most Committee members, including the President, will not be continuing in their positions next year. Norma asked that Club members consider seeking nominations from themselves or others to fill Committee vacancies - which will be voted after the end-of-financial year.

#### **d) Presentation Night**

Will be held on Saturday 21st May 2022 at Dolphins Leagues Club. It will be a cocktail event with finger food (deluxe menu) held on the Skye Terrace (adjoining the President's Room) - with a glass of champagne on arrival. After presentations, attendees will be able to continue their evening downstairs - where dancing will be available. The Club is subsidising this event - with costs approximately \$19.50 per person.

#### **e) Redcliffe Regatta**

The Club is waiting for DBQ to allocate Kawana regatta dates from May 2022 to February 2023. The Club's first priority date was 1st May 2022 - which the Club and Regatta Committees considered would be more like a rescheduling of our cancelled January Regatta.

Regatta Manager, Phil, asked members to complete the volunteer sheet now on the notice board in anticipation of the Club being allocated the 1st May 2022 booking at Kawana. Phil noted that 1st May was the middle day of a long weekend. Norma said that it was the only regatta between the Nationals and the Coast to Coast, so S.E Qld Clubs may be keen to attend as practice.

#### **f) Hervey Bay/Fraser Coast Red Dragons (FCRD) - update**

FCRD are still negotiating conditions around their potential affiliation with DBQ. Redcliffe's training base at Hervey Bay has been closed for some time. It has been mutually agreed that FCRD assets currently insured under Redcliffe's policies will be removed and that FCRD will take responsibility for the insurance of their own assets.

#### **g) Sweep Training**

Rita said that the Club is having a break from sweep training as paddlers prepare for the State titles. Congratulations to Rosetta and Phil who have progressed to logging hours during regular training. All supported Del's thanks to Rita for managing a valuable program and Rita's acknowledgement of Iciar's direct support of the sessions.

#### **h) Council IWA - The Loft**

The Committee is waiting for builder feedback as to the possibility of undertaking works which could make the loft compliant with standards.

#### **i) Dragon Pass**

The Club is now offering this AusDBF option to new paddlers. Newcomers can come and try as many training sessions and regattas as they like across a consecutive 28 day period. This is accessed via RevSport.

Enquirers are being told about this option and we currently have 3 people accessing this program.

Those registered via a Dragon Pass can try dragon boating across Clubs, but it is their responsibility to arrange these transfers.

#### **j) Bollards around the Shed**

Norma explained that Council are intending to install bollards and a gate between our Shed and the Outriggers' facility. Stakeholders have been consulted and a follow up meeting is scheduled for 23rd February 2022. Charlene said that the original plan had to be changed to accommodate the Outriggers' new shed.

**8. Next Meeting: TBA**

**9. Meeting Closed: 11.00 am**

## Appendix 1: Treasurer's Report

### Treasurers Report for General Meeting 12-02-2022

Bank Balances	Closing Bal 30-06-2021	22/10/2021	10/02/2022
Operating Acct 6523	19,495.42	20,986.14	22,658.69
Reserve 7305	7,604.25	7,604.43	7,604.67
Community 9531	13,320.00	2,050.00	2,050.00
<b>Total Bank Balance</b>	<b>40,419.67</b>	<b>30,640.57</b>	<b>32,313.36</b>

#### Bank Transactions (excl Square fees) - Operating Acct 6523

<b>Opening Balance at 30-06-2021</b>	<b>19,495.42</b>
<b>Expense</b>	<b>(25,193.01)</b>
Affiliation	(100.00)
Boat & Trailer R&M	(864.12)
Bunnings expense	(804.73)
Catering	(89.86)
Club Function expenses	(691.00)
Donation - Dementia Aust	(100.00)
First Aid Course	(668.00)
Flooring expense	(15,026.00)
Fundraising expenses	(224.00)
Grant Refund	(101.00)
Gurney & Blower	(68.00)
Insurance	(2,374.32)
Lolly Run expenses	(178.50)
Member expenses	(50.00)
Regatta Trophies	(326.00)
Shed Expenses	(1,409.26)
Subscription	(210.00)
Telephone	(359.92)
Trailer Rego	(348.00)
Uniforms	(1,008.30)
Website	(192.00)
<b>Income</b>	<b>28,256.28</b>
Donation	61.47
Fundraising - Biome	20.00
Fundraising - Bunnings BBQ	2,000.25
Fundraising - Come & Try	1,600.00
Fundraising - Drinks fridge	141.80
Fundraising - Equipment Hire	350.00
Fundraising - MRBC Triathlon	528.00
Fundraising - Recycling	596.10
Fundraising - Socks	256.82
Grant - Flooring	11,270.00
Grant - Lolly Run	280.00
Membership Fees	9,873.21
Personal Craft Storage	200.00
Uniform Sales	1,078.63
<b>Other</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Key Deposit	100.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,208.26</b>
<b>Closing Balance at 10-02-2022</b>	<b>22,658.69</b>

#### Other Financial Activities

- Flooring Grant acquitted - gap \$3,756  
83 RRD members = 67 x Full, 5 x 6mth Memberships, 6 x Other Craft, 3 x Juniors, 2
- Honoury
- 7 x First Aid Course
- Purchased Gurney + Blower \$468 using \$400 gift vouchers
- Lolly Run Grant acquitted - refunded \$101

## **Appendix 2: Team Manager's Report**

Currently 89 bona fide club members. 69 returning members and 20 new members.

Since the last team managers report back in October there have been 3 DBQ regattas held. Manly in November, DA Gold Coast December and Broadwater last Sunday.

Manly regatta the club entered Mixed 20's 2km Mixed 20's, Women 20's and Open 10's racing being 500m distance.

From a field of 12, Redcliffe achieved 4<sup>th</sup> place in 2km Mixed 20's. All 500m crews made the final. Mixed 20's 4<sup>th</sup> place (field of 12 teams) only 0.00.06secs behind 3<sup>rd</sup> place TYPHOON; Women 20's (field of 8 teams) 5<sup>th</sup> and the Open 10's first place 3.32 secs ahead of TEWAKA. Well done to the Open 10's crew. Redcliffe did not attend the Gold Coast regatta due to lack of numbers.

Last Sunday saw Redcliffe attend the Battle of the Paddle down at Broadwater. The racing distances were 200m. While there were only 10 women and 1 man in attendance it was decided to enter a crew in each category of 10's racing to give the paddlers and sweeps some racing experience leading up to the AusChamps being held in Adelaide in April as all the women except one were hoping to attend with the club's Senior B Women 10's at these championships being held in Adelaide in April. From a field of 12 crews the Women 10's placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall missing out on a place in the finals by 0.73 as there were only 4 boats in the race and 1.51 secs off 1<sup>st</sup> place overall. Great work by everyone and thanks to Lani from Lakers for joining us in the women 10's crew.

While everyone knew that the Mixed and Open crews would not be competitive it didn't stop everyone from giving it their all in each race. Our times in both Mixed 10's and Open 10's improved by around 2 secs for both categories. It was a great day had by all both on and off the water with our last race of the day providing some excitement for the paddlers in the boat and entertainment for the spectators on shore when Tina lost her balance and almost fell off the boat but proceeded to still be in drummer's mode and tell us to keep paddling while she corrected herself. Hats off to all the paddlers for not panicking and paddling through. It was a great way to end the day of racing.

As you are aware the BRD regatta scheduled for tomorrow at Kawana Waters has been cancelled due to COVID concerns. The next regatta Redcliffe will be attending are the State Championships being held on Saturday and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March. The club has 20 paddlers who have expressed interest in attending. I will not go into any details as I am sure Charlene will cover that subject and answer any questions members may have in her coach report. Keep an eye out for further details regarding the Coast to Coast DBQ has scheduled for Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May. Those who attended the inaugural event last year will attest as to how enjoyable it was.

**Addendum:** Debra thanked Iciar for all of the work she does to support the Club - and how, when asked, she has stepped up to resume a job from which she had retired.

### **Appendix 3: Coach's Report**

Not only have we had to battle over the last season with the effects of Covid, such as cancellations of regattas, lockdowns and, I believe, also the mental health aspect.

I have found that the Club has also had to deal with an ageing membership.

It has been pretty hard to motivate members to come to training.

I have had to be conscious of not making sessions too difficult - or push to get people to be a little fitter.

I have tried to introduce some fitness tests, training programs and so on ... To be honest it has been hard to be constant in the delivery (erratic is the word) when every week attendance can change from 14 to 30. That is hard to measure improvement.

The other aspects of it was, and still is, the difficulties trying to follow a progressive program that builds member's fitness and skill set if people are erratic in attending training.

Again it does not help that we have COVID - the mental healthy anxiety - and lockdowns that are problems.

A quick survey I did to try to gauge what members are looking for highlighted that the Club does tick all the boxes for what a Club stands for.

Other responses showed that members were just happy to treat the training as well-being and personal fitness.

Again this can be reflected by the makeup of the Club.

Members:

- 49 members are 60 or older - with 25 between 60 - 65; 11 are between 66 - 69 and 13 are 70+
- 21 members are 50 or older - with 13 between the ages of 50 - 55
- 14 members are under 50
- The majority of members are female

The Club's demographics and member focus are probably why the Club is struggling to field State teams.

The Club desperately needs to target recruiting of members in the 30 - 50 age group.

On a positive note - welcome to our new members - we need more.

The Club - and the sport - needs to think outside the square to increase membership.

### **Discussion Points**

#### **a) State Titles**

It was confirmed that Redcliffe would enter 3 small (10s) boat teams at State Titles: Mixed Senior C comprising 6 women and 4 men; Women's Senior C to be comprised of 60+ women only and Women's Senior B to be comprised of 50 - 59 year old women only.

Charlene will liaise directly with female paddlers who have not yet registered to fill any vacancies in the women's teams.

It was suggested that the publication of team lists may confirm paddler attendance at and encourage payment of registration fees for State Titles as some paddlers may withdraw if they felt they were only accessing a couple of races per day. Charlene was disappointed by this attitude. She sees it as unsupportive of Club spirit generally. Each team will be entered into 200m and 500m races.

#### b) Head Coach position

Charlene spoke about her retirement as Head Coach so that she can spend more time with her family, including with those overseas, as well as focusing on her individual long distance racing.

The Club has received no responses from the DBQ circulated Head Coach advertisement. Suggestion made to target the local community via Facebook and the Redcliffe News (or similar publication).

Norma thanked Charlene for all of her efforts and hard work during her time as Head Coach and assured her that all of us have definitely improved as paddlers.

#### c) Recruiting and Retaining Members

The sport of dragon boating across Australia is experiencing problems due to its aging member population. Our Club's problems in attracting men were replicated across QLD - with male membership actually decreasing. AusDBF is trialling a program which introduces the sport of dragon boating to high schools. If successful, an implementation framework will be rolled out.

It was noted that people in the middle years eg 30 - 50 are prioritising meeting their family and work commitments eg their kids' sports rather than taking up their own sports like dragon boating. And the promotion of dragon boating for breast cancer survivors has been considered as too successful - with men thinking the sport was not open to them.

## Appendix 4: Social Events and Fundraising Report

Since the last General Meeting in October, Club members have been engaged in a range of social and fundraising activities.

1. Our Bunnings BBQ at Rothwell on 6th November was a very successful fundraiser - making a profit of approximately \$900.00 and supported by 18 members on the day. The Club is running another one tomorrow and I thank, in advance, the 13 volunteers who are working there tomorrow. A very big thanks goes to Peggy Rapley for all of her time and effort in organising the resources for the BBQs. Thanks also to Lisa Dunne for managing the money.

The Club has another Bunnings BBQ at Rothwell tomorrow. Unfortunately members have not supported this event particularly well - with only 12 member volunteers covering the roster which will require some of them to do double shifts. This is disappointing from a Club which has 83 current members.

It is nice to see a few of our new members lending a hand, but too often the Club relies on a core group - mostly long term members - to volunteer for fundraising activities.

Annual membership fees do not meet annual expenses so without consistent fundraising, the Club is unsustainable.

2. The next day on 7th November 2021, members spent the afternoon socialising at Barefoot Bowling and karaoke at Brighton Bowls Club. By all accounts, this was a fun afternoon and those who attended really enjoyed themselves.
3. We had 2 Council Come and Tries - one on 27th November followed by one on 4th December. These were well supported by our Club members and we had good numbers of participants at both events. These Come and Tries help promote our Club across the local Community - and we do get Come and Triers who enjoyed their taster; who return for more and subsequently join the Club. They are also important fundraisers for the Club as Council sponsor us \$400.00 each event for being a part of their Healthy Active Moreton program. A very big thanks to our assistant Coaches, Iciar Argus and Kay Roper, who work really hard to create a warm welcome and a fun program for our guests.
4. Iciar thanked our Sweeps - Cheryl, Del, Paul and Rita - and to the Safety Boat crew - Steve, Bruce, John and Deb - for their support of the Come and Tries. Jenny thanked Steve Evans for his help driving the safety boat for State Team trainings.
5. December was a really busy time for Club members, including:
  - The SOCKABLE Christmas Fundraiser - and we thank those members who placed orders and Nita for coordinating this promotion. We intend to improve communication and extend the time frame around these type of events in the future.
  - The Christmas Lolly Paddle on 15th December. This was well attended - and by all accounts - was a fun evening on the water. Again this year, Council generously sponsored us to cover our costs. These events don't just happen by osmosis - so I'd like to thank Natalie Bliesner, Natalie Mason and Gillian Robinson - in particular - for all of their hard work in organising this event.



- The Christmas Party on 18th December was a great way to round off the year. The BYO format was relaxed and feedback from those who attended has been very positive. Thanks to Peggy for all of her efforts to make this a fun night.
- Barb Powell is donating the proceeds from the masks she sells to members to the Club. Norma thanked her for her generosity.

**Fundraising going forward** - Norma flagged a Mother's Day Raffle and a Wine Fundraiser which Nita is organising. Natalie M. suggested that the Club could hold a wine tasting to promote the latter fundraiser. This suggestion was well received.