

Board of Management Report

First Quarter 2019

Rule 15: Board Operations; Section 9

1. Meeting Dates

16th January 2019 Executive Committee

20th February 2019 Board of Management

2. Board

The Board received notification of intention to resign from the Olympic Representative, Ciaran Farrell. It was agreed that the President would discuss the matter with him before the resignation being formally accepted at the next Board of Management meeting.

3. Correspondence

All correspondence received during the period was reported and addressed at the respective Board of Management meeting.

4. Management

The CEO presented her report to the Board at each meeting which included finances, resourcing, high performance, specific projects and other operational matters.

The first Annual Awards Gala in January was a welcome addition to the calendar. The event was very warmly received and well attended. This Gala is a celebration of Irish paddlesports and brought the paddling community together to commend the achievements of clubs, volunteers and athletes over the past year.

New initiatives are being explored by which to assist and facilitate clubs to progress, while addressing any barriers which may prevent or impede such developments. These include a new member's pack, a redesigned functional web-site, standardisation of the membership year, reintroduction of membership cards, revised insurance terms, better and more open communication through publications such as Flowstate as well as improvements in coaching and training supports.

5. Finance

An updated financial overview was presented at each meeting in relation to operating costs, budget, cash-flow and monetary commitments. No financial concerns arose in the period with Q1 expenditure in line with projections.

6. Governance

Canoeing Ireland has signed up to the Governance Code and expects to be fully compliant by December 2019. Significant work has already been completed in this area and will continue throughout the year.

The Board continues the review and updating of individual policies and implementation of a risk register in line with the 'The code of good practice for good governance of community, voluntary and charitable organisations in Ireland'. This is part of an ongoing process to collate policies into a common policy document and structure.

7. Legal

There were no legal issues which arose during the period.

8. Strategy

The application and implementation of the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan is continually reviewed by the Board in relation to objectives, targets and resource capacity.

Work has commenced on a strategic planning document which will identify potential areas for new club development based on amenities within specific well populated areas. The membership survey and report compiled in March 2019 identified the primary factors which inhibit club start-ups including insufficient expertise and the point of entry cost relating to equipment. The 2019 operational plan targets a 5% increase in affiliated clubs by December 2019. The support offered by Canoeing Ireland to aid this increase will include discounted instructor training and assistance with grant applications and equipment purchase.

9. Disciplines

The High Performance director is currently working with the Discipline Committees to establish roles, responsibilities and terms of reference agreeable to all. Athlete support is key to the High Performance role and the HP Director is engaging through the disciplines with established and emerging performance athletes to ensure a clear pathway and support is available to allow them to reach their full potential.

Report Ends

Board of Management: Paul Donnelly (President), Brian Ogilvie (Honorary Secretary), Aisling Conlan (Honorary Treasurer), Leigh Blackmore (Executive Member), Bryan Fennell (Leinster Representative), Ciaran Farrell (Olympic Representative)