

Rowing Notes. (1890, October 6). Sportsman (Melbourne, Vic. : 1882 – 1904), p. 6. Retrieved January 9th 2024 –

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ROWING NOTES

By "Coxswain."

The annual meeting of the Victorian Rowing Association on Friday evening last was one of the best attended that has been field for some years. The report, as presented by the hon. secretary, Mr. W. B. House, was a very gratifying and exhaustive one, and dealt with every matter of importance that occurred during the previous twelve months. It must have been a pleasure to the members to learn that, expecting the annual regatta, every thing undertaken by their committee had proven a financial success. The expenses of the annual regatta have been reduced year by year, but unfortunately the receipts have diminished also, and it behoves every member of the Association to do all they can to make this event more popular.

Whilst I am on the subject of members, I might mention that there seems to be an erroneous impression amongst some of the club members that their club representatives on the committee form the whole of the Association ; but the rules require every member of an associated club to be a member of the Association. Also, the treasurer's balance sheet showed the Association to be in a sounder financial position than it has been for a long time, the assets exceeding the liabilities by £17 odd.

Trophies for the coming season have been promised by Messrs E. L. Zox, M.L.A., one of the vice-presidents, and J. R Rowland, of Collins street. The members present at the meeting showed their appreciation of the interest taken in their affairs by the president, Mr Henry Gyles Turner and the vice-presidents, Messrs A. R. Blackwood, Geo. W. Bruce, Thos. Ellison, T. F. Morkham, Jas. Moloney and E. L. Zox, M.P., by re-electing them to their various offices without opposition. Special votes of thanks were passed to them and to the hon. treasurer (Mr Upward), hon. sec. (Mr House) and assistant secretary (Mr Warren) for their efforts to advance the interests of amateur rowing. Messrs Ainley, Gilchrist Nicolson and House were elected as members of committee for three years. Messrs Garrard and Ogden for two years, and Messrs Duggan and Jenkins for one year.

Interest in the Coming races in fours and sculls, for the respective championships of Victoria, to be rowed on the 25th October and Prince of Wales Birthday respectively, is daily increasing, and the training of the crew is being eagerly watched, and their chances of success discussed by their partisans.

The Banks Club Four have been out every night during the lost week with Mr Oxlade as mentor, which is a sufficient guarantee that they will leave nothing undone that would add to their chance of securing the honors. The Melbourne crew, also, are doing good work, but have not the advantage of a good coach to correct their faults. Surely they could prevail upon someone to lend them some assistance. There must be plenty of their own club members possessed of the requisite knowledge.

The Yarra Club, also, have been taking their daily spin, down stream, where they can put in longer work without the disadvantages of having to paddle round the corners of the upper river. The stroke (E. R. Ainley) rows short stroke, and his men will have to be in very good condition to win a three-mile race at the rate he will need to keep them at in consequence. No. 3 (A. Chamley) and No. 2 (J. Yeoman) would both do better work at a longer stroke, when their weight would tell to more advantage. The bow, C. Horsburgh, though, is good, light little oarsman, and the 25th inst. Will prove whether his inclusion has been a wise one.

The Albert Park Club is to be represented by A. Powell (stroke). A Nelson (3), A. Thomas (2) and A. Bennett (bow), who have been practising at Albert Park under the guidance of the veteran Gowdie. Football has somewhat interfered with their work, but they hope to make up for it in the three weeks left to them to get fit.

The Barwon Club four are reported to be at work at Geelong, but nothing of a definite nature is known of their doings. It has been definitely announced that Mr G. C. Eastes, of the Leichardt Rowing Club, Sydney, intends to pay us a visit and endeavor to secure the Victorian Sculling Championship. Victorians would like to see Mr. J. G. Kennedy, who holds the championship of Australia, also, and one or both will be sure of a very hearty reception should they give us the pleasure of seeing them.

Of the Victorian scullers, J. C. Fitzgerald is the only one who is working hard on the river to prevent the honors from leaving this colony, should be fit and well he will give the Sydney representatives a good race. Bannister and Gilbert will also be competitors, and Dick Fuller has just completed a new boat to the order of the first-named. F. Prior, of Sandhurst, is also mentioned as a likely starter.

The first meeting of the new committee of the Victorian Rowing Association will be held at Young and Jackson's on Monday next, when amongst other business the appointment of a successor to Mr Upward, as hon. treasurer, will receive consideration, as that gentleman has found his time so much occupied by his other duties as to necessitate his resigning that appointment. Secretaries of clubs should bear in mind that the first instalment of their members' subscriptions (not less than L5) should be paid and the appointment of the representatives notified to the hon. secretary of the Association by the date of the meeting.