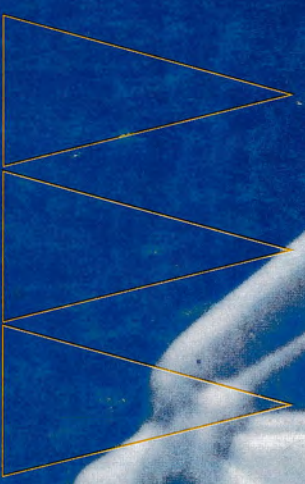


1998 - 1999
ANNUAL REPORT

Victorian Rowing Association



VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Peter Fraser
Vice Presidents	Brian Vear, Eric Waller
Treasurer	James Lowe

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Members
Ian Allen, Robert Blair, Chris O'Brien
David Pincus(Chairman), Susie Palfreyman.

VRA STAFF

General Manager	Deirdre Fraser
Elite Development Coordinator	Ross Henderson
Administration Assistant	Maxine Brice

COMPETITION PERSONNEL

Regatta Secretary	Chris O'Brien
Competitions Sub Committee	Mark Dwyer, Rod Florence, Chris O'Brien, Perdi Mitchell, Jim Spithill, Bill Waterfield

Officials Panel	Rod Florence (Chairman), Bill Waterfield (Secretary) Jane Greig, Jim Skidmore, Steve Pennicott
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Permit Committee Secretary	Rob Blair
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STATE TEAMS

Team Manager	Michael Hudson Michael Hudson
Senior Selectors	Alexander Marshall, Chris O'Brien, Josie Millard

Youth Selectors	Sue Stewart, Brad Fry
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ROWING AUSTRALIA

Delegate	David Pincus
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VICTORIAN OLYMPIC COUNCIL

Delegate	Jim Hardie
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LIFE MEMBERS

Robert Aitken MBE	Kath Bennett
David Boykett	
Bill Bradshaw*	Norm Cairnes
Jim Hardie	Caroline Judd
Harvey Nicholson*	Bill Waterfield
*deceased	

MEMBERSHIP

Victorian Olympic Council
Sports Federation of Victoria

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



VRA President flying the flag for Victoria at the 1999 Interstate Regatta ably assisted by Kate McPherson

As we head toward a home Olympics in Sydney there is an acute focus on the elite aspects of our sport. The 2000 Games will undoubtedly be one of the most important events in the lives of our elite rowers and the Australian sporting structure overall.

Our partners in elite rowing, the Victorian Institute of Sport have but a few short months to complete the preparation that they, with their associated club coaches and athletes have invested so heavily. We look forward to the Games with much anticipation and hope for our Australian rowers, our current and future heroes.

Your Association has played some part in this preparation however our organisation has also maintained an unwavering focus on the development of the structure that serves our member clubs and schools. These are the organisations that have produced our 2000 Olympians and are the organisations that will carry our sport together with the VRA into the next millennium.

Our focus has not centred solely on racing results or the outcome of international events but has been somewhat along the lines of sound coaching practice - on the process and not the outcome. The VRA is an organisation that exists for and because of our member clubs and schools. Over the past twelve months the Association has worked hard to provide benefits for our

members, benefits that ultimately assist our overall objective of providing support

services that facilitate the development of our sport and encourage competition and excellence in everything we do in an environment of astute management.

The VRA recognizes that success or failure of our sport lies heavily upon the shoulders not only of the Association but our members. Well managed, successful and innovative club and school rowing clubs will produce high quality events, enthusiastic and growing numbers of participants and exceptional athletes.

The VRA has instigated many new initiatives over the previous season that have sought to assist our members in continuing or establishing this approach. Strategic planning sessions, event convenor training, development of customised software for our members are but some of activities the VRA has provided to facilitate quality programs and management of rowing at a grass roots level.

Communication and inclusiveness have also been key result areas for the Association management. As President of this organisation I have sought to enhance dialogue and communication with as many of our stakeholders as possible, as an active, hands on member of the management team of this sport I have sought your comments and feedback and have acted where possible on these responses.

VRA staff and Committee members have also instituted other means to disseminate information via the VRA website and new newsletter. Three new sub-committees have been established - the Competitions Sub-Committee, Awards Panel and the most recent - the Development Commission. These groups will be both serving an objective of the Association but also play a dual role in extending the representation our members possess in decision making processes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Existing contributors to the Association management such as our boat race officials

and Panel, Victorian Institute of Sport, Committee of Management and Association staff and my two colleagues of Brian Vear and Eric Waller as Vice Presidents have all met the new challenges identified, many of whom took on increased workloads to achieve the tasks set.

In the coming year we seek your contributions to the VRA, this is your organisation. We request your involvement in activities that have been established with your interests at heart, we wish to see you at our general meetings, welcome invitations to meet with you at your club and appeal for your nominations to be involved in Committees and Sub-Committees.

National and international competition successes, a record increase in affiliations, innovation and excellence in a number of clubs and schools and the commencement of a number of initiatives that represent firsts in Australian rowing suggest that the new century will see the renaissance of rowing in our state. The Association, with the support of our members looks forward to this challenge with confidence and the knowledge that a sound base for the future has been realized and continues to be cultivated.

Peter Fraser
PRESIDENT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As we prepare to move into the new millennium, I believe that the VRA is well positioned and prepared to meet the challenges of the future. In particular your committee is addressing such issues as future levels of State and Federal Government funding for sport, continued pressure from developers and other bodies on our already crowded waterways and their environs, computerization, and the continued growth in the participation in our sport.

We have good relationships with both State and Local Government and are involved in planning and development issues through the active work of the General Manager, De Fraser. The support of the State Government in particular is essential to our operations and critical to several initiatives currently in progress. The sign off of the completed design for the new Geelong International Watersports Complex will take place in the new year. Given our pressures elsewhere we look forward to the opportunities that this facility will create as a venue option in the future.

Rowing Australia is particularly active in regards to federal funding and I acknowledge the work of Colin Smith and Charles Bartlett in this area.

Our Boat Race Officials are assisting in the development of national training and accreditation programs. Rowing Australia is in the process of reviewing arrangements for major National rowing events and given the attractions of Nagambie Lakes and the new Geelong facility I am expecting that these venues will be used more frequently for major events in the future.

Our State Team, led by Noel Donaldson, were competitive in all events at the Interstate regatta in Adelaide, recording 3 first and 4 second placings. President, Peter Fraser accepted the inaugural Zurich Cup

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

for the most successful State at the Interstate regatta. We congratulate Western Australia on their success in the Kings Cup. Subsequently, 23 athletes and 4 coaches achieved selection in Australian teams, of these, 9 won medals, highlighted by the gold medal won by James Tomkins, Drew Ginn and Noel Donaldson at the World Championships at St Catherines in August. The full results are included elsewhere in this report.

Rowing remains a key program at the Victorian Institute of Sport and the selections and results achieved attest to the work and planning by Noel Donaldson and John Cumper. We continue to be very strong in both men's and women's rowing at the under age levels both domestically and increasingly as a consequence, at International level as well. In April, the Junior Development squad, generously sponsored by *Ausrowtec*, competed successfully at the Super 5 Championships in New Zealand. The work of Ross Henderson is important in this area and we look forward to the achievements of these young people in the future.

On the Management Committee front, we welcomed Maxine Brice to the VRA office as administration assistant. Our new web site under the management of Rob Blair should be operational for the coming season and the rework of the Constitution by Ian Allen should also become a reality in the year ahead. Our Competitions sub committee headed by Chris O'Brien has been very active in reviewing the competitive program to maintain its relevance for present and future competition developments. Andrew O'Brien has been very active in running our coach education programs both regionally and in Melbourne.

We acknowledge the critical support of our major sponsors, *Ausrowtec*, Zurich and *Asthma Victoria/VicHealth* and look forward to their involvement in our future.

Under the leadership the 1998-1999 period saw many changes and advances for the Victorian Rowing Association. The dedication of significant government monies to our sport, record increases in affiliation of new schools, new services for our members such as coxswain training, development of customised software, professional development seminars and a reviewed strategic plan have been some of the satisfying targets achieved over the past twelve months.

The next twelve months will have many challenges for our sport and many opportunities, with the cooperative support of our Association's membership we can look forward to the new millennium with enthusiasm and confidence that we can continue to foster the development of our sport now and into the future.

David Pincus

CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The role of the VRA is to manage rowing through the provision of support services and to develop the sport, facilitate competition and encourage excellence in all facets of the sport

It is pleasing to report that during the past twelve months there have been many advances achieved by your Association. After review of the VRA strategic plan in September of last year the Executive Management Committee, staff and many other contributors have been working hard toward achieving specific outcomes identified in that review.

The five key result areas determined for the Association in 1995 for the first comprehensive strategic plan for the VRA have remained central to our core business, outlined below are some of the major accomplishments for the 1998-1999 period and our next steps forward for 1999-2000.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES

Strategic alliances with government and other statutory authorities are central to the VRA's capacity to ensure the maintenance and improvement of access to the waterways and physical resources for our sport.

Over the previous twelve months the VRA has been involved in a range of reviews and projects including the City of Melbourne rowing precinct plan development, Parks Victoria Bays and Waterways review of Yarra River activity, the Tourism Council of Australia's Yarra River Tourism Development Plan, and stakeholder group meetings for Riverside Park, Federation Square and the Barwon International Watersports Park Taskforce Meetings, where the Association was represented by Peter Fraser and David Pincus.

The VRA has also been successful in securing representation on the State Boating Council – the body that reports to

the Marine Board of Victoria and ultimately the Minister for Roads and Ports. This

body is charged with the responsibility of growing boating activity and protecting access for boating in Victoria. The State Boating Council monitors activity across all metropolitan and regional waterways. Our representation on this Council ensures that all regional centres for rowing are also closely monitored.

Our sport's needs have been represented in many forums, our positioning has been improved by the appointment to the State Boating Council and our relations further developed with many of the decision makers that may exercise influence over our activities.

COMPETITION

Establishment of the Competition Sub Committee, conduct of regatta convenor briefings and the forging of improved support for Boat Race Officials are some of the major advances achieved in the area of competitions. The Competition Sub-Committee members have been significant contributors to the improved structure of competitions. The Boat Race Officials are now embarking on the creation of a development plan led by consultant Jim Spithill, and will also be adopting the national BRO training/accreditation program within the next twelve months, a process that will provide improved, professional training for key members of our community. Victoria will also be one of the first states to pilot the program ensuring our BRO's will have appropriate input.

The 1998 Regatta Convenor training program, the first of it's kind in Australia, highlighted the need for more extensive consultation and communication with the volunteers who deliver events. The Victorian Rowing Association will meet this need through the conduct of a full day training course in the coming months designed to assist our volunteers and ensure delivery of standardised, high quality, enjoyable regattas for competitors and spectators alike.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ADMINISTRATION

Integration of the customized VRA software for the management of membership and competition results remains a challenge for the VRA. Recent training sessions for Clubs and Schools in the use of this software package and the imminent release of the packages will see an improvement of information transference. The integration of this two way system between the VRA and our members will aid both club/school administration and permit the establishment of a direct, physical, information channel between the VRA and our members.

Administration Officer Maxine Brice and VRA Treasurer James Lowe have worked solidly on the installation of software to aid in the management of financial aspects of the Association. I am confident that many of our members can attest to the improved efficiency in this area achieved through the careful day to day management by Maxine Brice.



MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

As any whole is but a sum of its parts the energies of the VRA have been injected into

clarifying and enhancing the image of the VRA within the ranks of our own members. Without the support and backing of our members the VRA is both purposeless and ineffective. New President Peter Fraser has played a leading role in the Association's drive to be a more accessible entity for our members, to establish open channels of communication.

Peter and VRA staff have accepted many invitations to be involved in club and school activities in metropolitan and regional centres. It is our objective to secure the confidence and cooperation of members in order to work together toward the advancement of our sport.

This commitment has improved communication and dialogue with numerous member clubs and schools. Other communication based projects have begun such as the VRA website managed by Committee Member Rob Blair, the new Victorian Rowing newsletter and the increased utilisation of email. These activities see the emergence of a new system of communication that permits members and the rowing community across the state and country to gain easy access to and with the VRA.

SPONSORSHIP

In the 1998-99 period the VRA welcomed Zurich (Melbourne) as a support sponsor of the Association joining other major sponsors Ausrowtec and Asthma Victoria / VicHealth. A significant increase in government support was achieved through various applications submitted by the VRA. The State Government through Sport & Recreation Victoria have committed over \$32,000 to the VRA for the 99-00 period part of which forms a term of a three year funding grant of \$ 45,000 for the *Ready Row!* project.

Another three government agencies were approached and have committed funds for various VRA projects. Parks Victoria, State

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Boating Council and the *Play It Safe By The Water* campaign will assist us in delivering new training programs in boating safety/rescue and coxswain training.

Over twenty other sponsors and supporters have made contributions to the VRA via sponsorship and advertising. Although the Association lacks a major sponsor a pre Olympic environment is a challenging one when endeavouring to source significant support, recent commencement of a new strategy will hopefully achieve results.

We value commitment of our key sponsors, especially Stewart Derwin from *Ausroutec* and Ivon Ditcham representing *Zurich* and appreciate the value they see in a partnership with the Victorian rowing.

PARTICIPATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

A record number of affiliations were accounted for in 1998-1999, total numbers increasing by 10 to over 90 affiliated clubs and schools.

Demographic information was sought from clubs and schools in order to assist our analysis however it is disappointing to record that only a small number returned completed information. From gross data however it can be determined that growth in Masters rowing was significant with a plateau of participation in school girl rowing and a slight rise in schoolboy affiliations.

The *Ready Row!* project marks a significant commitment of the Victorian Rowing Association to improvement of access to our sport combined with the desire to broaden the potential participation base. The *Ready Row!* program will link State and low resourced schools to existing clubs. This project is a first in Australia and we intend for it to become one that will bring new people into our sport, our clubs and our regattas. A new event has also been

created to augment this program, the Victorian School State Championships – this event will also provide for the first

time an open, peak, school event for non APS boys schools.

As discussed earlier a Development Commission is also to be formed in order to consider and address participation in our sport at a strategic level. Elite Development Coordinator – Ross Henderson has made significant inroads over a number of years in developing a pathway for emerging, elite athletes. The Development Commission will however have a broader responsibility in this area as noted earlier.

Initiatives such as the *Ready Row!* program and the Development Commission demonstrate that Victoria is a leader not only the quality of our athletes but also in the infrastructure that caters for all participants.

IMPROVING BASIC SERVICES TO MEMBERS

It has been a satisfying year in terms of delivering a value of belonging to members. Many new benefits have been created with a strong focus on adding value to membership. Introduction of regatta convenor briefings, professional development seminars, coxswain training, the season launch, Christmas functions, a new newsletter, website, improved VRA Directory including rules of racing, full year regatta calendar and the conduct of increased numbers of coaching courses including the first Victorian Level II course. These services have been the result of a combined effort of many people who work for and with VRA. The 1999 Victorian State Championships also set many new benchmarks in the standard of competition and under the guidance of the event Chairman Brian Vear we can anticipate an even better event in 2000.

The year 2000 will also see the development of a statewide, safe boating (*RowSafe*) education program, a comprehensive

ELITE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

coxswain training course, and professional development seminars to assist clubs and schools in addressing risk management issues. As noted earlier the *Ready Row!* program will also assist clubs to develop new member streams and will provide resources such as a Level 0 coaching course to assist with the demands of increased participation.

Victoria has forged ahead as a leader in our sport both on and off the water as a result of the hard work of volunteers, the executive committee, our ever committed boat race officials and their Panel, sub committees such as the CSC, Victorian Masters Committee, Awards Panel, State Team selectors and manager, Brian Vear, Chris O'Brien, Rod Florence, Bill Waterfield, our key sponsors Stewart Derwin at Ausrowtec and Ivon Ditcham at Zurich, supporters in Sport and Recreation Victoria, and the many individual contributors. Importantly clubs and schools who through their own initiatives and developments lift the quality and standard of our sport. Special recognition should also go to VRA staff Maxine Brice, Ross Henderson, Andrew O'Brien and Kathy Smith who have an earnest commitment to serving our sport and on many occasions have completed work outside their required duties.

Victoria is already one of, if not Australia's greatest rowing communities. At the conclusion of these twelve months a strong sense of confidence should fill our membership. Our state has not only faced challenges but identified future challenges and has set in place strategies that will enable us to enter the 21st century confident, proud and full of promise.

De Fraser
GENERAL MANAGER

ELITE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

The importance of developing young athletes is crucial for the success of any sport. Rowing is no exception. It is these young athletes that will one day become the next champions of the sport. The performances of our elite athletes helps to increase the profile and public awareness of the sport that in turn provides many important financial benefits for the sport. Our elite athletes provide great role models for our young and developing athletes. Our recent World Coxless Pair Champion, Drew Ginn, remembers the admiration he had for his coach at Scotch College in 1994 James Tomkins - Drew has since gone on to win one Olympic and two world titles with James.

In Victoria, unlike other States, the development of athletes is nurtured via a progressive system. Schools, Clubs, the Victorian Rowing Association and the Victorian Institute of Sport all play a role in the development of athletes in Victoria. The VRA has in place programs that create opportunities for school aged athletes and is responsible for the overseeing of the youth based programs. In conjunction with the VIS the Association also provides opportunities for club athletes at an under twenty two level.

AUSROWTEC JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The *Ausrowtec* Junior Development Program provided an opportunity for all Victorian under seventeen athletes to compete for Victoria in international competition. It was again disappointing that the National body had not provided an opportunity for our younger developing rowers. After working closely with New Zealand Rowing for many months we were able to stage an event in New Zealand in April 1999. This event was to be contested by teams from the five New Zealand regions and Victoria.

ELITE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

Details of the regatta were sent out to all schools including an invitation for students to trial for the Victorian Team. Trials were conducted over two days in April and were attended by 42 athletes. From these squads a men's and women's eight were selected. Coaches of these crews were selected based upon their results throughout the past season and their availability to travel to New Zealand. Charlotte Coote was named as the coach of the women's four and co-coach of the women's eight with Rhys Tyrell who also coached the women's quad. Richard Bartlett was named coach of the men's eight and fours. Mr. Nicholas Green OAM assisted the program in the role of Head Coach.

Ausrowtec, Managing Director, Mr. Stewart Derwin believes that the future of our sport lies in the development of younger athletes. With the Sydney Olympics being so close almost all funding is being directed to the elite athletes. Stewart feels that more funding needs to be directed to the development of the sport and he sees the Victorian Junior Development Program as an initiative with similar aims to his companies. As such *Ausrowtec* became the valuable program sponsor.

The results from the regatta held at Lake Karapiro were excellent from a Victorian point of view. From the eleven races Victorian crews competed in came nine wins, one second and one third. Although this may imply the racing at the regatta was not of a high standard, this was not the case. Most of our victories came after a hard fought race and many were only won in the last twenty strokes.

The program and the regatta were very beneficial to the students (and coaches) who were involved. Many thanks must go to the coaches who volunteered their time to assist with the training of the crews. This time was in addition to their normal school commitments and was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Nick Green for his assistance in the role of Head Coach. Nick approached the role with great professionalism and his

attitude was transferred to the athletes involved. Nick travelled to New Zealand with the team, taking time out from his busy schedule to do so. Similarly thanks must go to David Pincus who like Nick travelled to New Zealand to support the team. David's support, advice and enthusiasm in the early stages of the program was also greatly appreciated.

The success of this program demonstrates the positive working relationship that exists between Victorian schools and the VRA. Thanks must go to all school coaches and directors who were involved and especially to those schools from which equipment was borrowed.

Lastly thank you to *Ausrowtec* for their ongoing support of development in Victoria. Their generous sponsorship gives many Victorian athletes the opportunity to further their rowing far beyond the school level.



1999 *Ausrowtec* Junior Development Team



Showering after racing on Lake Karapiro

ELITE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

SCHOOL LEAVERS SEMINAR SERIES

In its second year, the VRA School Leavers Seminar series were held in August, 1999. The seminars are an initiative designed to facilitate the communication between clubs and year twelve students.

With schools understandably being very protective of their students it is nearly impossible for Clubs to gain access to students at this time of the year. Another difficulty facing clubs is the fact that school athletes are approaching the busiest period in their lives and it is hugely time consuming for clubs trying to recruit athletes.

The School Leavers Seminar invites every year twelve athlete to attend the seminar to gain an insight into club rowing and to meet people from the various clubs. By inviting the students via their school rowing directors and the fact that the seminar is only one night the complications mentioned earlier are somewhat overcome.

The seminars, held in Melbourne, Ballarat and Geelong, were well attended with a total of forty six athletes attending. Three Melbourne Clubs presented at all three seminars, with another presenting only at the Melbourne seminar. Both Ballarat Clubs presented at the Ballarat seminar.

Many thanks must go to Melbourne Grammar School, The Geelong College and Ballarat and Clarendon College for the use of their venues. I must thank Peter Fraser for his support throughout the planning and delivery of the seminars. Peter attended all three seminars and was still consulting with me six months later - many thanks.

STATE YOUTH SELECTION

The VRA is also charged with overseeing the State Youth program. The program is predominantly run via the clubs with the VRA selecting two state crews to race at the Interstate regatta each year. The strength of our youth programs is one indicator of how strong the link between school and clubs is in Victoria.

This season saw eighty two athletes nominate for youth selection (forty one men and forty one women). This is a large increase on the already strong numbers from the previous year. These athletes participated in several events and regattas in order to meet the selection criteria. Following the State Championships squads for both men and women were announced to trial for the respective crews.

These trials took place at the National Water Sports Centre Carrum the week following the State Championships with crews being announced on the Thursday of that week. Brenton Terrell and Craig Adrians were named as co-coaches of the women's youth eight for the second year in a row with Chris O'Brien taking on the role with the boys.

Our women's eight was attempting to create history by winning the women's youth eight race for four consecutive years. Our highly skilled crew were quick out of the block and had three quarters of a length lead by the 400m mark ahead of their main rivals, NSW. Although our girls fought valiantly to maintain their lead, the NSW girls who had quite a distinct strength advantage, took control of the race at the half way mark and were never headed. Victoria finished second with ACT coming third.

Our boy's crew were going for the hat trick of wins and after a relatively difficult start settled into their rhythm to overhaul early the early leaders in the second 500. With their confidence up, the crew went onto to record the quickest time since the 1988 race and win by more than two lengths.

With the youth age limit being extended on a National level for coming years, it is important that our youth programs and policies adapt to meet any new demands these changes place on the system.

Ross Henderson
High Performance & Elite Development Coordinator

COMPETITION PERSONNEL

OFFICIAL'S PANEL

During the 1998/99 season the Panel conducted examinations in Melbourne, Corowa and Mildura, resulting in 13 new Boat Race Officials joining the team. This influx was offset by four resignations and the removal from the mail list of a further seven members due to inactivity. It is with regret that we note the passing of two active members in Nick Langenbacher and John Fairbank. Nick and John were very competent and hard working race officials and they will be sadly missed.

Boat Race Officials attended 34 regattas during the season, and most were covered adequately, although many officials regularly worked double shifts. Generally, the shortfall in numbers has its greatest effect in the second half of the season as school regatta activity increases. The Panel thanks all of our officials for their efforts in meeting this challenge.

After the May 1998 Forum, members of the Panel have met regularly with De Fraser, resulting in a large range of reforms taking place over the last twelve months. New uniforms have been issued, increasing visibility. An awards system, recognising years of service, has been introduced. Panel members have taken on specific roles including, recruitment, accreditation, training, and communication / social. Under the guidance of Jim Spihill, we have begun work on a development plan. Social functions have been organised.

On May 29th, a meeting took place to examine the Rowing Australia Training and Accreditation Model. The meeting was chaired by Andrew Guerin, attendees including Bob Pennington, the Panel and V.R.A invitees. It was agreed, in principle, that the Rowing Australia model should be set up and developed in Victoria, given the relative size of our organisation and the widely held belief that we have a very

professional group of officials. Initial response from our officials has been positive. We are presently awaiting advice from Rowing Australia on implementation, detail and time frames for the plan.

Increases in numbers of regattas especially for schools have resulted in a insufficient numbers of Boat Race Officials to adequately cover all events. Recruiting has again been a high priority area of the Panel's operation. It is our aim to increase our numbers significantly over the coming seasons. All clubs and schools can expect to be contacted over the course of the 99-2000 season as part of a major recruiting drive.

On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank De Fraser for her support for our Boat Race Officials over the course of the season. De's efforts have been greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank members of the Panel for their efforts throughout the season consisting of members Jane Greig, Steve Pennicott, Jim Skidmore and Bill Waterfield and new appointee Catherine Curry.

Rod Florence
CHAIRMAN
VICTORIAN BOAT RACE OFFICIALS PANEL



In the judges tower. Boat Race Official, Bill Waterfield monitoring crews approaching the finish line.

COMPETITION PERSONNEL

REGATTA SECRETARY COMPETITIONS' SUB COMMITTEE



Chris O'Brien caught reviewing regattas' in the field

At the instigation of the VRA Competitions' Sub Committee was formed in late 98 in order to begin a more rigorous analysis of the competition structure and standards in Victoria. This group has been able to advance and re-shape the traditional role of the Regatta Secretary into a comprehensive evaluation structure with broader representation from the Associations' members.

Members of this sub-committee include Rod Florence and Bill Waterfield (representing boat race officials), Jim Spithill (schools), Perdi Mitchell (schools and club level rowing), Mark Dwyer (club rowing) and the author as Chairman (club and elite).

The CSC as it became known is charged with the following responsibilities :

- assessing regattas against the standardised event benchmarks of the *Active For Life/Asthma Victoria* Regatta of the Year criteria
- provision of feedback to regatta convenors regarding their events
- critical analysis of regatta statistics and data
- recommending changes to regatta structure and operation on the grounds of improving competitor participation and racing experience
- recommending changes to regattas with the objective of improving spectator attendance and enjoyment



ACTIVE FOR LIFE



VicHealth

1998-99 ACTIVE FOR LIFE / ASTHMA VICTORIA REGATTA OF THE YEAR

RESULTS

CATEGORY 1

1ST CARRUM REGATTA
N.W.S.C.

2ND UNIVERSITIES REGATTA
NAGAMBIE LAKES

CATEGORY 2

1ST BARWON REGATTA
BARWON RIVER

2ND ALBERT PARK-SOUTH
MELBOURNE REGATTA
ALBERT PARK LAKE

3RD HENLEY ON DARLING
DARLING RIVER

CATEGORY 3

1ST DIMBOOLA REGATTA
WIMMERA RIVER

2ND HORSHAM REGATTA
WIMMERA RIVER

3RD HENLEY ON MARIBYRNONG
MARIBYRNONG RIVER

COMPETITION PERSONNEL VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT

The CSC responded to a number of issues identified through the fulfilment of this role

- development of a core set of events for each regatta venue category
- addressing competition anomalies such as retaining time frame for non events or the protocol for events where scratchings result in a first and final
- responding to changes in technology in regulation four boats, the implementation of thorough consultation with the membership resulting in a change to VRA bylaws
- inclusion of master's events into the pre-set order of events at regattas to improve the regatta experience for this growing participant group
- commencement of closer communication with regatta convenors who were involved in an extensive process of review for the 1999-2000 regatta calendar
- provision of written feedback to all regatta convenors involved in the Active For Life/Asthma Victoria Regatta of the Year program
- preparation of components and delivery of the regatta convenor briefings

The establishment of the CSC has provided the VRA with the ability to broaden the capacity to critically review the operation of rowing competitions in Victoria. This evaluative process is to be further strengthened through the creation of the VRA Development Commission. Both entities will work cooperatively to effect positive change however the Development Commission will have a strategic not operational focus. This strategic focus will be narrower and concentrate on identifying means by which participation and attendance at competition can be increased. This will be accompanied by a close review of the role existing competition structures play in this status and how it can be enhanced in the future as opposed to the

operational and immediate focus of the CSC.

Rowing in Victoria is one of the few states that provides an integrated program for all layers of competitors. A number of states are split into factions which run independently of each other and do not offer a complete competition pathway. Through initiatives such as the CSC, Victorian rowing has been able to ensure that competition fits the needs of our rowers wherever possible. The comprehensive approach of strategic and operational analysis augers well for the future of Victorian competitions and we anticipate a responsive and relevant program now and into the next century of rowing.

Chris O'Brien

**CHAIRMAN
COMPETITIONS SUB COMMITTEE**

1999 VIS SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

Scholarships have been awarded to the following athletes until January 31 1.2000.

Eliza Blair	LW SCULL
Jill Burston	LW SCULL
David Colvin	COXSWAIN
Georgina Douglas	HW SCULL
Anthony Edwards	LW SWEEP
Drew Ginn	HW SWEEP
Sam Golding	LW SCULL
Paul Gray	HW SWEEP
Nicholas Green	HW SWEEP
Tim Wright	LW SWEEP
Mike McKay	HW SWEEP
Paul Myers	HW SWEEP
Tom Paul	LW SWEEP
Stuart Peele	LW SWEEP
Alister Isherwood	LW SWEEP
Rob Richards	LW SWEEP
Christian Ryan	HW SWEEP
Bill Tait	HW SWEEP
Rob Spinks	LW SWEEP
Jonathan Stone	LW SCULL
Nigel Sullivan	HW SWEEP
James Tomkins	HW SWEEP

VICTORIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT

Victorians living and training in other ITC's are awarded Associate scholarships.

Simon Gadsden	HW.SWEEP
Caitlin Fraser	HW.SWEEP
Justine Joyce	LW SWEEP
Rachel Kinnimonth	HW.SWEEP
Emily Martin	HW.SWEEP
Matt Long	HW.SWEEP
Robert Walker	HW.SWEEP
Christine Camiller	AIS
Katie Foulkes	AIS
<i>Jane Robinson</i>	AIS
Rachel Taylor	AIS
Bronwyn Thompson	AIS
Matt Russell	TIS

These athletes represent 6 different clubs (3 metropolitan & 3 country)

THE COACHING STAFF

Noel Donaldson	Head Coach (Staff)
John Cumper	Senior Coach (Staff)
Chris O'Brien	Squad Coach
David Orchert	Squad Coach
Paul Reedy	Squad Coach
Peter Somerville	Squad Coach

In 1999 the VIS rowing Athletes & Coaches achieved selection in the following national teams:

World Championships St.Catherines 1999 – 15 athletes/1 coach

Nations Cup (U23) Hamburg 1999 / 2 coaches

INTENSIVE TRAINING CENTRE

Under the auspices of the Australian Rowing High Performance program the VIS operates the Intensive Training Centre to administer the elite rowing program in this State. The program also provides opportunities for all athletes aspiring for National selection to participate in various qualifying activities prior to competing in national selection events. Where possible the

program also aims at supporting the local regatta competition. Many Victorian athletes & coaches were involved with the following events under the ITC program.

Australasian U23	Penrith
ITC run & bike trials	various locations
ITC triathlon	St Kilda
ITC 4.5 k trials	NWSC Carrum
National 5k Time Trial	Penrith
Ergometer testing 6k & 2k	various clubs
Laboratory step testing	VUT – Footscray campus
National camp	Canberra
ITC Camp	Geelong /Ballarat
State Championships	Nagambie
Local VRA regattas	various
National Championships	West Lakes
National Selection Trials	Penrith

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Peter Spence	(VIS Program Manager)
Noel Donaldson	(VIS Head Coach)
John Cumper	(VIS Senior coach)
James Lowe	(VRA Committee)
De Fraser	(VRA General Manager)

The VIS and VRA enjoy a close working relationship to ensure that the elite rowing program continues to achieve at the highest level and that the development of the junior & U23 categories provides these talented athletes with the pathway to the elite level. The development program under the control of Ross Henderson continues to prosper with the continued support of the VIS. Quarterly meeting of the management committee are held to monitor progress of all aspects of the program.

John Cumper
Senior Coach

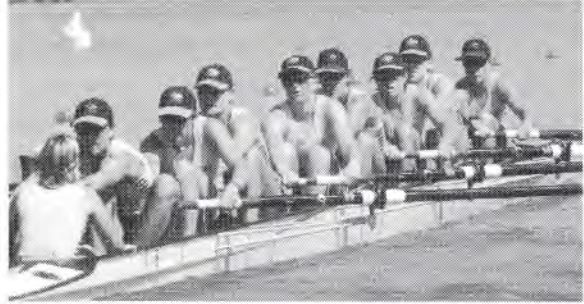
AUSTRALIAN TEAMS

VICTORIAN REPRESENTATIVES

1999 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
St Catherine's, Canada (22 – 29 September
1999)

WOMEN

WOMEN'S EIGHT **5th**
Rachael Kininmonth
Bronwyn Thompson
Rachael Taylor
Emily Martin
Katie Foulkes **Cox**



WOMEN'S SINGLE SCULL **7th**
Gina Douglas
Noel Donaldson **Coach**



MEN
MENS COXLESS FOUR **SILVER**
Ben Dodwell



MEN'S
COXLESS PAIR **GOLD**
Drew Ginn
James Tomkins
Noel Donaldson **Coach**

MENS EIGHT **7th**
Nigel Sullivan
Christian Ryan
Michael Mc Kay



MENS LIGHTWEIGHT FOUR **SILVER**
Anthony Edwards
Rob Richards



AUSTRALIAN TEAMS

VICTORIAN REPRESENTATIVES

1999 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (cont'd)
St Catherine's, Canada (22 – 29 September 1999)

WOMEN'S PAIR

Rachael Taylor
Kate Slatter (S.A.)

BRONZE



1999 NATION'S CUP TEAM
Hamburg, Germany (24th-25 July)

WOMEN

WOMEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT DOUBLE SCULL

Hanna Every **GOLD** **1st Final.A**
John Bennett Coach

MEN

MEN'S EIGHT

Jullian Voller **4th Final A**
Waren Keeble
Karsten Forsterling
Lachlan McPherson
Travis Johnston
Sam Pullin Cox
Chris O'Brien Coach

MEN'S LIGHTWEIGHT QUAD SCULL

Johnathan Stone **3rd Final A**
Josh Frichot
John Cumper Coach

INTERSTATE REGATTA

RESULTS

1999 INTERSTATE REGATTA
West Lakes, South Australia
March 9-14

NELL SLATTER TROPHY
(Australian Women's Sculling Championship)

RESULT

1. New South Wales
2. Victoria
3. ACT

Crew

Georgina Douglas (Mercantile)
Noel Donaldson Coach

THE PRESIDENT'S CUP
(Interstate Men's Sculling Championship)

RESULT

1. Queensland
2. Western Australia
3. New South Wales

Sculler

Peter Antonie

NOEL F WILKINSON TROPHY (Interstate Men's Youth Eight Oared Championship)

RESULT

Victoria
NSW
Queensland



Crew

Karsten Forsterling (MUBC)
Lachlan McPherson (MUBC)
Andrew Rees (Mercantile)
David Crawshay (Mercantile)
Matt Phillips (Mercantile)
Timothy Widmar (MUBC)
Anthony Coghlan (MUBC)
Travis Johnston (Mercantile)
Mitch Russian (Mercantile) Cox
Chris O'Brien Coach

ULVA & GOVERNER GENERAL'S TROPHY (Interstate Women's Coxed Eight)

RESULT

1. Victoria
2. N.S.W.
3. South Australia



Interstate Women's Coxed Eight CREW

Sue Chapman-Popa (MUWBC)
Justine Joyce (BANKS)
Emily Martin (WENDOU)
Caitlin Fraser (MUWBC)
Rachel Taylor (Powerhouse)
Georgina Douglas (Mercantile)
Rachel Kininmonth (MUWBC)
Bronwyn Thompson (MUWBC)
Katie Foulkes Cox
Paul Reedy Coach

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONS Champion Men's Senior B Coxless Pair

Simon Gadsden (Mercantile)
Travis Johnston (Mercantile)
Noel Donaldson Coach

Champion Men's Senior B Coxed Eight

Karsten Forsterling (MUBC)
Lachlan McPherson (MUBC)
Travis Johnston (Mercantile)
Simon Gadsden (Mercantile)
Warren Keeble (MUBC)
Peter Moore (MUBC)
Mike Raisbeck (MUBC)
Bill Tait (Mercantile)
Sam Pullin (MUBC) Cox
Chris O'Brien Coach

Champion Men's Senior A Coxless Pair

James Tomkins (Mercantile)
Drew Ginn (Mercantile)
Noel Donaldson Coach

Champion Men's Senior B Coxed Four

David Crawshay (Mercantile)
Matt Phillips (Mercantile)
Andrew Rees (Mercantile)
Jane Phillips Cox
Peter Somerville Coach

Champion Men's Senior A Lightweight Quad Scull

Dom Gatto (MUBC)
Sam Golding (MUBC)
Ben Cantwell (MUBC)
John Stone (MUBC)
Paul Reedy Coach

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONS

RESULTS WEST LAKES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA MARCH 14

Champion Men's Senior A Lightweight Coxless Four

Darren Balmforth (Geevst)
 Simon Burgess (Geevst)
Anthony Edwards (Ballarat City)
Robert Richards (Wendouree- Ballarat)*
 Sam Le Compte Coach

Champion Men's Senior A lightweight Coxed Eight

Tim Wright(WENDOU)
 Tom Paul (MUBC)
 Jonathan Stone (MUBC)
 Anthony Edwards(WENDOU) *
 Alistair Isherwood (Banks)*
 Rob Richards (WENDOU)
 Damian Barlow (MUBC)
 Stuart Peele(MUBC)
 David Colvin (Mercantile) Cox
 John Cumper * Coach

Champion Men's Senior B Coxless Four

Karsten Forsterling(MUBC)
 Anthony Coghlan(MUBC)
 Timothy Widmer(MUBC)
 Lachlan McPherson(MUBC)
 Chris O'Brien Coach

Champion Women's Senior B Lightweight Single Scull

Hanna Every (BANKS)
 John Bennett Coach

Champion Women's Senior A Double Scull

Gina Douglas(Mercantile)
 Marnie McBean(Mercantile)
 Noel Donaldson Coach

Champion Women's Senior A Coxed Eight

Kate Slatter(AUBC)
 Angela Holbeck (Canberra)
 Karina Wieland (Narrab)
Emily Martin (WENDOU)
 Jodi Winter (Sydney)
 Anna Brosnan (AUBC)
Rachael Taylor (Powerhouse)*
Bronwyn Thompson (MUWBC)*
Katie Foulkes (Mercantile) Cox*
 Paul Thompson Coach
 Jason Lane Coach



VIS Coaches Noel Donaldson & John Cumper seen testing new coxless bicycles



Hamilton Rowing Club stalwart Bill Brammall photographed imparting knowledge to VRA General Manager

MASTER'S REPORT

Masters races were included in a number of regular club regattas throughout the season giving opportunities to participate to a number of (mature) athletes. The level of participation varied but the opportunity for fairly casual rowers to compete as well as the more competitive enthusiasts was much appreciated.

There are approximately 400 registered Masters rowers in Victoria, the greatest level of participation of any State, and the experience and nature of interest in competition varies widely. The varied level of interest in participation in regular regattas can create problems for regatta organisers if a small number of competitors is spread over a number of age groups and event categories. An attempt is being made to address this problem by targeting particular events at certain regattas, but the rowers themselves could assist by informal contacts between clubs to check on proposed entries in the period preceding submission of entries.

The most successful club in terms of participation was Melbourne once again reflecting strong coaching and administrative support for older rowers wishing to take up the sport.

The Victorian Masters championships were held at Geelong on the 8th May. There were 230 entries in all age groups with strong participation by both men and women, and by beginning and experienced rowers. The spread of success across a number of clubs was a particular feature, with a number of metropolitan and country clubs sharing in the spoils.

The Australian Masters Rowing championships were held in Canberra on 22nd and 23rd May. Victorian clubs had considerable success with the most successful being Banks(7) (F2-, F4+, F8+, G4+, H4+, and Ch 8+), Ballarat City (4) (A1X, A2X, B2X, and Mix 2X), Corio Bay

(4) Mix 4X, D4X, WC1X, E1X), and Yarra Yarra (3) (A2-, A4+, A8+).

This regatta was held with a revised time handicapping scheme based on a British system which has smaller time allowances for older crews. An inaugural championship eight race matching winners in all age groups using this system, was won by the Banks men's F8.

The largest ever contingent of Australian masters rowers to an overseas regatta took part in the 26th FISA World Masters regatta in Seville in September. The 179 Australian rowers from Australia were the fifth largest contingent behind Germany, Great Britain, USA and the Netherlands. Altogether there were 6198 entrants at the regatta from 39 countries.

Victorian clubs involved were Ballarat, Bendigo, Collegians, Essendon, Hawthorn, Mildura, MUBC and Mercantile. Australian crews won 14 events, with Banks and Banks composite crews winning 5. Most successful of the Australian rowers were Jim Lowe and Chris Shinner, each with three wins and two second place finishes.



Popular Master's event – 1999 Head of the Yarra

VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CREWS

CHAMPION MEN'S ELITE COXED EIGHT

Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S ELITE COXLESS FOUR

Melbourne University Boat Club /Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S ELITE DOUBLE SCULL

St George Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S ELITE COXLESS PAIR

Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S ELITE SINGLE SCULL

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S ELITE LIGHTWEIGHT SINGLE SCULL

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MENS ELITE LIGHTWEIGHT DOUBLE SCULL

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S SENIOR COXED EIGHT

Melbourne University Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S SENIOR DOUBLE SCULL

Banks Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S SENIOR COXED FOUR

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S SENIOR COXLESS PAIR

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S SENIOR SINGLE SCULL

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED EIGHT

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED FOUR

Hawthorn Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE COXED EIGHT

Melbourne University Women's Boat Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE COXLESS FOUR

Barwon/Melbourne University Women's Boat Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE LIGHTWEIGHT COXLESS FOUR

Essendon Rowing Club/Powerhouse Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE DOUBLE SCULL

Melbourne University Women's Boat Club/Mercantile

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE LIGHTWEIGHT DOUBLE SCULL

St George Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE SINGLE SCULL

Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE LIGHTWEIGHT SINGLE SCULL

St George Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S SENIOR COXED EIGHT

Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S SENIOR COXLESS PAIR

Melbourne University Women's Boat Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S ELITE COXLESS PAIR

Melbourne University Women's Boat Club/Banks Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMENS ELITE LIGHTWEIGHT COXLESS PAIR

Essendon Rowing Club

VICTORIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CREWS

CHAMPION WOMEN'S SENIOR DOUBLE SCULL

Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED QUAD SCULL

Essendon Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED PAIR

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPIONSHIP MEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED FOUR

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S INTERMEDIATE DOUBLE SCULL

Mercantile Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S INTERMEDIATE SINGLE SCULL

Wendouree Ballarat Rowing Club

CHAMPION MEN'S YOUTH COXED EIGHT

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION MEN'S JUNIOR COXED FOUR

Ballarat Grammar

CHAMPION MEN'S JUNIOR SINGLE SCULL

Corio Bay Rowing Club

MENS UNDER 16 COXED FOUR

Hamilton Rowing Club

CHAMPION SCHOOLBOY'S COXED EIGHT

Xavier College

CHAMPION SCHOOLBOY'S COXED FOUR

Ballarat Grammar

CHAMPION SCHOOLGIRL'S COXED FOUR

Lauriston Girls School

CHAMPION WOMEN'S SENIOR SINGLE SCULL

Nepean Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED EIGHT

Methodist Ladies College

CHAMPION WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED QUAD SCULL

Melbourne University Women's Boat Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED FOUR

Melbourne University Boat Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE COXED PAIR

Barvon Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE DOUBLE SCULL

Banks Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S INTERMEDIATE SINGLE SCULL

Banks Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMENS YOUTH COXED FOUR

Melbourne University Women's Boat Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S JUNIOR COXED FOUR

Ballarat Grammar Rowing Club

CHAMPION WOMEN'S JUNIOR SINGLE SCULL

Nepean Rowing Club

CHAMPION SCHOOLGIRL'S COXED EIGHT

Geelong College

CHAMPION SCHOOLGIRL'S COXED QUAD SCULL

Methodist Ladies College

CHAMPION WOMENS UNDER 16 COXED FOUR

Ruyton Girls School

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

CLUB	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95
Albert Park/Sth Melbourne	60	85	33	79	49
Ballarat City	14	18	27	24	25
Banks	134	192	197	211	196
Barwon	104	68	61	83	58
Bendigo	39	50	33	36	25
Carrum	60	42	41	35	40
Caulfield Grammarians		N/A	18	0	0
City of Warrnambool	19	36	36	39	20
Collegians		39	32	0	0
Corio Bay	143	153	96	97	124
Corowa	16	32	25	22	20
Dimboola	21	28	30	31	23
Essendon	284	305	237	255	229
Footscray City	34	36	54	51	46
Hamilton	34	39	38	59	37
Hawthorn	119	120	135	155	128
Horsham City	6	11	53	20	49
Lake Colc	44	47	18	12	16
La Trobe University	16	11	27	0	0
Melbourne	141	149	95	104	90
MUBC	56	82	73	75	76
MUWBC	57	34	34	27	30
Mercantile	204	232	334	257	251
Mildura	54	54	69	82	60
Nagambie	172	197	405	355	404
Nestles	11	16	20	0	0
Powerhouse	48	84	N/A	78	48
Richmond	67	65	83	107	94
R.M.I.T.	1	N/A		0	0
Robinvale	51	34	22	21	20
Rutherglen		18			
Wahgunyah	31	20	17	23	20
Wendouree Ballarat	69	46	40	31	40
Wentworth District	17	13	14	28	29
Yarrowonga	31	28	30	37	19
Yarra Yarra	86	88	115	109	105
YWCA	81	57	84	89	80
TOTAL	2324	2529	2632	2650	2644

SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP

SCHOOL	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97	1995/96	1994/95
Ballarat & Clarendon	50	50	60	40	31
Ballarat Grammar	49	34	30	35	28
Ballarat High	50	55	28	25	30
Brauer Secondary College	-	-	-	-	-
Brighton Grammar	88	27	27	27	27
Carey Grammar	47	73	42	29	51
Catholic College – Sale	34	27	-	-	-
Caulfield Grammar	46	32	37	62	72
Emmanuel College	-	-	-	-	-
Fintona Girl's School	-	-	12	10	-
Firbank Anglican School	42	34	24	11	-
Geelong College	124	68	85	38	38
Geelong Grammar	45	43	125	38	38
Genazzano College	70	20	53	86	51
Gippsland Grammar	34	30			
Goulburn Valley Grammar	9	19	16	13	10
Haileybury College	21	18	28	27	27
Hamilton College	32	-	22	-	-
Horsham College	-	13	13	28	-
Lauriston Girl's School	15	41	31	30	27
Loreto Mandeville Hall	15	100	25	41	39
Lowther Hall	18	6	18	14	19
Melbourne Girls College	36	20			
Melbourne Girls Grammar	20	10	55	59	52
Melbourne Grammar	27	27	29	26	45
Melbourne High	28	27	27	29	59
Methodist Ladies College	110	110	26	55	60
Monivae College	10	12	15	15	12
Parkdale Secondary College	-	15			
Ruyton Girl's College	36	-	-	-	-
Sacre Coeur College	-	-	-	22	-
Sacred Heart – Geelong	-	-	-	-	-
Sale College	-	-	-	-	-
St Brigid's College	-	14			
St Catherines School	20	16	20	20	-
St Joseph's College	-	--	-	-	-
St Kevin's College	36	18	18	9	9
St Patrick's College	55	55	60	51	50
Scotch College	57	36			
Strathmore Secondary College	1	-			
Toorak College	52	28	21	17	-
Wesley College	47	32	38	38	65
Xavier College	55	45	38	27	27

NOTE: APPROXIMATELY 2500 STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH THE VRA, ARE INVOLVED IN SCHOOL ROWING PROGRAMS. THE ABOVE FIGURES REPRESENT VRA REGISTERED STUDENTS WITHIN AFFILIATED SCHOOLS WHO ROW IN VRA REGATTAS.

SCHOOL RESULTS

VRA PREMIERSHIPS

During the 1998/99 season, approximately 20,000 entries were received for VRA regattas and sincere thanks are extended to all regatta committees for their planning and organisation.

Congratulations are extended to the clubs who won VRA Premierships.

SUMMER

Champion Club : Essendon

WOMEN

Senior Club : M.U.W.B.C.
Junior Club : Powerhouse

MEN

Senior Club: M.U.B.C.
Junior Club : Essendon

MASTER'S COMBINED

Melbourne

WINTER

WOMEN

Corio Bay.

MEN

Barwon

BALLARAT SCHOOLS

The annual Head of the Lake Regatta was conducted at Lake Wendouree on March 27, 1999.

Boys Head of the Lake	B.Q.G.S
Girls Head of the Lake	B.Q.G.S.
Boys Premiership	B.Q.G.S
Girls Premiership	B.Q.G.S

HEAD OF THE SCHOOLS GIRLS REGATTA

The 13th annual Head of the Schoolgirls Regatta was hosted by Firbank Anglican School from March 20-21 1999 on the Barwon River at Geelong.

Senior Eight	Geelong Grammar School
Senior Single Scull	Star of the Sea
Senior Quad Sculls	Genazzano College
First Fours	Methodist Ladies College
Second Fours	Genazzano College
Third Fours	Ballarat Grammar School
Fourth Fours	Melbourne Girls College

ASSOCIATED PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Associated Public Schools (APS) conducted the 130 Annual Head of the River Regatta from March 26 -27 on the Barwon River, Geelong.

Head of the River	Xavier
Seconds	Xavier
Thirds	Melbourne Grammar School
Fourths	Brighton
Fifths	Melbourne Grammar School
Girl's Head of the River	Geelong College
Thirds	Geelong Grammar School

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SUPPORTERS

The Victorian Rowing Association wishes to extend sincere thanks to all clubs, schools and their committees and the numerous individuals and organisations who have supported Victorian rowing throughout the year. We particularly wish to thank the Victorian Rowing Association boat race officials who spend many hours in the elements conducting competitions in particular the members of the Officials Panel.

The Association also wishes to express our gratitude to the supporters who have made it possible to conduct projects and programs that have added value to our sport especially

AUSROWTEC

ZURICH AUSTRALIA

The Department of Sport and Recreation

Vic Health – Active For Life/Asthma
Victoria

HEBFOTOS

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that the Victorian Rowing Association records the passing of the following members:

Mr. Brian Christian
(Yarra Yarra)

Jim Hardie
(Banks Rowing Club & Life Member)

William Hidchcock
(Mercantile)

Nicholas Langenbacher
(Boat Race Official &
Essendon Rowing Club)

Gordon Cowley
(Geelong Rowing Club)

John Fairbank
(Yarra Yarra)



SPORT AND
RECREATION
VICTORIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT



FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
Operating Revenue	2	360,857	539,367
Operating (Loss)/Profit	3	(14,257)	3,673
Income tax expense applicable thereto	1(c)	-	-
Operating (Loss)/Profit after income tax		(14,257)	3,673
Accumulated Profits at the beginning of the year		588,419	584,746
Accumulated Profits at the end of the year		574,162	588,419

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 1999

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
Current Assets			
Cash	4	179,585	167,696
Receivables	5	48,786	79,270
Inventories	6	2,611	3,098
Investments	7	143,839	88,476
Prepayments	8	12,383	1,893
Total Current Assets		387,204	340,433
Non-Current Assets			
Investments	7	210,017	250,285
Property, plant and equipment	9	33,026	57,209
Total Non-Current Assets		243,043	307,494
Total Assets		630,247	647,927
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and borrowings	10	52,119	56,008
Provisions	11	3,966	3,500
Total Current Liabilities		56,085	59,508
Total Liabilities		56,085	59,508
Net Assets		574,162	588,419
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated funds at year end		574,162	588,419

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

	Note	1999 \$ Inflows/ (Outflows)	1998 \$ Inflows/ (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers, trade and other debtors		328,280	428,178
Payments to creditors and employees		(320,316)	(490,727)
Interest received		16,982	23,500
Dividends received		6,021	1,644
Net cash flows provided from / (used in) operating activities	12	30,967	(37,405)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(5,786)	(27,165)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		1,350	-
Payments for investments		(29,729)	(56,443)
Payments for 2000 Olympic games tickets		(10,490)	-
Proceeds from sale of investments		25,577	-
Proceeds from maturity of investments		-	60,159
Net cash flows (used in) investing activities		(19,078)	(23,449)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Payment of security deposit		-	(800)
Net cash flows (used in) financing activities		-	(800)
Net increase in cash held		11,889	(61,654)
Cash at the beginning of the financial period		167,696	229,350
Cash at the end of the financial period	4	179,585	167,696

FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

In the opinion of the Committee, the Victorian Rowing Association Incorporated is not a reporting entity. The financial statements of the association have been drawn up as a special purpose financial report for distribution to members.

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention and the going concern assumption. Except where stated, they do not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets. Except where noted, the accounting policies have been consistently applied.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) that have a material effect with the following exception:

- AAS 1033 Presentation and Disclosure of Financial Instruments

(b) Income and Expenditure

Income has been brought to account on a due and receivable basis. Expenses have been brought to account as incurred.

(c) Income Tax

The Association is an exempt body under the Income Tax Assessment Act, as amended.

(d) Investments

Debt securities are included in the accounts at cost with any premium or discount on acquisition being amortised on a straight line basis to maturity, being the date to which they are normally held.

Listed equity securities are included in the accounts at cost. Changes in market values of listed equity securities are not taken into account unless there is considered to be a permanent diminution in value.

(e) Depreciation

Depreciation in respect of all property, plant and equipment is calculated so as to write off the cost of each asset over its effective useful life.

(f) Employee Entitlements

The amounts to be paid in respect of employees' entitlements to long service leave and annual leave are accrued at current wage rates.

(g) Cash Flows

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank and deposits held at call.

(h) Comparatives

Where necessary comparative figures have been amended to accord with the presentation in 1999.

2. Operating Revenue

	1999 \$	1998 \$
Affiliation fees	75,463	74,821
Sponsorships - Association	40,705	6,000
Dividends	11,721	7,744
Interest	16,982	22,651
Government grants	24,000	23,000
1998 National Championships	5,500	262,446
Proceeds on sale of investments	25,577	-
Proceeds on sale of equipment	1,350	-
Other	159,559	142,705
	<u>360,857</u>	<u>539,367</u>

3. Operating (Loss)/Profit

Operating (loss)/profit has been determined after:

(a) Crediting

Affiliation fees	75,463	74,821
Coaching course fees	18,544	20,760
Coaching network	25	1,275
Coaching sales	296	1,122
Development grant	42,362	39,658
Fines	9,760	11,699
Hire of equipment	-	1,400
Interest - Equipment Reserve Fund	472	554
Interest - General	8,295	8,393
Interstate Championships (Note 3 (c)(ii))	18,829	5,655
Junior team seat fees	10,494	1,534
Magazines	-	133
Masters regatta receipts	-	1,286
Newsletter	-	1,150
1998 National Championships	5,450	10,078
Profit on sales of equipment	-	1,788
Regatta insurance receipts	4,109	2,281
Regatta levies	19,477	17,112
Regatta registrations	9,467	3,500
Sponsorships		
Ausrowtec	17,705	-
Zurich	5,000	-
Vic Health	12,000	8,000
State Championships (Note 3 (c)(i))	1,024	2,082
State Government grants		
Administration grant	8,000	8,000
Project grants	16,000	15,000
Sundry	28,884	8,239
VRA Conference	1,120	2,590
VRA Regattas - Entry fees	688	-
	<u>313,464</u>	<u>246,110</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

3. Operating Profit (continued)	1999	1998
	\$	\$
(b) Charging		
Advertising & Promotion	1,028	-
Affiliation fees		
Rowing Australian Inc	19,936	19,360
Other	325	250
Rowing Australia delegate expenses	-	491
Bad debts	6,325	-
Bank and Government fees	1,105	850
Coaching education costs	16,572	11,357
Coaching seminar attendance	-	594
Computer expenses	11,300	1,901
Amortisation - Leasehold improvements	92	92
Depreciation - Office Equipment	10,001	5,634
Depreciation - Regatta Equipment	2,152	3,347
Depreciation - Rowing Equipment	1,025	1,110
Development expenses	5,024	3,919
Employee entitlements	-	(3,156)
Fringe benefits tax	7,616	4,381
Grants committed	10,000	-
Honoraria	1,000	2,000
Insurance	972	4,350
International Championships (Note 3 (c)(iii))	4,589	9,039
Junior team expenses	21,542	7,341
Loss on sale of equipment	259	-
Magazines	-	279
Medallions	3,098	-
Newsletter	-	5,137
Office rent & expenses	7,536	7,883
Officials expenses	3,359	185
Postage & telephone	10,634	12,833
Printing & stationery	15,423	15,203
Regatta insurance	7,000	2,750
Regatta sponsorships	6,000	6,000
Registrations & licences	487	448
Repairs - Regatta equipment	1,360	640
Repairs - Rowing equipment	-	550
Salaries	114,335	100,003
Scholarship grants - Ausrowtec	5,500	-
Superannuation	6,673	5,379
Sundry	6,503	8,627
Training & seminar attendance	440	-
VRA conference	1,348	2,890
VRA regatta expenses (net)	-	(774)
Workcover	2,072	1,544
Write-off of software development costs previously capitalised	15,090	-
Operating (loss)/profit for the year	<u>327,721</u>	<u>242,437</u>
	<u>(14,257)</u>	<u>3,673</u>
(c) After taking into account the following which are summarised in (a) and (b) above		
(i) State Championships		
Income		
Sponsorship - Ausrowtec	2,000	4,100
Entry fees	12,210	11,988
Merchandising receipts	4,110	-
Program sponsorships	2,020	-
Programs	-	190
	<u>20,340</u>	<u>16,278</u>
Expenditure		
Course expenses	5,511	5,155
Medallions	3,312	3,243
Programs	3,350	2,858
Sundry	7,143	2,940
	<u>19,316</u>	<u>14,196</u>
Profit	<u>1,024</u>	<u>2,082</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

(ii) Interstate Championships

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Income		
Zurich Australia Sponsorship	5,000	-
Dividends	8,791	5,808
Donation	1,000	1,000
Interest	5,807	9,525
Profit on sale of investments	3,660	-
Seat fees	15,775	-
Sundry	263	6,154
	40,296	22,487
Expenditure		
Accommodation & meals		
Airfares	12,491	9,956
Boat expenses	-	-
Car hire & fuel	985	553
Sundry	599	(142)
Uniforms	2,137	-
	5,255	6,465
Profit	21,467	16,832
	18,829	5,655

(iii) International Championships

Income		
Dividends		
Interest	2,930	1,936
Profit on sale of investments	2,408	4,179
	1,221	3,746
Expenditure		
International teams		
Rowing Australia - International levy	6,500	6,800
	4,648	12,100
(Loss)	11,148	18,900
	(4,589)	(9,039)

(iv) 1998 Australian Rowing Championships

Income		
Tattersall's Sponsorship		
Bank interest	-	50,000
Beverage rights	-	1,226
Bow numbers	-	5,000
Catering rights	-	185
Championships dinner	-	7,750
Clothing rights	-	4,770
Entry deposits	-	11,563
Entry fees	-	37,005
Gate receipts	-	60,235
Government Grant	-	15,324
Government grant - poster	2,000	8,000
Poster contribution	-	2,500
Program advertising	-	1,500
Program sales	-	2,000
Race & Regatta sponsorships	-	10,890
Reunion lunch	-	31,340
Site fees	-	2,450
Sundry income	3,500	6,200
Umpires dinner	-	508
VIP & Sponsors lunch	-	2,460
	5,500	262,446

FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

(iv) 1998 Australian Rowing Championships (continued)

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Expenditure		
Accreditation passes	-	3,015
Administration	-	1,099
Advertising	-	2,803
Band	-	2,640
Bank fees	-	380
Banners & signage	-	5,043
Boat racking & facilities	-	4,737
Boatholders	-	820
Car parking costs	-	648
Championships dinner	-	5,460
Competitor marquees	-	345
Competitor shower facilities	-	2,000
Competitor toilets	-	553
Deposits refunded	-	37,175
Electricity	-	227
Emergency plan	-	975
Entrance marquees	-	210
Entry levy	-	11,800
Fencing	-	7,522
Fridge hire	-	375
Garbage collection	-	1,050
General & public liability insurance	-	1,210
Marine insurance	-	900
Marketing expenses	-	7,612
Medallions	-	8,276
Medical facilities	-	2,241
Merchandising area	-	1,805
Nagambie Kings Cup Liaison Committee	-	500
Office hire - Headquarters	-	1,712
Officials marquee	-	335
Organising Committee accommodation	-	7,791
Photo-finish equipment hire	-	600
Photocopier hire	-	3,837
Portable coolroom	-	100
Postage, telephone & fax	-	2,644
Poster & brochures	-	9,700
Presentation dais	-	595
Printed material	-	288
Program costs	-	15,956
Promotion	-	10,000
Property insurance	-	550
Public address hire	-	3,060
Public toilets	-	5,000
Radio hire	-	1,270
Regatta levy	-	2,900
Rescue services	-	2,720
Reunion lunch	-	1,200
Reunion marquee	-	1,502
Security	-	1,891
Signage	-	1,070
Spectator marquees	-	13,960
Speedboat fuel	-	847
Speedboat hire	-	6,340
St John's Ambulance donation	-	1,200
Staging fee	-	10,000
Starting headsets	-	423
Starting platform	-	200
Stationery	-	485
Sullage	-	660
Sundry expenses	50	977
Sundry sponsorship expenses	-	208
Timekeepers	-	3,840
Timing stations	-	304
Timing system	-	170
Trophy levy	-	1,416
Umpires dinner	-	1,230
VIP & Sponsors lunch	-	5,365
VIP & Sponsors toilets	-	956
VIP & Sponsors marquees	-	7,208
Volunteer accommodation	-	705
Volunteer insurance	-	770
Volunteer sustenance	-	8,692
Volunteer uniforms	-	270
	50	252,368
Profit	5,450	10,078

FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

4. Cash

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Cash at Bank and on Deposit		
Administration fund		
Development fund	88,884	81,930
Equipment Reserve fund	-	(14,139)
International fund	11,059	12,361
Interstate fund	6,928	12,260
Sponsorship fund	72,268	57,716
	-	16,885
Petty cash	179,139	167,013
Total Cash	<u>446</u>	<u>683</u>
	<u>179,585</u>	<u>167,696</u>

5. Receivables

Current

Other debtors	52,286	78,122
Deduct provision for doubtful debts	(3,500)	(3,500)
Loan to Rowing Australia Inc	48,786	74,622
	-	4,648
	<u>48,786</u>	<u>79,270</u>

6. Inventories

Medallions

Bowlights

	-	3,098
	<u>2,611</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,611</u>	<u>3,098</u>

7. Investments

Current

Debenture securities

Administration fund	24,222	15,213
Equipment Reserve fund	1,000	1,000
International fund	39,617	18,263
Interstate fund	78,800	53,800
Lodge Henley Trust fund	200	200
	<u>143,839</u>	<u>88,476</u>

Non-Current

Shares in listed corporations

International fund	37,504	33,821
Interstate fund	112,513	101,464
	<u>150,017</u>	<u>135,285</u>

Debenture securities

Administration fund	35,000	45,000
International fund	-	20,000
Interstate fund	25,000	50,000
	<u>60,000</u>	<u>115,000</u>
	<u>210,017</u>	<u>250,285</u>

Listed Securities - Market values

The aggregate market values of investments listed on a prescribed Stock Exchange are:

Shares

	<u>232,726</u>	<u>189,516</u>
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8. Other Assets

Security deposits

2000 Olympic Games tickets

	1,893	1,893
	<u>10,490</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>12,383</u>	<u>1,893</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
 NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1999

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
9. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Leasehold Improvements	458	458
less Accumulated Amortisation	<u>(296)</u>	<u>(204)</u>
	162	254
Office Equipment	58,921	74,011
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(35,247)</u>	<u>(34,497)</u>
	23,674	39,514
Regatta Equipment	43,745	48,819
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(37,685)</u>	<u>(35,533)</u>
	6,060	13,286
Rowing Equipment	40,811	42,707
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(37,681)</u>	<u>(38,552)</u>
	3,130	4,155
	<u>33,026</u>	<u>57,209</u>
10. Creditors		
Current		
Accrued expenses	<u>38,119</u>	<u>40,124</u>
Unexpended funds		
Administration Fund	-	15,884
Other	<u>16,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	16,000	15,884
	<u>52,119</u>	<u>56,008</u>
11. Provisions		
Current		
Employee entitlements	<u>3,966</u>	<u>3,500</u>
12. Cash Flow Information		
<i>Reconciliation of net cash flows from operating activities to the operating profit after income tax</i>		
Operating (loss)/profit after income tax	(14,257)	3,673
Depreciation	13,270	10,183
Write-off of software development costs previously capitalised	15,090	-
Add/(less) items classified as investing/financing activities		
Net (profit)/loss on sale of non-current assets	260	(1,788)
Net (profit)/loss on sale of investments	(4,874)	-
Dividends reinvested	(5,700)	(6,099)
Interest reinvested	(370)	(377)
International levy offset	4,648	12,100
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase) decrease in other debtors	25,836	(54,790)
Decrease in inventories	487	1,994
(Decrease) increase in creditors and employee entitlements	<u>(3,423)</u>	<u>(2,301)</u>
Net cash flows provided from/(used in) operating activities	<u>30,967</u>	<u>(37,405)</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is with pleasure that I provide my 10th report as treasurer of the Association. Over the past 10 years the Association's net worth has increased from \$411,000 to \$574,000, largely due to the Carlton and United Breweries sponsorship from 1992 to 1996. In addition, the capital appreciation of the Association's equity portfolio provides a further \$82,000 in capital value.

The result for the year ended 30 June 1999 was an operating loss of \$14,257 (1998 – a profit of \$3,673). The main factors which contributed to this result, were as follows:

Revenues

- Affiliation fees, regatta levies and coaching course fees were all consistent with 1998;
- Ausrowtec sponsored the Victoria Junior teams of 1998 and 1999 to the tune of \$17,705, all of which was received during the year;
- Zurich Australia sponsored the Association to the tune of \$10,000, of which \$5,000 was provided to the Interstate Team;
- VicHealth provided \$13,000 in sponsorship funds, which were used to contribute to the Head of the Schoolgirls Regatta, the Interstate Team and the Regatta of the Year Project;
- The State Government provided \$24,000 to fund administration support(\$8,000), computerisation (\$8,000), officials (\$4,000) and coaching education (\$4,000);
- Dividends have increased in line with increases in the equity portfolio, and interest has decreased in line with reductions in interest rates and the roll-over of the debenture portfolio.
- The 1998 national Championships contributed \$5,450 (1998 - \$10,078) following receipt of certain outstanding amounts in the current year; and
- \$15,884 was written back from unexpended funds.

Expenditure

- Affiliation fees paid to Rowing Australia were consistent with 1998;
- Salaries and wages consumed \$114,335, an increase of \$14,332 on 1998, which was due to the full year impact of the general manager and administration officer positions. In addition, costs were incurred in office support together with increases in remuneration levels;
- Computer related expenses totaled \$11,300. In addition, \$15,090 was written off in respect of software development costs previously capitalised, so as to record with basis of grant monies received;
- Coaching education costs were \$16,572 (1998 \$11,357);
- Grants committed of \$10,000 (being Regatta of the Year \$6,000 and Officials \$4,000) have been carried over to the following year;
- Junior Team expenses increased to \$21,542, up from \$7,341 in 1998. In addition \$5,500 was paid by way of direct athlete support;
- Depreciation included \$6,000 to write-down the office photocopier which was replaced during the year; and
- \$6,500 was paid to the 1999 Australian Nations Cup Rowing Team to assist in meeting Victorian representatives' expenses.

However, while the Association's financial position is sound, membership and participation numbers have remained stagnant over the past few years. This has been at a time when the Association has invested heavily in administration resources and capabilities in an effort to further develop rowing in Victoria. This investment has eroded Administration Funds. Accordingly, a significant focus of the incoming Committee will be to ensure that receipts are optimised and that funds are spent in a cost-effective manner. The prospect of increases in affiliation fees and other levies, which were last increased in 1996, cannot be discounted.

During the past year the Association's finances have been computerised, and while there are still some refinements yet to be made, I would particularly like to thank Maxine Brice for her work and initiatives in this area.

It is with sadness that we remember Jim Hardie, previous treasurer of the Association, who passed away during the year. Jim was responsible for continuing the work of Noel Wilkinson. Through his efforts the Association has much to be thankful for in it having its current financial base.

HJM Lowe
Treasurer



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF VICTORIAN ROWING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Scope

We have audited the financial report of Victorian Rowing Association Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 1999, being a special purpose financial report consisting of the profit and loss statement, balance sheet, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes and statement by the committee, set out on pages 26A to 32. The Committee is responsible for the financial report. The Committee has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1(a) to the financial statements are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the association. No opinion is expressed whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1(a), are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report, or on the financial report to which it relates, to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1(a) to the financial statements, so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position and performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all accounting standards nor other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

As is common with organisations of this type, it is not practicable for Victorian Rowing Association Incorporated to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations, subscriptions and other fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to fund raising was limited to amounts recorded.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial statements of such adjustments, if any, as might have been required had the limitation referred to in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial statements of the association are properly drawn up in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1(a) to the financial statements, so as to present fairly the results and cash flows of the association for the financial year ended 30 June 1999, the financial position of the association at that date and in accordance with the Associations Incorporated Act 1981.

KPMG
KPMG

Don Pasquariello
Don Pasquariello
Partner

8 October 1999



STATEMENT BY THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Committee of the Victorian Rowing Association Incorporated:

- (a) the Association is not a reporting entity;
- (b) the financial statements are drawn up in accordance with the basis of accounting described in note 1, so as to present fairly the results and cash flows of the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 1999 and the state of affairs of the Association as at that date; and
- (c) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made out in accordance with a resolution of the Committee of the Victorian Rowing Association Incorporated and is signed on behalf of the Committee.

Signed this 8th day of October 1999



DA Pincus
Chairman



HJM Lowe
Treasurer