

**BY-LAWS of MURWILLUMBAH ROWING CLUB Inc (revised 2010)**

- (1) The boats owned by the club shall be for the use of Ordinary, Life, Junior and Honorary Members and people participating in the Learn to Row.
- (2) The usage of the boats will be determined by the committee.
- (3) The allocation of club boats is the duty of the Captain or, in case of absence, the Vice Captain or as the Committee shall determine.
- (4) Learn to row members should always be under the supervision of an experienced member or coach who will be responsible.
- (5) In the interest of rowers safety, ALL rowers, must sign on in the book situated in the club house foyer before entering the water. After leaving the water and before leaving the club, ALL rowers must sign out in the book.
- (6) The club, represented by the club captain and the committee, shall have total and absolute control of all storage and boat racks. This includes inside the clubhouse, the carport and the outside ground.
- (7) Members shall abide by the *MRC Private Boat Storage Policy*.
- (8) All crews will be held responsible for the proper cleaning, maintenance and housing in their respective positions of all boats and oars used by them. In particular:
  - (a) All buttons and plastic wear strips on all oars to be clean and free of grit
  - (b) All gates on riggers shall be closed when boats are being taken to and from the water
  - (c) Riggers and gates are secure
  - (d) All gates are to be covered with a gate-glove where required.
  - (e) All boats shall be thoroughly washed and wiped inside and outside after use.
- (9) Particular attention shall be paid to the condition of seats, slides and foot stretchers during use of boats to prevent loss of material.
- (10) The club may contribute, subject to having sufficient funds and *prior* committee approval, to costs incurred by members to attend and compete at regattas.
- (11) Any member or members who shall wilfully or by gross negligence, damage any boat or other property, of the club shall make good the same at their own expense. Except where the member is a junior in such case their parents or guardian shall be liable for all costs. But all accidental damage shall borne by the club, if the committee, after proper inquiry, are satisfied that no blame attaches to the member or members in whose charge the boat or property may have been at the time of the damage. All damage shall be reported to the Captain.
- (12) Private hire and hire charges of club's power boats shall be as determined by the committee.
- (13) The committee must authorise the purchase of all goods and services for the club prior to purchase. All authorisations should be minuted at Committee meetings
- (14) Smoking is strictly prohibited in all sections of the club's premises including the balcony.
- (15) Dogs are not allowed on any section of the club's premises, carport or grounds
- (16) (a) That the RQI registration fee be set according to the schedule posted on the RQI website for the year of MRC membership  
(b) That MRC members are charged the RQI registration fee according to the rowers classification or category.  
(c) That MRC pay the RQI registration at the set rate according to their category/classification *upon full payment of MRC fee and RQI fee*
- (17) That MRC allow a 50% discount for the second, and subsequent, junior membership fee(s) for a family.
- (18) That MRC continue it's affiliation with Rowing Queensland.

**MEMBER CONDUCT**

- (19) Juniors and beginners are only allowed on the water when supervised or coached, unless specifically authorised by the Club Captain.

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(20) All members are required to assist with the running of the *Club* and participate in regular monthly activities i.e. shed duty, fund raising, shed maintenance, shed cleaning, boat maintenance, coaching.

(21) If you cannot swim *100 metres* or you suffer from a medical condition that may jeopardise your well being while rowing, learning to row, training or racing then it is the members responsibility to advise the club captain, the coach and other crew members so that adequate safety measures and procedures can be put in place.

(22) Offensive language is not acceptable at any time. Offences will be dealt with by the Committee.

(23) Members who bring the club and/or sport into disrepute will be asked to justify their actions to the club & committee. The use of violence or abusive behaviour in or around the sport or club activities is not acceptable for any reason. Such actions may result in membership being revoked.

(24) Members coaching juniors are required to have completed and submitted a NSW Government Working With Children Check (Volunteer/Student declaration) form to the committee.

(25) All members shall abide by the RQI Code of Conduct.

### TINNIES

(26) All drivers are required to hold a *valid* NSW Maritime boating licence or equivalent.

(27) All drivers are required to ensure correct lighting is used

(28) Members must adhere to the regulations set out by the NSW Maritime .

(29) Safety equipment and fuel level must be checked before use.

(30) The club is not liable for fines incurred by coaches on the water, either for speeding or not carrying correct safety equipment.

### REGATTAS

(31) Competition at regattas involves each rower being responsible for loading boats (with riggers, blades, seats, all spares and equipment) onto the trailer. It is each competitors responsibility to assist with preparation of the trailer for regattas, de-rigging before, rigging at, de-rigging after, re-rigging back at the club house, loading the trailer for the return trip, unloading at the shed, cleaning down after racing, putting away and carrying out general preparations for weekly rowing back at the shed after regattas. Non attendance at loading and unloading will result in non racing as determined by the Committee.

(32) Seat money for regatta entries are to be received by MRC, in full, prior to closing date as set by the Regatta Secretary. Note that the Regatta Secretary's closing date may be earlier than the Regatta closing date.

(33) Regatta entries shall only be done by the MRC Regatta Secretary, or their delegate, and only after full seat money/entry payment has been received by MRC for the entire crew.

(34) It is the stroke, or in a composite crew, the MRC crew member's responsibility to ensure that all seat money for the entire crew is paid before the regatta closing date as set by the MRC Regatta Secretary.

(35) Competitors are responsible for all personal regatta costs.

(36) The club is not liable for traffic or other fines incurred during trailer usage.

### RIVER RULES

(37) All crews are to keep to the right hand (starboard) side according to the coxswain, when proceeding up or down the river.

(38) The middle of the river is a **no go** rowing zone for **all** boats.

(39) Whenever practicable, all boats should proceed in an upstream direction when departing or arriving at home beach, crews must cross smartly and directly across the central no go zone of the river.

(40) When boating, all fixing up should be done as close to the bank as practical so that passing crews are not obstructed.

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- (41) Crews being overtaken should alert the overtaking crew by shouting and moving aside as soon as practicable to avoid collision. Stationary crews should be as close to the banks as possible out of the way of passing crews.
- (42) Official competition has right of way over all traffic during designated regattas, for the length of the competition course.
- (43) No member, rower, coach or club official shall use a megaphone or voice amplification equipment while talking to, coaching or directing rowers or crews on the water after 4pm or before 8am, 7 days of the week, 365 days of the year.
- (44) All members and rowers shall make all efforts to respect the rights of other users of the waterways and residents on the waterfront at all times.
- (45) Passing boats must always proceed on the outside of the boat being overtaken i.e. to strokeside of the boat being passed.
- (46) All members, rowers and coaches shall make every effort to keep the waterways clean and unpolluted and where possible shall endeavour to clean up the waterway when the opportunity arises.
- (47) No members or member shall keep a boat out during electrical storms, high winds or times of flood.
- (48) No members or member shall keep a boat out after sunset or before sunrise without suitable navigation lights.
- (49) All rowers are to obey NSW Waterways navigations markers, signs and rules.

### **CLUBHOUSE HIRE**

- (50) Persons wishing to hire the clubhouse must be able to provide proof of insurance covering Public Liability.
- (51) Private hire fees for the clubhouse, amenities and grounds shall be as determined by the committee.