



## **BLACK MOUNTAIN ROWING CLUB**

### **BOAT AND SPACE ALLOCATION GUIDELINES**

Boat allocation is necessary for safety reasons, to protect boats from damage (arising from member inexperience or misuse) and to balance competing demands including the use of supporting equipment such as tinnies and cox boxes. Good boat storage is critical to use most effectively the limited space available in the boatshed and to deal equitably with demands for private storage.

#### **Administration**

These boat allocation guidelines will be administered by the Boat Club Captain and by the Vice Club Captain, at the discretion of the Captain.

Where the Captain and the Vice Captain are temporarily unavailable (i.e for periods of a month or less) the Captain may appoint another person to perform the role. Longer-term absences will be subject to a decision by the Committee.

Any reference to the Captain in these guidelines is a reference to the Captain or any other person performing that role in accordance with these guidelines.

The Committee may revise these guidelines from time to time to reflect operational impact and feedback by Club members.

#### **Expectations**

##### Decision-making

Members should expect the policy to be administered equitably and to receive a courteous and rational explanation for any refusal.

Members are expected to accept graciously decisions made under these guidelines.

Where there are concerns over the operation of the policy, or where they believe a decision is inconsistent with these guidelines, they may ask the Committee to review.

##### Maintenance

Members using Club equipment are expected to assist in its maintenance and upkeep.

The Club Captain is not responsible for boat maintenance nor is there any position specifically dedicated to that function. This is because the maintenance of boats is the responsibility of each and every member. Where a boat requires maintenance beyond the capacity of members,

the Captain, with the agreement of the President and Treasurer, may make a decision to have it professionally repaired or take disposal action. Orders should be placed by the Captain, or with the agreement of the Captain, who controls the spares-parts cabinets and who has an overview of requirements.

Where more serious faults are identified, they *must* be reported to the Club Captain. The Captain may specify how that reporting is to take place but the default notification is by email. Contact points are maintained at <http://www.bmrc.org.au/contact.htm>.

Where minor problems are identified, such as dirty or loose runners, the member using the boat is to perform such maintenance, particularly if they have a regular booking for the boat. Club members not confident of undertaking basic maintenance can expect some instruction from the Captain or other experienced rowers to whom they may be referred by the Captain.

### Personal Responsibility

The Club expects members using equipment to be competent and suitably qualified. For example, it is up to members to secure a licence to use a tinny and a member should not take out a boat, on their own initiative, if they are not competent to row that boat. For example, a Club member who has only rowed larger sweep-oared boats should not take out a single without supervision or without first discussing with the Club Captain.

Members must, at all times, comply with the Club Safety Policy – please see <http://bmrc.org.au/corporate>.

Non-members have no right to access boats. However, boats may be allocated to non-members in accordance with these guidelines.

### **Section A - Boat Allocation Principles**

1) **Care and safety.** The over-arching principle is the proper use, care and protection of the boats and ancillary Club assets (such as motors; tinnies, cox boxes) and the safety of those rowing. This means that:

- rowers are not to use boats inconsistent with their weight class (e.g. heavyweights not to row lightweight boats) – guidance on Club-boat loadings will be available;
- novice or inexperienced rowers would generally only have access to basic rowing equipment;
- subject to other priorities, access to better boats will take place after novice or more inexperienced rowers have demonstrated their capacity to row and care for boats; and
- boats will be allocated in accordance with weight or other restrictions (see below).

The Captain may direct a rower or crew, after discussion and any appropriate warnings, not to row Club boats or particular boats where:

- a member has not taken adequate care of a boat (such as by not seeking to remedy faults, failing to report faults, carelessly handling boats or improperly storing equipment);
- the rower or crew is not, in the Captain's view, experienced enough to row adequately or safely a particular boat.

**Scenario** - A number of people graduate from the Learn to Row and go onto the transition program. They have basic rowing proficiency and have a basic understanding of caring for boats. They have not rowed in competition. The Captain may specify which boats they may use, which are likely to be older, heavier and more stable boats.

**2) Competition.** A key activity in any rowing club is participating in competitions. This means both competing on the day and the preceding training. Preference in the allocation of boats will be given to these competitive needs. In allocating boats, the following guidelines will apply.

- Competition takes precedence over training.
- Major competitive events take precedence over minor.
- Training in a boat does not confer a right to row that boat in competition.
- Better performing crews take precedence over slower crews, where there is an appreciable difference.

**3) Equitable Access.** Members should expect reasonable access to Club boats and facilities. Where a member has demonstrated their willingness and capacity to care for equipment, they should generally expect to have access to equipment where it is not in conflict with other bookings or any boat restrictions.

**Scenario** – Members have been rowing for a couple of years. They have competed although only achieving results in the bottom 15 percentile. They have demonstrated that they can row safely and that they care for the boats they use, fixing minor faults and reporting more serious ones. They may use any boat that is not restricted if it is available. They may also seek a booking for any non-restricted boat and expect approval if it is available. However, the Captain may refuse that booking where there are higher priority crews also requiring the boat, as set out in these guidelines.

#### 4) **Restricted access.**

Boat with restricted access may only be used with the approval of the Captain. Such restrictions may be imposed:

- by the Captain to reflect any boat specifications or for safety reasons;
- by the Committee where it deems boats to be elite or reserved for competition or for other uses (see Section C);
- as a result of conditions associated with Club donations. For example, the Wintech Eight has been donated on the condition that it not be used for learn-to-row, novice or scratch crews. The priority in allocation specified is for regular, organised, heavyweight crews.

Any restrictions are to be marked or highlighted, as devised by the Captain.

4) **Gazumping** (i.e. over-riding an existing booking). Where a booking is to be gazumped, the threshold of equity principle is lifted. The crew applying to take over a booking must show that rowing at another time is not reasonable or that it reflects the training requirements for upcoming competition. The Captain needs to ensure the reasons for such a ruling are clearly explained ahead of the change in booking.

5) **Mixed Club Rowing.** As a general principle, the expectation is that crews formed will comprise members of the Club. However, there are a number of circumstances where mixed club rowing or composite crews properly takes place including representative rowing and where sufficient Club members are not available in the relevant class.

Club boats may be used for such purposes.

- If the boats are available (i.e. not encumbered by bookings) they may be allocated subject to fair sharing of boats between clubs e.g. a pair alternatively rowing out of the Clubs involved.
- Where there is conflict in bookings or races, priority should be given to boats with higher Club crewing.

6) **Unused booking.** Where a boat has not been taken out in accordance with a booking, and the boat is not a restricted boat, then another rower or crew may use that boat after 5 minutes has elapsed from the booked time, provided they are eligible to row that boat. Where one or more crew for a boat are present within that 5 minutes, the boat continues to belong to the crew which made the booking.

7) **Casual use of boats.** On some occasions crew members will self-select boats which are not subject to bookings.

As a general rule, casual use of boats by members should reflect the allocation process, except where a person has not been allocated a boat only by virtue of availability.

For example, if novice rowers have been directed to particular boats to develop competency they should remain with those boats unless authorised by the Captain. However, on a casual basis, an experienced crew could take out any non-restricted boat were it to be available.

8) **Booking board.** The management of the booking board is at the discretion of the Captain.

### **Section B - Racking**

In allocating rack space the Captain should be guided by:

- current and prospective capacity;
- frequency of use of the equipment;
- physical requirements of the crews;
- members storage needs taking precedence over non-members;
- length of time queued;
- length of association with the Club and associated contribution.

A queuing system should be maintained and followed for access to the private bay. However, existing Club members may swap their spaces with another Club member. If this involves a swap outside of the private bay, the member surrendering the place in the private bay goes to the back of the queue for a spot in the private bay.

The names of Club members housing boats in private bays should be maintained either by the use of a register or the direct marking of the bays to allow assessments of the member status of the person and to consider placement issues.

A Club member allocated a private bay would normally continue in that bay. Where the Captain considers that, in terms of the overall good management of the space, a Club member's boat needs to be moved, the Club Captain must first discuss the move with the member affected. That decision may be reviewed by the Committee if the person whose boat is moved considers that their place should be maintained.

A person who is not a Club member has no right to a private bay. The Captain may move the boat of any non-member at any time.

#### **Private Boats**

Under no circumstances may the private boat of a paid-up member be used by another Club member without the authority of the owner. The Club Captain may not make any such allocation except with the authority of the owner.

Where boats are left by former Club members, they may become uncollected goods. The Attachment provides some guidance on the operation of the law as it stood in 2007. If action is to be taken, it would need to be legally confirmed at the time.

**Section C – Boats determined by the Committee as restricted and subject to allocation by the Boat Captain**

Boat	Restriction
Donated Wintech Eight – Long Red Boat (LSB)	<b>Not be used for learn-to-row, novice or scratch crews. The priority in allocation specified is for regular, organised, heavyweight crews</b>
Fred Flanagan	For more experienced rowers and competitors.
Steve Fairfax	For competition or training for competition. It is not to be routinely used for general conditioning training in the absence of competition.
Wintech Singles B1 and B2	For more experienced rowers and competitors.
Sykes No 8	For more experienced rowers and competitors.
Donated Booroomba	For more experienced rowers and competitors.
Steve Fairfax fund singles	For more experienced rowers and competitors.

***Approved Committee meeting of 24 September 2008***

**ATTACHMENT - DEALING WITH UNCOLLECTED GOODS –**  
**INDICATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE UNCOLLECTED GOODS ACT 1996**

**PART 1 - DEFINITIONS**

Goods means moveable personal property ...

Goods of low value means uncollected goods having a net value of more than \$20 and less than \$500.

Goods of significant value means uncollected goods having a net value of \$500 or more.

Net value means the market value of the goods less the reasonable costs of selling the goods including removal, storage, preservation , transportation and advertising costs.

Possessor means a person in possession of goods belonging to another person.

**PART 2 - MEANING OF UNCOLLECTED GOODS**

Goods shall be deemed to be uncollected goods for this Act ... where the possessor received the goods in pursuance of an agreement under which ... the owner was to collect goods at a certain time or within a certain period and has failed to do so.

**GOODS NOT COLLECTED WHEN REQUESTED**

This division applies to goods received in the absence of an agreement to their collection.

A possessor may request the owner of goods to collect the goods within 7 days of the date of request. A request shall

- (a) be sent to the owner's last known address, and,
- (b) if the possessor does not have an address for the owner and has not been able to ascertain it through reasonable inquiry - shall be published

in a daily newspaper printed and circulated in the ACT.

Where an owner refuses or fails to comply with a request made ... the goods shall be deemed to be uncollected goods and may be disposed of in accordance with Part 3.

### PART 3 - DISPOSAL OF UNCOLLECTED GOODS

A possessor may dispose of uncollected goods in accordance with this part

Personal effects may be disposed of by public auction after 3 months.

Goods of low value may be disposed of by sale, appropriation or destruction after 1 month.

Goods of significant value may be disposed of by public auction after 3 months.

Public Auctions. Where uncollected goods are to be disposed of by public auction, the possessor shall, at least 7 days before it is held, advertise the time and place of the auction and a general description of the goods to be sold in a daily newspaper printed and circulated in the ACT. All goods passed in at the auction may be disposed of or destroyed in such manner as the possessor sees fit.

Claims by owners - Where, before the disposal of the uncollected goods ... the possessor may give the goods to that person [owner]. The possessor may, before handing over the goods, require the owner to pay ... the reasonable costs of complying with the Act; reasonable costs in storing and maintaining the goods; ... any unpaid rent.

Part 5 Miscellaneous.

Proceeds of sale.

The possessor may retain from the proceeds [essentially the costs mentioned above in respect of the owner]. Any balance ... is payable to the Territory who shall pay the money into a trust bank account.