



2.0 BOAT ALLOCATION POLICY – TRAINING AND RACING

1.0: PURPOSE

Wendouree Ballarat Rowing Club (WBRC) maintains a fleet of boats on behalf of members.

This document outlines the process to be followed for the allocation of boats in relation to both training and racing.

A clear process for progression through rowing and assignment of boats is required to;

- Ensure boats appropriate to rowers abilities are used
- Provide new rowers a chance to learn at their own pace
- Allow existing crews to build on skills and continue improving
- Protect the club's equipment from damage, or misuse
- Provide a clear and transparent process for booking and allocating boats
- Ensure the most competitive crews are entered in races with the equipment most suited to them
- Allow less competitive crews the chance to enter races where possible
- Allow the club to manage the fleet effectively, in conjunction with the *Boat Rigging Policy*

2.0: BOAT ALLOCATION

This policy provides guiding principles but may not address every possible circumstance.

- All rowers are to follow the *Boat Rigging Policy* when using all equipment.
- In no circumstances will a boat be assigned exclusively to one person or crew unless the boat is the property of that person or crew.
- 'Member' refers to a financial member of the club. 'Non-member' refers to non-financial member of the club.
- The Captain has the final say regarding allocation of boats.
- The Rowing Committee will remain open to suggestions and available to consult with members.
- Refer to related *Boat and Equipment Damage Policy* for information on liability and damage to WBRC equipment.



3.0 APPROVAL OF BOATS

Red Sticker	Do not use without Captain's permission. Bookings essential. Captain's decision is final when bookings clash.
Green Sticker	General use. Bookings essential. First come, first served.
Private Use	Private boats and oars are stored in the shed. Please do not use private equipment. If you are unsure, ask the Captain.

4.0 TRAINING

Non-members:

- Non-members may learn to row in activities approved by the Captain.
- Boats to be used are tubs (green sticker) only – sculls, pairs, doubles, fours. Captain's permission is required to use other boats.
- Non-members are allowed to attend for a maximum of 5 sessions before a membership fee is required to be paid.
- Where a financial member of the club requires equipment (ergo, boat, oars) in use by non-members, the financial member takes priority over the non-member.

Members:

- All crews must use a tub when first starting. The coach or crew must ask the Captain for permission to use any racing boat.
- Crews may be given one-off permission to use a racing boat, or may be given ongoing permission to use a racing boat.
- When given permission for use of a racing boat, this extends only to the boat/s indicated by the Captain. It does not give the crew access to all racing boats in the fleet.
- Boats must be booked by writing the name of boat, crew names and times in the diary, located in the ergo room.
- Crews who train regularly should advise the rowing committee of their regular timeslot to inform other rowers of boat availability.



Speedboats:

- Speedboats may only be used by appropriately licenced members of the club who have obtained permission from the Captain.
- Speedboat bookings must be written into the diary.
- Speedboats are sometimes rented out to visiting clubs, or may be repaired and may not always be available.
- If there is high demand for the boats the Captain will determine the crews who have use of the available speedboats.

5.0 RACING

- Crews must follow the process on the *Regatta Entry Form*, including discussing equipment with Captain.
- Members may only compete if they have paid the full racing membership fees.
- Boats will be allocated according to the boat the Captain has deemed suitable for the crew to train in, except by negotiation with the Rowing Committee.
- Boats will be allocated in a first come, first served basis except when deemed necessary by the Captain.
- The Rowing Committee/Captain may override initial boat bookings where elite rowers or crews likely to be competitive in their age class/grade require a boat that has already been booked.
- As per the *Boat Rigging Policy*, The Captain will weigh up the request with other club members equipment needs and will take into account:
 - The competitive season; and
 - Who the equipment is shared with
- Where boats/oars are shared between a Masters and a School boy/girl crew, the School boy/girl crew will have priority until the end of their competitive season, including State and National competitions. Similarly, Masters crews have priority until the Masters State and National competitions are complete. If boats/oars are shared between two crews from School boy/girl or Masters squads then special consideration will need to be given to any changes to the boats. This will be done in consultation with the coaches but remains the Captain's decision.
- Boat sharing is to occur at all times where possible.
- Boats are to be sourced from other clubs where boat sharing is not possible.



- In the case where there is no available boat for a crew to row in, the crew who approached the Captain/Rowing Committee first obtains preference for use of the boat. This can be overruled by the Rowing Committee.

6.0 COXWAINS

- Crews must source their own Coxswain to train and race with.
- Members, or family members of members who are willing to cox should advise the Rowing Committee of their interest.
- Crews requiring a cox who cannot source one should contact the Rowing Committee to check if there are any available coxswains.
- If a crew is unable to source a coxswain, as with boats, coxswain sharing can occur where possible.
- Coxswains are not paid unless in exceptional circumstances where a coxswain from another club may be the only alternative and charge a fee.

Reasonable reasons for overruling by Captain:

- Crews likely to be qualifying for State or National Championships are given priority.
- Crews competing at the highest level in their school age group (eg 10A crew) are given priority over 10B, 10C etc.
- Crews likely to be competitive in their age class in Masters events are given priority.