

SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ROWING UNION
CONSTITUTION

(As adopted at a Special Meeting on 28 June 2021)

1. MISSION STATEMENT

- 1.1. The SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS' ROWING UNION (SASRU) is the association of South African rowing schools, mandated by member schools to manage, promote, co-ordinate, control, discipline and plan the development of school rowing.
- 1.2. SASRU is a constituent member of Rowing South Africa (RowSA) and operates in close co-operation with RowSA, the South African Rowing Officials Association and provincial rowing bodies in promoting rowing in South Africa.
- 1.3. SASRU recognises its responsibility to promote rowing as widely as possible and for this reason establishes the rules and regulations governing not only the participation of rowers of member schools but also of those individual rowers from non-member schools.
- 1.4. SASRU endeavours to ensure that the sport of rowing at school level operates in a manner that promotes the broad educational objectives of member schools. In particular, SASRU stands for the highest possible standards of sportsmanship, respect for others, honesty, fairness and integrity in the sport and actively seeks to promote friendly rivalry and comradeship among rowers.
- 1.5. It is a specific objective of SASRU that no racial or gender discrimination be countenanced in the sport of rowing.

2. STRUCTURE OF SCHOOL ROWING

- 2.1. All rowing schools in South Africa are required to register as members of SASRU by 1st October each year. Membership requires the submission of registration documents as well as payment of an annual affiliation fee which is ratified at the annual AGM. Only schools that have completed registration by 1st October will be able to participate in the Schools Boat Race and SA Schools Rowing Championships.
- 2.2. Schools in each province are required to have a constituted schools rowing federation to manage and direct the activities of schools rowing within that province. Each rowing school in the province is entitled to one representative in the federation. This representative must be the school's rowing MIC. A president of the provincial federation will be democratically elected annually from amongst the school representatives.
- 2.3. School rowing in South Africa is managed by the SASRU Executive and operates through SASRU provincial structures: SASRU Eastern Cape, Gauteng (GSRF), SASRU KZN and SASRU Western Cape.
- 2.4. All South African rowing schools as registered members of SASRU are required to pay affiliation and registration fees to RowSA, provided that any changes in such affiliation and registration fees are approved by the SASRU Executive Committee.

3. SASRU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 3.1. SASRU provincial structures are managed by an elected Provincial President and other officers and officials as may be determined by the province in consultation with the SASRU Executive.
- 3.2. SASRU is managed by an Executive Committee consisting of elected officers, the heads of the provincial school structures, and co-opted members.
- 3.3. SASRU Elected Officers
 - 3.3.1. National President, National Vice-President and Provincial Presidents.
 - 3.3.2. Only a person in the bona-fide full time employment of a member school shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee or to a provincial school federation.
 - 3.3.3. The term of office shall be a period of one year and there is no limit to the number of terms that an elected official may serve.
 - 3.3.4. The Executive Committee shall be elected from persons nominated, by ballot at the AGM to be held at the time of the South African School Championships each year. Nominations shall close 10 days before the AGM. All member schools shall have one vote in the election of the National President and National-Vice President. All elected positions are open to any full time employee of a school registered with SASRU. Where possible, those elected should have a minimum of five years full time involvement with rowing.
 - 3.3.5. The Presidents of the Provincial Federations shall be elected by ballot at a Provincial AGM to be held no later than 10 days before the South African School Championships each year. Each member school in a particular region shall have one vote in the election of the respective Provincial President/Chair and Provincial Federation.
- 3.4. Co-opted Members
 - 3.4.1. The Elected Officers shall have the authority to invite persons on to the Executive Committee to fulfill specific functions, e.g. Secretary, Treasurer etc
 - 3.4.2. Casual vacancies will be filled by the Executive Committee by co-option, except in the case of the National President, in which case the National Vice-President shall assume the role of Acting President until the following AGM.
 - 3.4.3. Additional members who offer expertise in a particular area may be co-opted to chair particular commissions.

4. VOTING RIGHTS

- 4.1. Any general matters requiring decision making (i.e. dates of regattas, venues etc) will be conducted by the Executive Committee. Only elected members will be eligible to vote.
- 4.2. Any matters that affect the structure of schools rowing in South Africa (i.e. Boat classes, National Schools regatta structure and competition days etc) will be voted on by the whole body at the AGM/SGM with one school one vote.
- 4.3. If a matter relates only to one gender (i.e. boat classes for girls rowing) then only schools with participants of that gender will be eligible to vote.
- 4.4. Schools must have been a member of SASRU for 1 calendar year prior in order to be eligible to vote in the AGM/SGM.

5. PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL SCHOOLS REGATTAS

- 5.1. SA SCHOOLS BOAT RACE

- 5.1.1. In order to be eligible to participate in the SA Schools Boat Race a school must be affiliated to SASRU from 1 October of the previous calendar year.
- 5.1.2. Schools must have competed in a minimum of 2 regattas in the 3 months preceding the date of SA Schools Boat Race. Schools must be able to show evidence of participation by the close of entries for the SA Schools Boat Race.

5.2. SA SCHOOLS ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 5.2.1. In order to be eligible to participate in the SA Schools Rowing Championships a school must be registered with SASRU by 1st October in the previous year.
- 5.2.2. Schools must have participated in 2 regattas in the 3 months preceding the date of the SA Schools Championships. Schools must be able to show evidence of participation by the close of entries for the SA Schools Rowing Championships.

6. ROLE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for:

- 6.1. The allocation and expenditure of funds in pursuance of the mission of SASRU;
- 6.2. The framing of the rules and regulations governing all school rowing in South Africa to be submitted to RowSA for inclusion in the RowSA Rules of Racing;
- 6.3. The framing of the dates, venue, specific rules and regulations governing the operation of the South African Schools Championships and the Schools' Boat Race (refer Championship Rules; Boat Race Rules);
- 6.4. The promotion of school rowing by providing assistance to schools in establishing new school rowing sections; through encouraging the participation of transformation pupils in rowing; and through the promotion of good coaching;
- 6.5. In conjunction with the RowSA International Commission. The establishment of systems and structures for promoting the participation of rowers in international competition;
- 6.6. The appointment of persons to the positions of Secretary and Treasurer etc;
- 6.7. The appointment of a SASRU representative on the RowSA Executive Committee, the IC, SAROC and other Commissions.
- 6.8. Provincial Federations will be responsible for:
 - 6.8.1. planning, administering and implementing schools' rowing events within their respective provinces, and
 - 6.8.2. promoting the development of rowing through the introduction of new schools.

7. NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The National President shall be responsible for:

- 7.1. Leading, coordinating and managing the activities of SASRU;
- 7.2. Chairing Annual General Meetings, Special General Meetings and meetings of the SASRU Executive Committee;

- 7.3. Overseeing communications and correspondence with member schools;
- 7.4. Presiding at the annual Schools' Rowing Championships and annual Schools' Boat Race;
- 7.5. Attending to disciplinary issues in conjunction with the principals of affected schools and where necessary with any body established by RowSA for this purpose.

8. NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

The National Vice-President shall be responsible for:

- 8.1. Deputising for the National President in his absence or at his request and attending to the general administration of SASRU;
- 8.2. Assisting with communications and correspondence with member schools;
- 8.3. The keeping of records of school rowing activities and regatta results;
- 8.4. The drawing up of the proposed annual schools regatta programme.

9. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall be responsible for:

- 9.1. The taking of minutes at meetings of the Executive Committee;
- 9.2. The submission of minutes to members of the Executive Committee and to the Secretary of RowSA within 30 days of the meeting;
- 9.3. Communications and correspondence with member schools.
- 9.4. Sending out notices, agendas and motions for Annual and Special General Meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee.

10. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be responsible for:

- 10.1. Drawing up any required annual budget and business plan for approval by the SASRU Executive Committee and submission to RowSA before 30th September each year;
- 10.2. Keeping the accounts of all financial transactions of SASRU and maintaining systems and procedures for the proper financial management of SASRU;
- 10.3. The collection of affiliation fees and other levies and charges, including revenue from sponsorship and advertising;
- 10.4. The sending out of regular accounts to debtors;
- 10.5. Producing an Annual audited Balance Sheet and Financial Statement for presentation at the AGM and for presentation to the Secretary of RowSA by the 30th September each year.

11. ROLES OF PROVINCIAL SCHOOL FEDERATIONS

Provincial School Federations shall be responsible for:

- 11.1. Planning and implementing schools rowing events within their respective provinces.
- 11.2. Development of schools rowing through introduction of new schools.

12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 12.1. The Annual General Meeting of SASRU shall be held at the time of the South African Schools Rowing Championships in March each year.
- 12.2. Each member school shall be entitled to one delegate at the AGM who shall be in the bona-fide full time employment of the member school. School delegates present at a General Meeting shall constitute a quorum. Delegates shall each have one vote. In the event of a voting tie the President (or in his absence the Vice-President) shall have a casting vote.
- 12.3. The purposes of the AGM shall be:
 - 12.3.1. To receive the President's Report for the preceding year;
 - 12.3.2. To receive the Financial Report for the preceding year;
 - 12.3.3. To determine the annual SASRU affiliation fee;
 - 12.3.4. To elect the Executive Committee for the following year;
 - 12.3.5. To attend to any other matters as approved by the President.

13. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- 13.1. A Special General Meeting shall be held at the time of the SA Schools' Boat Race.
- 13.2. Each member school shall be entitled to one delegate. School delegates present at the Meeting shall constitute a quorum. In the event of a voting tie the President (or in his absence the Vice-President) shall have a casting vote.
- 13.3. The purposes of the Special General Meeting shall be:
 - 13.3.1. To review the rules and organisation of the Boat Race;
 - 13.3.2. To decide on the date and venue of the Boat Race for the following year;
 - 13.3.3. To attend to any other SASRU business as determined by the National President.

14. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be repealed, replaced, added to, altered or amended only at the AGM by two thirds of those present voting in favour provided that special notice of the motion shall have been posted by the President at least one week before the date of the AGM.

15. FLAG AND BADGE

The Flag and Badge of SASRU will be a yellow on navy design as depicted:



**SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS
ROWING UNION**