

## 8. ELECTION OF HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Rowing South Australia Constitution excerpt:

### *5.4 Honorary Life Members*

*(a) The Members present at an Annual General Meeting may elect to Honorary Life Membership any Member who has given prolonged and dedicated service in supporting and promoting the Sport under the auspices of the Association.*

*(b) Notice in writing must be given to the Secretary by any Member wishing to propose such person for Honorary Life Membership, at least two calendar months prior to the Annual General Meeting, and all Affiliate Members will be advised forthwith of such notification, which will become an item on the agenda of the next Annual General Meeting.*

*(c) A resolution of those Members present at the Annual General Meeting recommending such person for election as Honorary Life Member must be carried by at least two thirds of the Members present and voting in favour thereof. Such voting is to be conducted by ballot.*

Three (3) nominations were received:

Nominee 1:

**The Honourable Judge Dean E Clayton QC**

Submitted by: The Adelaide University Boat Club

Received: 28/06/2022

Nominee 2:

**Assoc. Professor Robert D Cheesman AM**

Submitted by: The Adelaide University Boat Club

Received: 28/06/2022

Nominee 3:

**Rodney F Elleway**

Submitted by: The Adelaide University Boat Club

Received: 28/06/2022

Each nominee's background is outlined in the following pages.



## **ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB**

**ABN 78 796 498 426**

**c/- AU SPORT, UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE SA 5005**

28 June 2022

Andrew Swift  
Chief Executive Officer  
Rowing South Australia  
100 Military Road  
West Lakes Shore SA 5020

<Forwarded by email to [aswift@rowingsa.asn.au](mailto:aswift@rowingsa.asn.au)>

Dear Andrew/Secretary,

### **Nominations for Honorary Life Membership of RowingSA**

The Adelaide University Boat Club (AUBC) wishes to nominate the following for Honorary Life Membership of Rowing South Australia:

- The Honourable Judge Dean E Clayton QC
- Assoc. Professor Robert D Cheesman AM
- Rodney F Elleway

AUBC believes that these three members of the South Australian rowing community have provided significant, sustained and high quality service to rowing at school, club and state levels. They have provided outstanding service that has enhanced the reputation and future of rowing by virtue of their considerable contribution to rowing within South Australia.

Accompanying are resumes of the nominee's involvement in rowing. It can be seen in these resumes that the nominees have given prolonged and dedicated service to rowing in South Australia. They are all Foundation Life Members of RowingSA.

These nominations have been forwarded to you in lieu of the vacant Secretary position.

Regards  
Michael Page  
AUBC President

Dr Henry Newland AM  
AUBC Patron



## **ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB**

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### **The Honourable Judge Dean E Clayton QC**

Dean started rowing at Adelaide High School in 1959, rowing in their 1<sup>st</sup> VIII in 1960. He went on to join AUBC in 1961, rowing in the Intervarsity VIII in 1962, 1963 and 1966; was Captain in the 1963/4 and 1965/6 seasons; and received a University Blue for rowing in 1967. Throughout the 1970s he coached at AUBC, including coaching the Intervarsity VIII in 1970, 1972, 1989 and 1992, and the Intervarsity Lightweight IV in 1975 and the winning 1974 crew. In addition to coaching many crews at AUBC, Dean coached at Saint Peter's College for 15 years with five winning 2<sup>nd</sup> VIIIs from six crews and three winning 1<sup>st</sup> VIIIs from four crews.

In the 1960s, Dean was the AUBC delegate to the SA Rowing Association, being involved as Assistant Secretary and with the revision of the SARA Constitution. He was Chairman in the early 1970s and was the SA Counsellor on the Australian Amateur Rowing Council from 1974 to 79. Whilst on the AARC he was actively involved in the amalgamation of the men's AARC and the Australian Women's Rowing Council.

With the passing of the West Lakes Development Act in 1969 and the eventual filling of the lake in 1974, Dean was a key member of the Planning Committee for the establishment, design and negotiation with the State Government over the Alex Ramsay Rowing Course.

From the 1970s, Dean has been an AUBC Vice-President for over fifty years, serving as President from 1974 to 76 and Patron from 2015 to 19. Over this time, he has been a mentor for AUBC members and has willingly provided counsel when required for the whole rowing community in South Australia.

For many decades Dean has been without a peer in the breadth of achievements and commitments that he has given to the sport.

Dean has been a Foundation Life Member of RowingSA since 1978.



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### **Assoc. Professor Robert D Cheesman AM**

Rob started rowing at St Peter's College in 1954, rowing in their 1<sup>st</sup> VIII in 1957 to 59, winning the Head of the River in both 1957 and 1959. In addition, he was Captain of Rowing in 1959. He went on to row at AUBC in the Senior VIII in 1960 to 64, stroking the Intervarsity VIII in 1960 and 1961, and was a member of the 1961 and 1962 King's Cup crews. He received a University Blue for rowing in 1961. In 1977 he coached the Intervarsity VIII and then coached the 1978 King's Cup crew. In the early 1970s, AUBC appointed him as a Vice President.

Rob's coaching positions have included St Peter's College 2<sup>nd</sup> VIII from 1963 to 65; AUBC Senior crews from 1972 to 79; and at Pembroke School 1<sup>st</sup> VIII from 1981 to 93 and U15 Boys from 1994 to 96. Between 1963 and 1996 his school crews never finished lower than third in all competition and included winning the Schoolboy Head of the River 1<sup>st</sup> VIII in 1983 and 1988. In 1988 he also coached his daughter Tanya to win the National U23 LW single scull title.

Prior to and during the formative years of the SA Sports Institute and the AIS, Rob initiated and supported developments in SA rowing. In particular, in 1988 he formed and managed the first SA State Junior Development Squad.

In recent years Rob has coached numerous State Master's crews in 2005, 2014 to 16, and 2018 to 22. Most notably, for the last two years he has coached the winning 2021 and 2022 Master's Interstate Championship Men's VIII.

An important contribution to the SA rowing community has been his voluntary role as the Architect of both the original West Lakes Aquatic Centre and the number of expansion phases of the LWAC.

Rob has been a Foundation Life Member of RowingSA since 1978.



## **ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB**

**ABN 78 796 498 426**

**c/- AU SPORT, UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE SA 5005**

### **Rodney F Elleway**

Rod started rowing at AUBC in 1963, racing in the Intervarsity VIII in 1966 to 1969 and 1973. He was a member of the winning 1968 Grand Challenge Cup crew and was in the 1970 to 1973 King's Cup crews. He received a University Blue for rowing in 1967.

Of particular note, Rod was selected as bow in the 1970 Australian VIII, along with Professor Rory (Jack) Hume in the 2-seat. They came fifth at the World Championships in St Catherines, Canada, with Rod and Jack being the first South Australian National representatives since the Cods in 1924 and Alf Gregory in 1938. He is recognised as a national oarsman with the McVilly-Pearce Pin Number 188.

Rod coached at AUBC in the 1970s and early 1980s, including the 1974 Intervarsity Men's VIII that won the Oxford and Cambridge Cup in the record time of 5:39.4 and the 1975 crew. At this time AUBC appointed him as a Vice-President, serving as President in 1977 to 1979 and 1989/90. In 1977 to 79 Rod was Chairman of the State Team Selectors and in 1980/1 Willy Hay and Rod coached the first SA State HW Men's squad that won a number of small boat National Championships and laid the foundation for the crews that won the King's Cup in 1981 to 83.

He went on to coach at Pembroke School for nine years in the 1980s, including in 1984 coaching the winning National Championship Schoolgirl IV+ and the U19 Women's IV+. Along with his partner Julie Chenery, Rod started the Wilderness School Rowing Club in 1985.

Rod was Secretary for SARA in 1974/5 and played a leading role in setting up the funding base to establish the West Lakes Aquatic Centre. In particular, he was a driving force for the Foundation Life Membership scheme with the rowing community to develop the facility at the finish line of the Alex Ramsay Rowing Course. As Secretary of the original committee for the WLAC he played important roles in the planning, design, obtaining Federal funds, devising the Foundation Life Membership Scheme and supervising initial construction. For many years in the 1990s and early 2000s he was on the SARA Executive in the role of Building Commissioner.

Rod was the first CEO of RowingSA in 1998/9 before taking on the role of Director of Rowing at Pembroke for 14 seasons from 1999 to 2013.

With his coaching at AUBC, Pembroke and the 1975 and 2004 King's Cup crews, a testament to his impact on SA rowing is the substantial number of SA coaches that have been coached by Rod.

Rod has been a Foundation Life Member of RowingSA since 1978.