

MRRA Board meeting minutes - July 2, 2012 at the Boathouse

Attendees: Jay Feenan, Bob Bowen, Wilma Breiland, and Karen Scammell. Stavros Papadopoulos attended for the Festival Regatta review.

Festival Regatta wrap-up – with Stavros Papadopoulos, director

- Overall the regatta went well.
- Total estimated profit is around \$6800 after expenses.
- Incident occurred with line from shore holding stake boats coming above water and causing a dangerous situation where line came above the bow of the Essex Womens 4+. It was immediately corrected. It was agreed that Stavros should draft a letter of apology to Essex and explain that the shifting of anchors due to the water level rising caused the line to come above water and that measures will be taken to avoid this in the future. Offer them a free entry of womens 4+ in the TRR.
- Stake boats were taken off the course and moved to the regatta field next to Dunkin Donuts.
- Stavros will contact Jess Hays about removing all the buoys as soon as possible.
- Feedback items:
 - Trailers should assume that they are there all day if parked in the lot and that making an early get-away is not likely.
 - Finish – had extra volunteers
 - Launch drivers – need checklist for responsibilities and need coaching – role of chair.
 - Protest tied people up and so there was a delay after lunch. The protest was denied since protocol for protest was not met: \$25 was paid to Regatta Central rather than directly and no written protest was filed within the prescribed time.
 - UML mens team collected about \$800 for the parking.
 - Need to set up course earlier – 2 days prior with stake boats staged the day before.

Social Committee – will host social for July 10 monthly meeting since there is little on the agenda. Karen's request for \$100 for purchase of food, beer and wine was approved. Meeting will start at 7:30 pm with the social starting at 8:00 pm. MRRA bumper stickers will be given to LTScull and LTSweep folks. Agenda should include Festival update, membership update and program updates.

Racing Associate Membership proposal from Bob Sengstaken and sent to the Board is as follows:

"Racing Associate Membership

The purpose of this membership option is to allow composite club entries for races a chance to practice together at the boathouse. We have always allowed for ad-hoc composite club entries at race events, this allows the option to practice in the boat without running into the guest limitations. It is suggested the following limitations for this membership:

- 1. Practice for race events only.*
- 2. Associate membership must be a full time member of another USRA recognized club.*
- 3. Use of the boat must be of lower priority than for full time club members.*
- 4. There must be a full-logbook club member in the boat.*

5. *The applicant should sign off that they understand the limitations of the club damage insurance and they will be responsible for the deductible.*
6. *Use of the boat in a race is not to interfere with full time club member entries.*
7. *Normal use of boat is once per week, added practices under approval of boatcaptain.*
8. *Boatcaptain approval is required for the transport of the boat to any race.*

Suggested fee: \$100."

The board members present supported the proposal and agreed that item #7 could be stricken from the proposal since there are already sufficient restrictions in place. This membership would need to meet membership requirements such as waivers, etc. Wilma was asked to gather votes via email from board members unable to attend.

Safety discussion:

- Flip Dates – ask Joe LaFreniere for dates in July and August and let members know.
- Need DVD of launch training to also include:
 - Basics – gas up, venting, etc.
 - How to rescue someone

Equipment discussion –

- If launch maintenance is needed, send email to equipment@merrimackrowing.org.
- Pontoons are not needed. Chur needs enough volunteers for LTScull sessions.
- Slings – folks with own boats should purchase personal set of slings and not use MRRA slings when attending out-of-town regattas.

Membership Update – Wilma

Total Members = 85 and expect to have more joining from LTScull.

Logbook – 39 → 41

LogbookOS - 4

Logbookpvt only – 6

Logbookstu – 3

Logoffpeak – 1

MSweep - 12? (does not include coxswain)

OSweep - 21 (does not include coxswain)

LTScull – 12

LTSweep – 6?

• Action item summary:

- (1) Collection of \$500 from USRowing – Jay will get PO # so that the monies can be located somewhere within UML. As of 6/4/12, the UML contact was identified as the Athletic Business Coordinator and Jay is pursuing.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilma Breiland, MRRA Secretary