

MRRA Safety Committee Agenda and Notes from Meeting held on March 12, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6 PM and adjourned 6:45 PM.

In attendance: Joseph LaFreniere, Mark Romanowski, Roland Meijer, and Bob Lynch (with input from Jay Feenan)

Safety Video shown at 6:15 pm

Signage at the dock: It was agreed that Bob Lynch would design a first draft for a sign to be placed inside the fence at a location visible to rowers and passersby. The draft will be circulated to committee members for comments.

Three items to be included are:

1. What to do if there is an emergency at the dock or on the water.
2. A reminder to rowers that before launching, they should check for rowing restrictions and safety advisories posted above the rowing log desk.
3. A schematic showing traffic patterns for rowers and location of the 2000 m sprint course.

Once this is completed, the committee will look into posting a detailed map of the river extending from the top of Tyng Island to the safety line at the dam. That map would clearly show no fixed hazards to boating. All agreed that it should be located on the outside of the boathouse at a location TBD.

Implementation of rower classification system: The committee discussed Joe LaFreniere's draft of the rower classification system. We agreed, in principle, with his criteria. He is going to prepare a second draft, in condensed form. Each member will be asked to examine the criteria and reply to us with their self-classification. We expect to agree with most of these self-evaluations. In cases where we do not have enough knowledge of an individual to agree or disagree with their decision, we will ask for input from the boat captain, it's board members or LTS coaches/volunteers. New members will be evaluated by the boat captain who, in-turn, will assign them to one of the categories. If a member wishes to appeal their classification rating, they may be asked to provide a letter of recommendation from a member of the rowing community who can attest to their skill level.