

MRRA Board Meeting

Chelmsford Library Conference room

Tuesday February 3, 2014

6 PM

Attendees: Karen Scammell, Bob Sengstaken, Jay Feenan, Bob Lynch, Bronwyn Chapman, Dottie Semonian, Dennis McCarthy

Agenda:

1. KLS update on USRowing regatta - Jay/Karen spoke with AJ from USRowing last week
2. Policy on reimbursing or paying for club members taking "training" classes. In particular - MSweep wants to take coxswain training @ \$85/head; add to this the consideration of paying for CPR/1st aid (not asked for this year, but we have paid for coaches to get certified in past and then they only coach for a month and are gone)
3. Committee updates - Equipment, Social, Safety (need to start showing safety video at meetings), Rack Policy, Membership/Programs
4. Rental of sculling equipment to UML, LHS for advanced individuals under supervision by coach

1. Update on US Rowing Regatta:

Date for U/S Rowing Masters Regional Regatta June 28th/ June 29th Festival Regatta
Joe LaFreniere will get Park Permit, and launches

US Rowing determines the referees, MRRA provides launches and drivers only

Would like to find 10-12 Launches

5 minute centers, events, worried about wakes

?Stationary referees

Non coxed will likely have launches

Possible use of Bass Boats, less wakes

MRRA Operations will also include

Police details, bathrooms, parking, permits, corse, stake boats, volunteers for start and finish, etc

US Rowing may require help with registration

****MRRA handles operations: ONLY**

US Rowing determines Registration, Events, Schedule, and Refereeing

Karen Scammell has list of core group volunteers: Karen Scammell, David Morley, Linas Alinskas, Bronwyn Chapman, Dottie Semonian, Joe Lafreniere

Operations for Regattas differ based on size, small, medium and large

Expect the US Rowing event to be about the same size as

Festival Regatta, about 300 entries (about 40-45 events).

Can manage about 400 with current Docks

Not requiring use of the beach

Plan Starting line from 1000 M mark for better viewing, Stake Boat start
Boathouse is available from Friday afternoon to Sunday PM

2. Policy on Reimbursing Members or paying for members courses

** CPR certification: Paid to have coaches certified in the past

Members have been allowed to attend class at own expense

Agree we should continue to pay for coaches to be CPR certified

Carl Popolo sent a note to the BOD asking for Coxswain Clinic given by Mary Whipple in March to be sponsored by the MRRA. Requested to send 4 members from the MRRA at \$85 each,

Two were HS students, two were adult MRRA members from the Sweep program

This lead to discussion about what type of programs the MRRA should sponsor or reimburse members.

Jay Feenan: Discussion about what the expectations, yield would be for this program?
Board Discussion, all in agreement that programs should be safety related, that are reimbursed by MRRA.

Reviewed the web site, Mary Whipple-Coxswain Clinic, offers instruction on speed and steering boat, racing, does not appear to have safety component

Board suggest the MRRA find a coach that is also a coxswain (Like Eddie Bruce).
Offer a coxswains clinic on a few Saturdays to the whole club, would pay for coach
Would be more inclusive, to any member interested as well as members who toe the 4X

*Bob Lynch will talk with safety about a program.

3. Committee Updates:

Coaches: Dave Cormier may have someone

Vee Platzer will check at CRI

Jason Holden will put add in Row 2 K

Colleen Erby- Graduating, will check at Smith program

Safety:

Chair: Bob Lynch

The Safety Video

Will be shown before the February, March and April Meeting

6:15 PM before General Meeting

Equipment:

Chair: Bob Sengstaken

Recruiting, need more volunteers

Dennis McCarthy, John Ballentine, Bob Bowen

Need to determine purchases, will use data provided by user logs
Consider purchase of Oars
Possibly replacing the older 2X

Awaiting decision on disbursement to the MRRA from TRR to determine equipment budget

Directors of the TRR decide on disbursements to LHS, UMass Lowell and the MRRA (based on volunteerism) TRR needs to maintain funds and have money available to purchase equipment.

TRR Directors have been discussing the purchase of more docks
2013 TRR worked out a deal with HOC, borrowed some docks, then HOC Regatta borrowed some of UML docks

Karen Scammell had discussion with Joe Lafreniere
To Consider: instead of making disbursement to UML, LHS, in 2014
Use the proceeds from the TRR to buy the wakeless launches
Would be added to the fleet at the Boathouse for all regattas

Social Committee:

Chair: Dottie Semonian
Recently met, working on a calendar of events for the season
Adding some social events after the General MRRA Meeting
Would like to have Beer Tent for the weekend for the US Rowing, Festival Regattas
Plan talk with JJ Boomers about using their venue

4. Renting sculling equipment to UML, LHS

Coaches David Cormier and Alex Gavriel, Have requested rental for advanced students.
Brief discussion at Member meeting in January
Want students to be aware they can join the MRRA, we offer student memberships
Need to verify UML and LHS aware of deductible for equipment damage \$1000
Verify their ability to pay for damage
Verify coaches would always be supervising, only qualified students allowed to use equipment, discussion about being able to pass Captains Test
Only certain boats would be available:
Peinerts, (not the light weight purple), Fisas, Vespoli 2X, Swift 2X
Not 4X or 4X/4-
Time of day would be limited to off peak hours, no weekends, would need to use log book
MRRA Members reserving equipment get priority
Need to determine cost for rental

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40 PM

