

# MRRA Monthly meeting

## April 9 2013

- Accept march meeting minutes
  - Review Equipment Committee/Board recommendations for Boat purchases
    - Approve 2013 budget
  - Inform membership of protocol during Univ/High School races in April and May
    - Review general boathouse procedures
    - Request Chair for Learn to Row Day Sat June 1st
  - Request committee chairs for Festival Regatta Sunday June 23rd
  - Committee updates: Safety, Equipment, Membership/Programs, Social, Boatcaptain
7. Other business as needed

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Motion to accept March Meeting Minutes approved.

Link Notice Sent to Members for viewing of full MRRRA Budget on web site

Members in attendance: (28) Jennifer Lown, Denise Bergeron, Jack Frackelton, Bob Lynch, Ginny Lafreniere, Marcia Beckett, Tom Regan, Tim Wheatly, Mark Romanowsky, Linas Alinskas, Sue Mathias, Terry Freeman, Barbara Sherman, Jody Decarolis, Mary Gail, Dennis McCarthy, Jay Feenan, Carl Popolo, Karen Scammell, Mike Poreba, Joe LaFreniere, Roland Meijer, Rich Connell, Chur Masors, Bob Sherman, Bob Slengstacken, Scott MacLellan, Dottie Semonian

# Equipment Recommendation 2013

Revised by Board April 1, 2013

# Summary of 2012 : Equipment

- No major equipment purchases in 2012
- Rented a Coxless, or "Straight" 4x/- from Vespoli for 2 months – cost was \$2,600
  - Allowed club to experiment with this hull type
  - Supported immediate racing needs for OSweep
- 4- Experiment Results
  - Successfully demonstrated ability to share 4x/4- between sweep and sculling rigging
  - Won Gold medal at Club Nationals
  - Placed 4th at Canadian Henley

# Why is a Convertible Quad needed?

- Allow sweep programs to row team boats when a coxswain is not available
- Increase ability for small groups of sweep rowers to organize rows
- Support future racing needs
- Increases MRRA rowing capacity without a corresponding increase in rack space
- 4- is the only hull type not available in the Bellegarde boathouse

# Equipment Proposal for 2013

1. Request \$25K for equipment purchases for 2013 (original plan in March)

- Allocate \$15K to improved three 1x's
- Allocate \$10K to upgrade the current HW 4x to a HW 4x/4-
  - Sell current 4X at end of season

2. Request \$35K

- Expend all available options to keep current 4X
- Assumption is that we can get OK and make space for 4X/- and allocate \$20K for 4X/-
- Allocate \$15K to improved three 1Xs
  - If space not allocated, reverts to option 1.

# Equipment Proposal #1

- First Purchase an upgraded HW 4x/4-, then at the end of the season, sell the current 4x
  - Contingent on temporary rack space being available from UML
  - Depending on timing of sale/purchase, club could see temporary benefit of two quads for the summer
- Search last year found 3 4x/4-'s comparable to the current quad for \$9,000-\$12,000
  - Estimated proceeds from Quad Sale: \$8,000-10,000
- Example Hull: Vespoli offering 2010 Demo M2 HW 4x/- for \$19,900
  - Net cost: ~\$10,000

# Equipment Proposal #2

- Increase request for Equipment purchases to \$35K
  - Purchase a 4X/- ASAP
  - Do not sell the current 4X this season
  - Purchase three new 1X (see 1X Plan)
- Completely contingent on getting space allocated in the boathouse
  - Requires the approval of all user groups – LHS, UML Women, UML Men and Boathouse director
  - Proposal is to add one 2X hanging rack, freeing up floor space along street wall
- If this approval to add a 4X/- is not approved, reverts to Option 1



# 1x Upgrade Plan Proposal

- Sell Peinert #2 (1987) – est. proceeds ~ \$1,000
- Sell Peinert #3 (1989) – est. proceeds ~ \$1,000
- Sell Fisa 1 (1994) – est. Proceeds ~ \$1,500
  
- Purchase intermediate MW
- Purchase intermediate HW
- Purchase intermediate SuperHeavy
- Net Cost: ~\$15k
- Equipment Committee to bring in demos of various boats, look at spare parts and raceability.

## Notes on the discussion about Equipment Committee/Board Proposals #1 and #2

- Karen tried to meet with the Boat House User Group before tonight's meeting to see if more space in the house may be available but this has been postponed another week or more
- The rowing user groups: UML Men and Women and Lowell High School , along with the Boathouse Director from UM L (Pete Murray) All must be in agreement regarding space. Currently looking at middle bay to possibly double hang - two doubles. This frees up floorspace along the street wall for 4-/X
- Discussion about other options: Some members would prefer not to sell the Quad at the end of the season.
- Would like to see if there is another option – note to membership is that Board only putting forth 2 options noted to move the process along.
- Some members prefer to keep the Quad, paid for and in good shape
- Some discussion about the allocation of \$19K for convertible 4+/- Wonder if buying a hull in the A\$10-12K range might make more sense.
- Discussion about when the Convertible would be out of the house due to Open Sweep Competition at Henley, US Masters
- Convertible would be Default rigged as a Quad; Open Sweep would convert to 4-
- Review of the cost of equipment and the need for every hull to be rowed 2 – 3X/ day to cover the cost.
- Learn to Scull depends on the Quad for the first few sessions so away races have to be scheduled around this.
- Adding Advanced and Intermediate Coached Sculling : Both groups would like to use the Quad in the morning
- Other members would also like to use the Quad in the Morning- have to schedule around coached sculling.
- **Vote taken on Option one or Option two: 20 MRRA members out of 25 voted for Option 2**

# MRRA 2013 Budget

MRRA Club Meeting

March 12, 2013

# Growth Programs / Revenues \$

**Note: with Option 2 passing – net Purchase increases to \$35K, Cash balance (projected) reduced to \$52K**

	2010	2011	2012	2013
<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Sculling	31,259	31,165	34,214	39,520
Sweep		15,025	22,966	29,190
sale boats	1,745	2,850	350	**12,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33,013</b>	<b>49,040</b>	<b>57,530</b>	<b>80,710</b>

<u>Expense</u>				
Operating	31,635	28,776	32,964	37,366
Programs		12,643	19,215	20,328
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,635</b>	<b>41,419</b>	<b>52,179</b>	<b>56,694</b>

<b>Income</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>7,621</b>	<b>5,351</b>	<b>**24,016</b>
(boat reserve)	(8000)	(8000)	(8000)	(8000)

Net purchase	(8,577)	(8020)	(2,730)	(25,000)
<b>Cash balances</b>	<b>32,073</b>	<b>48,775*</b>	<b>71,187*</b>	<b>\$62,203*</b> plus regattas*

# Protocol during University and High School Racing Season

- University races: Sat 4/13 and Sat 4/20
- Lowell High races: every weekend in May
  - Some bigger than others, but assume something going on
- Around Wed/Thurs on the website will be posted the expected start times for the races
- The advisory is to have MRRA off the water and off the docks 30 min before the start of the first race
- If you choose to row while a regatta is being held, you must
  1. Contact the boatcaptain for permission ([boatcaptain@merrimackrowing.org](mailto:boatcaptain@merrimackrowing.org)). He will advise you of the following restrictions.
  2. You must check in with Vee (Univ) or Jess Hayes Murray (LHS) for a proper time to launch that does not impede them
  3. Must be speedy on the docks (90 second rule)

# Protocol during University and High School Racing Season

4. Proceed upriver carefully following and deferring to the racing traffic; keeping close to starboard shore
5. When returning, MUST stop at the DCR boat ramp and look for the starting launch and WAIT for instructions.
6. The starter will let you know when it is safe to proceed.
7. Proceed as quickly as possible and turn in for the docks only when 100% clear and safe

# Protocol During University and High School Racing season

It is critical that we respect their races and  
NEVER impede a race

NEVER ignore a coach's launch or starting  
launch

Exercise extreme deference to the race,  
coaches, other boats.

You may have to sit at start for a while as they  
get their floating starts lined up!!

There will be consequences for violations

# General Boathouse Procedures

1. Plan is to have 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in May and June as Boathouse orientation days
  - \* boatcaptain or designees to assign
2. MUST close the gate when on the water. Not lock, just close. An open gate is like an invitation
3. The signal for all boathouse users that someone is still on the water are a set of slings on the tarmac. If you check logbook and you are last rower, bring in all slings and lock up.
4. Always return Bird Deterrent when last rower



# Opportunities for Excellence

Chair for Learn to Row Day – **Saturday June 1**

- Setup 9am; Land and Barge demos 10am – 2pm

Regatta Chairman and Committee Chairs for  
Festival Regatta – **Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- Starting line      \* Finish line
- Announcer        \* Dock masters
- Concessions      \* Medals
- Scheduling        \* Registration
- Marshalls – launch drivers and watchers

## Discussion on this part of the meeting:

### \* Need Chair for Learn to Row Day:

Will have help with advertising (Paula K)

UML Student will help with the Barge

Ergs and Music to be set up, other members need to commit to time slot to help

Social Committee will be at Boat House serving Coffee to the Learn to Scull Program this morning

### Festival Regatta:

Need Chairs

### Textile River Regatta:

Jay Feenan will not Chair this year, he will be available with cook books to work with other members

Brief discussion about the US Junior Nationals: Committed to Lowell for the next 3 years

Will be looking for volunteer support from MRRA

# Safety committee

- USCGA safe boating course: Saturday June 8th; 8 hour course at approx. \$20 pp
    - Location TBD – probably Lowell High Classroom
    - Sign up with Joe Lafreniere
  - Use of ANY launch in case of emergency – YES
- Keys to the Queen are in the boat – see boatcaptain if interested
- LHS boats all have same key, located on hooks
- MRRA keys are in the cabinet
- Launch training still being planned – stay tuned

Need Commodore: Responsible for care of the Launch

Jay will continue to take care of Gas

Weekend of May 18-19 Junior US Nationals Regionals

Members to be aware of schedule

Note from Laurie Wegner read to members: Thanking club for every thing done for Paul

Check Website for Masters Sculling (Linas Alinskas) and Competitive Sculling (Karen Scammell) details. With warm weather and good conditions, these morning coached sculling sessions will be starting in May.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 PM