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MRRA Meeting Minutes

16-AUG-05

MINUTES

Date 16 Aug, 2005, 7:00 pm

Place Boathouse
Lowell, MA

Attendees Ash, PaulM, JenC, JohnB, Wilma, Chur, StevenK, SeanMc, MarkMc, AnnB, JessicaDe, RayS, JohnW, JimG, LizA, DavidG, RolandH, BernadetteJ, JimPo, PaulaK, CarlP

1. Masters Nationals There was a brief ceremony to acknowledge all of the participants and medal winners from the MRRA at the Masters National Championships. See the [Aug-15](#) entry on the Members Home page to see the impressive list of hardware earned by MRRA members.

2. Boats Boatcaptain Bob:

- UML is looking forward to raising money for boats and the boathouse, they understand the benefit of an active sculling program to keep sweep rowers honest, and this should bode well for increased cooperation between UML, LHS and MRRA.
- General discussion about the possibility of MRRA buying a quad. Agreed that serious discussion could only occur when there is space for such a boat (hence the larger discussion of cooperation with UML and LHS). There's a quad challenge in the HO�R this year, and it would fun to have an MRRA entry. Maybe we rent another boat for the occasion. The quad challenge is intended to raise donations -- seats are \$250 each, and JimPo says that TRR will make half of the donation if we enter a quad.
- The V1 2x is off to L'ospitale Vespoli and should be fixed by end of September. In the meantime, Bob has announced **Courtesy Hours are in effect for the V2. Row the V2 at 6am, 7:15am or 8:30am for 1 hour 15 minutes max.** If we stick to this informal schedule, we should have enough 2x capacity for the short term.

- Ashley: Don't bring your shoes into the boats. All sorts of duck stuff ends up on the tracks and in the cockpit where it doesn't belong. Leave your shoes on the dock, and for best results, use cheap shoes so that if they're missing when you return, you won't be too disappointed.
- Water is still low. Avoid going past or near the Tyng rocks, or near the 1500m rocks below the boathouse on the south (far) side of the river.

3. Financial

JohnB explained that we have received Tax Deductible status with the IRS. This means we can raise funds and offer donors the tax deduction which makes their donations more attractive for them.

4. TRR

The balance of the meeting was dedicated to a TRR kickoff by JimPo.

- This is the last year for JimPo, Steve Garside and Ryan McDonough. Time for MRRA/UML and LHS to step up with fresh long-term blood, especially in the area of race timing. JimG and BobS both agreed to lead the charge of examining the software alternatives. Tentatively agreed that we would use Ryan's home brewed solution this year while new blood pays close attention. And we might have Regatta Workbench run in parallel during the TRR to put it through the paces.
- Insurance Coverage by USRowing. Jay/JohnB have been seeing to it that we are a registered USRA regatta so that we are entitled to all sorts of regatta-day coverages and other goodies. An email detailing this coverage was sent out to the BoD during the week of 22-Aug.
- Committee Chairs:
 - Docks - RayS
 - Launches - RickM
 - Registration - AnnB
 - Course - TimDerosiers/JeffB (UML)
 - Docks - TimDerosiers
 - Medals - PaulaK
 - Safety, Police, EMT - JimPo/CarlP
 - Start - Penard
 - Finish - JenL
- **NEXT TRR MEETING: TUE SEPT 13th 7PM.**
(replaces the normal monthly meeting).

5. Miscellaneous

Sept 18th: CRI is having a 20th birthday party 20k row. This is a fundraiser to benefit CRI and G-ROW BOSTON, the country's first rowing and mentoring program specifically for urban girls. Pick up a pamphlet in the boathouse drawer for more details. Note there is a typo in the pamphlet: The entry donation is \$20 per boat and \$200 per seat.

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