

WRRR BOARD MEETING

March 8, 2010

In attendance: Jeff Scheid, Mark Shupe, Jeff Renston, Kathy Whitford, Emily Shurilla, D.D. Meakin, Erik Murdell, Jim Ridge, Craig Gates, Justin Kershaw, Chrys Kozack, Sally Fahrenholz

Emily Shurilla moved to approve the February minutes.
DD Meakin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

WRRR REFUND POLICY

SUMMARY

- The WRRR refund policy is applicable to all WRRR programs, including SRL.
- The policy is as follows:

WRRR Refund Policy Statement (applies to WRRR program fees):

WRRR does not normally give refunds; however, special requests for refunds at the recommendation of the program chair will be considered by the Membership Chair and the WRRR Board.

Refunds will be minus the \$220 assessment paid to the Cleveland Rowing Foundation.

A pro-rated refund may be requested for program fees. The total program cost will be divided by the number of weeks in the program season; a refund will be given for those weeks that a participant will not take part in.

Please contact the WRRR Membership Chairperson for additional details regarding refunds.

- We will post the policy language on ActiveNet.
- The policy will be presented and the registrant must agree to it prior to completion of registration process.
- Refunds are pro-rated for the time left in program.

Jeff Renston moved to approve the refund policy. The motion was seconded by D.D. Meakin and was passed unanimously.

BUDGET

STATUS AND RECAP OF FEB 27 MEETING

- Feedback on budget was supportive at the February 27 meeting.
- The board voted unanimously to approve the budget.

OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER ROLES

CLARIFICATION OF OFFICER AND BOARD POSITIONS, COMMITTEES

- Erik Murdell is President of WRRR and is the face of the club to the membership.
- Jim is Vice President, handling external communication.
- Board President Jeff Scheid will handle internal matters and communication with Cleveland Rowing Foundation and will run board meetings.
- Erik and Jim need to be kept in the loop in all areas so that they can intelligently communicate and stay well informed.
- Outgoing president Kathy Whitford emphasizes the need for each board member to focus of a specific area of responsibility and that this needs to be known among membership.
- Treasurer – Mark Shupe
- Director of Rowing Equipment/Facilities – Craig Gates
- Secretary – Sally Fahrenholz
- Rec Rowing Liaison – Chrys Kozak
- Masters Rowing Liaison – D.D. Meakin
- Director of Rowing Development – Justin Kershaw

- SRL Chairs - Dixie Reiss, Sandy Wanchick, Jerry Gubeno and Amelia Radecki
- Membership Chair – Emily Shurilla
- Sculling Liaison - Tim Marcovy
- Guest Rowing – D.D. Meakin
- Sunday AM Extra Rows - Jeff Renston
- Growth Committee -- Craig, Erik, Jim
- Fundraising - Chrys
- Coaching - Justin, DD, Emily
- Communications - Jeff S, Sally, Craig
- Programs - Jeff R, Chrys, Mark

EQUIPMENT

STATUS AND ISSUES

- Equipment status will be included in weekly coaches' meetings.
- Any money being spent on equipment or repair needs to be presented to the board -- specifically for equipment or other non-program specific costs.
- Each program has a budget.
- SRL needs for equipment are significant -- we need to make sure there's enough equipment for SRL to operate properly. There should be a backup shell for each SRL session.
- We need someone to be to fix skegs this year.
- Coaching staff need to be mindful of conditions on the river on any given day and communicate to other coaches.
- There is a list of experienced coxies available to SRL who can also be responsible to communicate river conditions.
- Teaching SRL rowers more about boats may also reduce damage to equipment.
- Justin also intends to hold summer coaching staff responsible for maintaining a database of the fleet with a history of repairs, etc.
- Jim Mack has the newly purchased seats for the SRL 8. Craig will coordinate seat installation with Jim Mack.
- Craig will have a summary of specific equipment issues for next meeting, including his assessment of the singles (Wintech and Hudson) available for purchase from CRF.

COACHING UPDATE

SUMMARY

- Justin has been conducting interviews with Coach candidates.
- Some experienced coaches have volunteered to coach for free to fill gaps.
- There's been great support from the club members and rowing community, including college rowers.
- Payments to coaches could be tiered – we would probably structure payment by session for coaches and coxies. Justin is working on cost projections over the season.
- Administration is part of head coach's job -- lineups, etc.
- The majority of the women's Masters are very enthusiastic about the new coaching program.
- Justin has observed women's practice and has done some preliminary assessments, which were enthusiastically welcomed.

GUEST ROWER POLICY

SUMMARY

- CRF has issued a guest rower policy, which needs to be incorporated into ActiveNet.
- D.D. will take responsibility for the active net signup for guest rowers.
- Waivers need to be available for insurance purposes.
- The process should be:

- The guest rower contacts WRRRA to get a sponsor.
- The guest rower signs the liability waiver.
- WRRRA rep registers the guest on ActiveNet.
- We need to make sure waivers are available – clipboard with waiver forms will be kept near mailbox.
- Emily will work with D.D. to make sure info on waiver is what active net requires.
- Note: this policy is applicable for any participation -- including ergs.

CRF POLICY ON COACHES ROWING

SUMMARY

- CRF policy states that coaches cannot row unless a \$220 assessment is paid for each coach rowing.
- WRRRA wants the right to determine policy on coaches and coxswains rowing.
- We want to pay our fair share but need the ability to give out memberships as we see fit.
- We are asking CRF to reconsider this policy.

STRATEGIES FOR INCREASING MEMBERSHIP

SUMMARY

- JR, CG, and EM are working on membership development-- KW has offered to work on also.
- They will report on their activities at the next board meeting.
- SRL promotional materials are being prepared, consistent with rebranding of WRRRA and SRL.
- New promotional materials will be consistent across programs.

FUNDRAISING

BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL

- April 9 and 10th – Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour – The ski club has a table and we can offer promotional materials for rowing.
- We are discussing a partnership with the ski club, as our demographic is similar – we think the ski club membership may be interesting in rowing in the summer; they suggest that rowers may be interested in skiing in the winter.

POKER SHARK TOURNAMENT

- Chrys outlined an opportunity to fundraise through online charity poker tournaments, specifically Poker Shark -- <http://pokersharktournaments.com/>
- Charitable organizations are interested in this type of fundraising, which offers online play with credit card payments and wire transfers made directly to the charity's bank account.
- An online poker tournament to benefit CRF/WRRRA could be organized in a short period of time.
- Ideas include: rowing clubs or teams playing each other.
- Chrys is still testing the system for configuration and ease of play, assessing difficulty of play, etc. and appropriate stakes/buy-in parameters.
- This opportunity needs zero investment from WRRRA or CRF.
- Chrys will have a report for the next meeting.

Jeff Scheid moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Emily Shurilla.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

The next WRRRA Board Meeting is April 5 at the CRF boathouse.