

Upper Valley Rowing Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 5, 2013  
Murray Meeting Room, Howe Memorial Library, Hanover, NH

Board Members Present:

Eric Brooks, Rowan Carroll, Erika Dade, Jonathan Edwards, Paul Gross, Joanne Hayes, Liz Marshall, Louise Moon, Carin Reynolds, Dan Ruml, Janet St Germain

Board Members Excused:

Christopher Bordeau, Kevin Cotter, Sean Healey, Rosi Kerr

**1. Review of July 1, 2013 Minutes (Louise)**

Motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded and approved unanimously.

**2. Quad Policy**

Dan provided a draft of the quad policy and considerable time was spent in discussing it. As with racing doubles, there is a standard for approving quad use, particularly important given the potential speed of a quad and the fact that they are uncoxed. Four levels of approval to row and toe a quad were proposed. A rower must be able to scull a single and pass the Captain's test. Carin has spent time teaching people to become proficient toes. Additional practice time - more than a half hour - is helpful with someone more experienced in the boat. Approval for masters to toe requires lessons, practice, and good judgment. The toe decides whether to launch, the speed of the boat, etc. The most advanced level toe can teach others and can race on rivers other than the home river.

Who makes decision for unsupervised toe approval: coach (currently Carin has been certifying) recommends and then the UVRF president or president's designee makes the final decision.

Safety issues should also be made clear in the quad policy, such as not rowing in thick fog or when there is a lot of debris. It is recommended that the toe/bow person wear a bright shirt such as the Crewroom bamboo shirts to make the boat more visible.

Paid programs for toe certification will be offered. This will be a benefit when club singles are no longer available later in the season since there will still be quads that can be used. Therefore people can still row, it will be supervised, and no cox will be needed.

Dan will revise the quad policy based on our board meeting discussion and circulate a draft to board members for approval. Janet will post the policy once it is approved. Dan will also send a revised list of who is qualified as follows: (1) row in quad/non-toe (2) toe with supervision (launch in proximity) (3) toe

unsupervised (without launch) (4) tow quad racing and in areas outside the home river.

**3. Fee structure for extension programs and use of club boats (to be effective for next year)**

Postpone discussion until next meeting

**4. Sweep Programs (Erika)**

[see writeup of Kendal meeting from Erika last Friday, August 2]

Kendal status for Lebanon crew program:

Erika's email of August 2 is comprehensive. There was a very good meeting of various parties who are interested in use of the dock at Chieftan. Becky Smith is the Executive Director of Kendal and has been very supportive. Carin invited her to a practice. The Town of Hanover is interested in maintaining access to the river there. Issues: liability, maintaining the road, taking out the dock, the interim period before additional building, securing the site, parking, etc.

There is need for access approval for fall and spring sweep programs but the focus is on the fall season first. Kendal is willing to approve if certain conditions are met, including certification of insurance and dock removal.

The anticipated closing for the property transfer of the Chieftan is Sept 6.

Time frame: 3-4 years before Kendal builds there but they will shut the site down earlier. Hopefully we will maintain access to it, as may other interested parties such as Dartmouth, Town, of Hanover, etc. Regattas, especially the Hanover invitational, will hopefully continue to run from the Chieftan.

**5. Budget (Paul)**

Paul provided a budget report. We are in good shape right now, largely thanks to matching Prouty funds, but need to prepare for future expenses (see Fundraising below).

**6. Fundraising**

A fundraising letter went out in June. There was almost no response. We have received all of our designated gifts. We will need to make an effort this fall to raise funds to maintain equipment and to have sufficient funds in reserve to replace boats and equipment as needed.

A question was raised about whether the lower fees this year helped with program participation. Sweep rowers are the biggest beneficiaries of the lower fees. It made a difference in the novice program and for Lebanon parents. Further review of this will be done. Hopefully this interest will continue and be reflected in increased membership in the future.

We need to think about how we will approach fundraising. It might be helpful to ask for donations for a specific item, e.g., an eight or a Peinert, and there are naming opportunities which can draw interest.

Fundraising events: combine social aspect and fundraising. One idea was to have a party at Rowan's with Flamingos on Valentine's Day? ("Get flocked!")

**7. Website (Janet)**

The season ends for club sculling on Sept 14 (a change from the original late August date).

We need evening dock monitors. Janet will add a link to signup genius.

**8. Membership Requirements and Program fees**

More Learn to Scull sessions might be offered. We charge \$150; \$60 goes to the coach.

It is believed that some club scullers have not paid for a membership and are slipping through. We need to check the list of people who have signed out a boat daily or weekly and check their name with the membership list. An email will be sent to any non-paying members to remind them of the membership requirement.

Program fees do not cover UVRF costs. We should change our membership structure so that it is less confusing and so that we can cover our costs. We can charge a lower membership fee if we have more members.

Liz will send a reminder email to scullers (indoor and outside rack holders) to get their required 20 rows in.

Next meeting: The first Monday in September falls on Labor Day. Louise will send out a Doodle poll to find out the best meeting day.

Motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm, seconded, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Moon, Secretary