

MINUTES

Northwest Rowing Council
January 28, 2017
Rainier Community Center
Seattle, WA

Present: Dee McComb (Referee), Patrick Harbison (LOCR), Tiffany Knapp, Padraic McGovern (ERA), Dennis Ferrer (SRA), Dane Sellers (CIR), Nadia Petrova (ORU), Plamen Petrov (ORU), James Rawson (US Rowing), Matt Johnson (MB), Nick Haley (RCRC), Daniel Ellis (RCRC), Lenny O'Donnell (AMRC), Fleming Brainerd (NCC), Kirsten Flynn (OAR), Richard Hull (OAR), Bronyn Hellbach (SRA), Tom Kellett (CCS/Seattle Prep), Matt Lacey (PRC), Derek D Leau (SRC), Bill Clifford (PRC), Dan Packerd (CBRC), Liz Robinson (Lakeside), Jeff Igbal (Lakeside), Kelley Pope (SRA), Coby Stites (GLC), Brian Schulte (PRC)

Meeting brought to Order 10:08 am.

Opening Remarks

Dee opened with the agenda being flipped and breakout sessions occurring first for this meeting. Clubs not at the meeting will get a chance to vote electronically per the bylaws. 2 votes per club and will be 2 business days from the time the minutes and request to vote is posted.

Junior and Masters breakout sessions occurred, please see those minutes for details.

US Rowing

- James reported that there have been a lot of changes coming down from the board in the last two weeks as most of us have probably read on social media or in our emails.
- The biggest change that will affect the NW region is the board agreed on the changes proposed by the referees to change to the regatta schedule to start no earlier than 8 and end no later than 6 with a mandatory 1 ½ hour lunch.
 - For the NW master regionals, we can do it but we will have to lower centers to 4 minutes with no room for delays.
 - The new proposal will help with any delays
 - For NW youth regionals,
 - Our current schedule tends to run Friday 7-5:40, SAT 7-6:15 and Sunday is over around noon.
 - There is no option to negotiate with the referees
 - There are not enough referees to stagger lunches.
 - The regattas have to have 25% more referees.
 - It was asked what support US Rowing is giving to help with these changes.
 - US Rowing is now paying for travel and lodging (1 ref/room) of referees and will bring additional refs from outside the region if necessary.
 - It was asked who makes the final decision if something has to get cut or moved.

- James answered that he does.
- James reported that with resignations that recently occurred on the US Rowing board, one of the resignations was the NW representative. If anybody is interested, please apply.
 - Matt Lacey spoke regarding his concerns about the process.
 - The election is closed and appointed by the existing board due to the timing of the resignations.
 - Dr. Julie McCleary, a board member at PRC, is going to submit a proposal for the position. Julie has been an elite athlete, rowing at PanAM, and is dedicated to the growth and development of the sport, and is also currently on the National Coaching Alliance.
 - Lenny asked if Julie is the type of person who will be available and listen to people?
 - Matt answered yes, absolutely.
 - Matt is planning to write to the US Rowing board discussing his concerns with the process being so non-transparent and the new members not representing the needs of the individual regionals and also in support of Julie. Anybody that wants to be mentioned as a club that also supports his concern and Julie, to let him know and he will put the club as a footnote.

Minutes for the previous meeting (November 2016) will be voted on electronically.

Treasurers Report

Tiffany reported that balances have not changed since November. She will send a check to PVRA this week and other big expenses include the Regatta Box, our Non-profit, the Website and US Rowing membership. The balance after all that will be around \$10k-\$11k.

US Rowing Reports

US Rowing

James had nothing to add in addition to the previous discussion.

Referee Commission

Dee reported that there are a number of rule changes for 2017. They are not on the website yet and area also currently in the process of being published. They include:

- The Adaptive rowing rules that were advisory last year have be implemented.
- The weighing of athletes both masters and juniors are now the same as juniors were last year.
- The one hand release on footgear is gone.
- Broken equipment, the change will make it easier for the officials and the crew to allow time to fix broken equipment.

Youth Committee

Padraic had nothing to add in addition to the previous discussion.

Tiffany asked if the region would like to subsidize clubs that transport boats to nationals.

- The budget has about \$11k padding currently.

- In 2015, we approved \$2,500 or about \$13/seat.
- The consensus was that it was worth a vote and we will vote on it electronically.

Regatta Calendar

- Regattas should be sent rownwcouncil@gmail.com to be added to the Row NW Calendar.

King County Water Quality

- Tiffany mentioned that King County is updating their CSO (Combined Sewer Overflow) plan. That will affect anybody rowing on the large lakes around seattle. If you are interested to learn more or how you can comment, please contact Tiffany.

Meeting adjourned 12:48 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted.
Patrick Harbison