



ST. CATHARINES ROWING CLUB
2019 Annual General Meeting

St. Catharines Club, Ontario Street
January 22, 2019

In Attendance:

<u>Board of Directors</u>			
Brian Thorne	Bob Schenck	Mark Welsh	Rick Crooker
Theresa Woods	Louise Hastings	Brian Fisher	Tracey Newman (proxy)
Doug Kerr	Nancy Love	Marion Markarian	Michele Fisher
Lorna Hay-Gaudet	Larry Masse	Sam Baio	James Walker
Chris Blackwood	Michelle Kerr	Bob Ralph	
<u>Members</u>			
Kathy Powell	Eric Stevenson (proxy)	Matt Hingston	Dave Derry
Stephanie Brooks	MaryLynn Somogyi (proxy)	Janet Lancaster	Scott Anderson (proxy)
Tom Kent (proxy)			
<u>Others</u>			
Carol Purcer (guest)			

MINUTES

1) Call to Order

- Called to order at 7:00pm
- Quorum achieved (25 required) – confirmed by Brian Thorne

2) Review of 2018 AGM Minutes

- Noted by Michelle Kerr that under Items 11 and 12 in the minutes, the year was incorrectly showing as 2017 instead of 2018. Chris Blackwood to make that small adjustment to the minutes. Motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the 2018 AGM Minutes of January 16, 2018: moved by Bob Schenck; seconded Louise Hastings; and approved. The AGM minutes will be posted to the SCRC website.

3) President's Report – Michelle Kerr

- Report as tabled
- MK expressed specific thanks to the SCRC Board of Directors and Executive, Bob Ralph, Carol Purcer and Mark Welsh.
- 2018 was a year of many challenges for the Club: Rules of Racing changes; RCA/RO fee changes; Regatta Central changes; Regatta sanctioning; creating awareness among other rowing clubs about RCA/RO activities and decisions.
- MK recognized Mark Welsh for taking the initiative to involve local clubs in discussions with RO regarding policy and direction for the rowing community
- MK recognized another successful year of rowing for the club, coaches and volunteers
- MK thanked all the members of the club for the past six years in her role as President and looks forward to continue to serve the club as Past-President, rower and volunteer

4) Vice-President of Finance Report – Brian Fisher

- Report as tabled
- BF began by congratulating everyone for launching over 1,000 rowers in 2018. SCRC is recognized as a good organization by the community. BF thanked Michelle Kerr for her leadership over the past six years.
- A strict and disciplined financial approach in 2018 resulted in an operational surplus without compromising the operations of the club.
- Highlights of the past year include: Brian Thorne's modelling of the new seat fee structure; challenges involved in using Regatta Central's new regatta registration system; the Trillium grant to renovate six of the Rec Eights; successfully staging the CORA championship regatta; rower/crew success on the water; high school rowing credit courses; new motorboat launch ramp and motor storage building; financial contributions from Rec Rowing League and anonymous donors.
- BF wanted to especially recognize and thank Larry Masse for serving as SCRC Treasurer since 1987, and noted that Larry will be stepping down from that position in 2019

5) Treasurer's Report – Brian Fisher for Larry Masse

- Report as tabled (prepared without audit)
- Page 1 of report shows Total Revenue as \$358,025 and Total Expenditures as \$321,558 for an operating surplus for 2018 of \$36,467.
- Pages 2 – 4 show more detailed financial summaries for 2018. Revenue items of note include: membership fees; donations and grants; club programming income; Rec League contributions. Expense items of note include: RCA/RO registration and seat fee expenses; equipment purchases

6) Vice-President of Rowing Report – Bob Schenck

- Report as tabled
- Special thanks given to Mark Welsh, Michelle Kerr and Brian Fisher for guidance, direction and support in 2018; especially thanked Brian Fisher for help with regatta sanctioning; to Mark Welsh for his assistance in developing the high school rowing credit course at St. Francis and Holy Cross.

- Thanks to all lead coaches and assistant coaches for competitive. Thanks to all volunteers who contributed time and effort to SCRC events in 2018. BS noted that almost all coaches will be returning for 2019.
- BS provided highlights of the racing season (see report for details); especially recognized Brian Fisher (RO Coach of the Year), Gord Duncan (RO Male Umpire of the Year), and Buffy Alexander (St. Catharines Sports Hall of Fame Inductee).
- Future challenges include: the rising costs of the sport; seat fees, registration and regatta sanctioning; new requirements for coach training and certification; rowing safety.

7) Vice-President of Special Projects Report –Louise Hastings

- Report as tabled
- Special thanks were given to Tracey Newman (Tag Day), Nancy Love (Boat Christening), Lorna Hay-Gaudet and the Nuticelli family (Pasta Dinners at Henley), Mark Welsh (Head Coach/Club Manager)
- LH recognized Kathy Boyes for her “Good to Great” Coaching Award from the Coaches Association of Ontario; Brian Fisher, Coach of the Year from RO; Tammy Jacobsen and Gord Duncan, Umpires of the Year; and Long Service and Volunteer Award winners
- Of particular note this past year is the Trillium Grant that will be used to refurbish six Rec Eights; Pessimism surrounds the 2019 Government Grant programs still to be announced.
- Sponsorship for the Captain’s Dinner remains strong. The 2019 Captain’s Dinner will be held Saturday, April 6 at the Holiday Inn & Suites and will be chaired by Stephanie Brooks.

8) Club Manager / Head Coach’s Report – Mark Welsh

- Report as tabled
- Congratulated all the rowers from 2018 on their successes, especially gold winners at Henley, CSSRA and HOCA
- Special thanks to Ryan Malcowski for his third season of work in the shop
- Looking forward to the 2019 rowing season and thanked coaches, athletes and volunteers for their continued dedication to the club and the sport of rowing

9) Constitutional Items

- No constitutional items required attention

10) Approval of Actions of the 2018 Board of Directors

- Moved by Kathy Powell, seconded by Marion Markarian that on behalf of the St. Catharines Rowing Club membership, “to approve and endorse the actions of the 2018 Board of Directors; and thank them for the leadership and governance that they provided to the Rowing Club throughout the 2018 rowing season.” Motion passed

11) Nomination of New Directors and Election of 2019 Board

- Nominations for new directors were opened: Kathy Powell, Dave Derry and Matt Hingston were nominated for the 2019 Board. Michelle Kerr presented the slate of returning Directors: Louise Hastings, Brian Fisher, Bob Schenck, Chris Blackwood, Rick Crooker, Brian Thorne, Michele Fisher, Sam Baio, James Walker, Tracey Newman, Lorna Hay-Gaudet, Theresa Woods, Marion Markarian, Nancy Love

- Moved by Janet Lancaster, seconded by Nancy Love that nominations be closed; motion passed
- The slate of nominated and returning directors was acclaimed. Michelle Kerr will now serve in the role as Past President.

12) Election of Executive for 2019

- The slate for the 2019 Executive was presented by Michelle Kerr:
 - President: Rick Crooker
 - VP Finance: Brian Fisher
 - VP Rowing: Bob Schenck
 - VP Special Projects: Louise Hastings
 - Secretary: Chris Blackwood
- Moved by Michele Fisher, seconded by Brian Thorne to approve 2019 Executive as presented; motion passed.

13) 2019 Membership Fees – Brian Thorne

- Proposed 2019 fee structure was tabled and reviewed
- The fee proposals did not include the \$30 CHRC fee nor the harmonized sales tax (HST). The fee proposal includes an estimated RCA fee of \$45 and RO fee of \$25. SCRC will wait until both RCA and RO have finalized their annual registration fee structure prior to publishing its 2019 fee structure
- BT's review of other sizeable rowing clubs in Ontario shows that SCRC fees are still very favourable for all categories of rowing.
- Recognizing the uncertainty of RCA and RO 2019 fees, no motion to adopt the fee structure was made at this time.

14) Other Business

- Michelle Kerr provided her final information items for the 2019 membership to consider and take forward:
 - RCA is proposing to increase its 2019 registration fees at its 2019 AGM. RO will be asking for no increases to fees and will vote against any motions to increase RCA fees. RCA is running a deficit upwards of \$70,000. SCRC has given its Proxy to Peter Somerwil (Brock University) who will be attending the AGM
 - SCRC is affected greatly by fee increases due to the size of its membership
 - The 2021 Canada Summer Games is well into the planning stages; there is no update on the timing of funding and the start of construction of a training center on Henley Island <https://www.canadagames.ca/2021-canada-summer-games>
 - Rick Crooker was thanked for hosting several Board meetings at the St. Catharines Club in 2018-2019
 - Discussions continue amongst local clubs and RO regarding the training and certification process for Coaches. SCRC endorses the philosophy of coaching education and certification, but it must be on a reasonable schedule and cost. <http://rowingcanada.org/domestic/coaches>
- Rick Crooker, incoming SCRC President, noted the following:
 - Thanks to Michelle Kerr for serving as President for the past six years.
 - SCRC is an outstanding organization
 - He will be asking each Board Director to adopt a "focus" for themselves within the club structure, to expand the volunteer network and nurture future Board candidates
 - His personal focus will be fund-raising for the Club.

- The first meeting of the 2019 Board will be February 5, 2019 at the St. Catharines Club beginning at 7:00 p.m.

15) Motion to Adjourn

- Moved by Louise Hastings, seconded by Bob Schenck to adjourn the 2019 AGM; motion carried
- Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes by Chris Blackwood