



ST. CATHARINES ROWING CLUB
2020 Annual General Meeting

St. Catharines Club, Ontario Street
January 21, 2020

In Attendance:

<u>Board of Directors</u>			
Brian Thorne	Bob Schenck	Mark Welsh	Rick Crooker
Theresa Woods	Louise Hastings	Brian Fisher	Tracey Newman (proxy)
Kathy Powell	Nancy Love	Marion Markarian (proxy)	Michele Fisher
Lorna Hay-Gaudet	Dave Derry	Sam Baio	Matt Hingston
Chris Blackwood	Michelle Kerr		
<u>Members</u>			
Tanya Rodger (proxy)	Craig Kozun-Young	Jim Marino	Carol Purcer
Bob Ralph	MaryLynn Somogyi (proxy)	Janet Lancaster (proxy)	Scott Anderson
<u>Others</u>			

MINUTES

1) Call to Order

- Called to order at 7:00pm
- Quorum achieved with 26 members (25 required) – confirmed by Chris Blackwood

2) Review of 2019AGM Minutes

- Motion to approve and dispense with the reading of the 2019 AGM Minutes: moved by Michelle Kerr; seconded Jim Marino; and carried. The 2019 AGM minutes will be posted to the SCRC website.

3) President's Report – Rick Crooker

- Report as tabled
- RC expressed thanks to Board of Directors, Coaches and Athletes, Rec League Executive, Volunteers, Alumni and CHRC Executive, Ridley and Brock University Rowing Clubs, and SCRC Sponsors
- RC quickly summarized the various club successes through 2019 including the portfolio adoption by Directors on the Board, the HRR2020 initiatives and fundraising, the Corporate Rowing Event and possible future corporate training opportunities, Captain's Dinner, club regattas and success at Henley

4) Vice-President of Finance Report – Brian Fisher

- Report as tabled
- BF began by congratulating everyone for a successful 2019 rowing season, thanking all the people who volunteer their time at the club
- The 2019 financial year was positively influenced through the use of reserve funds that have been accumulating through various fundraising efforts including regatta parking fees and the silent auction. The Trillium grant to refurbish six of the Rec eights was especially significant and utilized to its fullest.
- BF recognized the many successes of club athletes at the Henley Regatta and other international regattas; and is excited about the opportunity created by the HRR2020 project
- BF wanted to especially recognize and thank Larry Masse for serving as SCRC Treasurer since 1987, and noted that Larry will finally be stepping down from that position and replaced by Nancy Love who will act as the Club Treasurer in 2020.

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

- Report as tabled (prepared without audit)
- Overall the club has a successful financial year in 2019 thanks to the strategic use of revenue surplus and reserve funds, increased donations and membership revenues.
- Page 1 of report shows Total Revenue as \$414,752 and Total Expenditures as \$396,978 for an operating surplus for 2019 of \$17,774.
- Pages 2 – 4 show more detailed financial summaries for 2019. 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 and Brian Fisher for guidance, direction and support in 2019; especially thanked Brian Fisher, Louise Hastings and David Derry for help with club-hosted regatta operations. BS noted the cancellation of the St. Catharines Invitational Regatta due to lack of boat entries.
- Thanks to all lead coaches and assistant coaches for the competitive season. Thanks to all volunteers who contributed time and effort to SCRC events in 2019. BS noted that almost all coaches will be returning for 2020.
- BS provided highlights of the racing season (see report for details); especially recognized Scott Anderson (RO Coach of the Year), Andrew Barry and Christian McAlpine (RO Athlete of the Year);

Ken Jasper Campbell (RO Umpire Lifetime Achievement); and Ron (Swede) Burak and Bill Schenck (St. Catharines Sports Hall of Fame Inductees).

- BS thanked Mark Welsh, Paul Beedling and Chris Wilson for their invaluable advice and contribution to the HRR2020 Rower Selection Committee.
- Future challenges include: the rising costs and increasing administration requirements created by RCA and RO for the sport; rising seat fees and registration for regattas; new requirements for coach training and certification; and 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); those involved in the organization and relocation of the Captain's Dinner to November 2019; those involved in the Come Home to Henley event during the Henley Regatta; Eileen McRae and Tracey Newman for the fall Bring-A-Friend Day open house; the SCRC Christmas Party; and thanks to Tracey Newman for lead on the new SCRC Information Day January 4 at the PEN Center and Fairview Mall locations.
- LH recognized all the RCA/RO award winners for the year (see report)
- LH reviewed the grant applications that are pending for the 2020 rowing season.

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

- Report as tabled
- Congratulated all the rowers and coaches from 2019 on their successes.
- Special thanks to Ryan Holland for his first season of work in the shop
- Special thanks to Kathy Powell for taking the lead on organizing the rowers' parents to help at away regattas.
- MW noted the passing of Brian Davis and recognized his lifelong connection to the club
- Looking forward to the 2020 rowing season, the HRR2020 experience; and thanked coaches, athletes and volunteers for their continued dedication to the club and the sport of rowing

9) Constitutional Items

- No constitutional items were presented. It was noted however that the last time the constitution was updated was 1994.

10) Approval of Actions of the 2019 Board of Directors

- Moved by Mark Welsh, seconded by Brian Thorne that on behalf of the St. Catharines Rowing Club membership, "The members approve and endorse the actions of the 2019 Board of Directors; and thank them for the leadership and governance that they provided to the Rowing Club throughout the 2019 rowing season." Motion carried

11) Nomination of New Directors and Election of 2020 Board

- Rick Crooker presented the slate of returning individuals nominated for the Board of Directors: Sam Baio, Chris Blackwood, Rick Crooker, David Derry, Brian Fisher, Michele Fisher, Louise Hastings, Lorna Hay-Gaudet, Matt Hingston, Nancy Love, Marion Markarian, Tracey Newman, Kathy Powell, Bob Schenck, Birna Thorne, Theresa Woods (for a total of 16). Nominations for new directors were opened: Craig Kozun-Young was nominated for the 2020 Board.

- Moved by Theresa Woods, seconded by Nancy Love that nominations be closed; motion carried
- The slate of nominated and returning directors (total of 17) was acclaimed. Michelle Kerr continues to serve in the role as Past President.

12) Election of Executive for 2020

- The slate for the 2020 Executive was presented by Rick Crooker:
 - President: Rick Crooker
 - VP Finance: Brian Fisher
 - VP Rowing: Bob Schenck
 - VP Special Projects: Louise Hastings
 - Treasurer: Nancy Love
 - Secretary: Chris Blackwood
- Moved by Michele Fisher, seconded by Brian Thorne to approve 2020 Executive as presented; motion passed.

13) 2020 Membership Fees – Brian Thorne

- Proposed 2020 fee structure was tabled and reviewed
- The fee proposals presented raised club fees by \$15 in all categories with the exception of boat storage. BT noted that club fees had remained unchanged for 2018 and 2019, and was recommending an increase to cover expected increases in RCA/RO fees and Cost-of-Living
- BT's review of other sizeable rowing clubs in Ontario shows that SCRC fees are still very favourable for all categories of rowing.
- Motion to approve the 2020 fee structure by Brian Fisher, seconded by Bob Schenck, and carried.

14) Other Business

- Michele Fisher provided a summary of the Marketing initiatives that the club has undertaken over the 2019 season. Report as tabled.
- Rick Crooker noted that while the club did not have as many young rowers in 2019 as they did in 2011, the registrations are on the upswing from the mid 2010s. We need to continue to promote the sport and the club, and all the benefits that the sport of rowing offers to its athletes, coaches and volunteers.

15) Motion to Adjourn

- Moved by Theresa Woods, seconded by Louise Hastings to adjourn the 2020 AGM; motion passed
- Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes by Chris Blackwood, Secretary

N.B. These minutes are DRAFT until approved at the 2021 SCRC AGM.