

The year 2020 will certainly go down in history as a year of Challenges. The disappointments of events being canceled, social distancing, lockdowns, and isolation. Society in general suffered greatly due to this pandemic and as a Sport, rowing suffered as every other sport and organization did.

When I was asked to fill in as Acting Club manager, I did so with the knowledge that this was not your "Business as Usual" season. We all know the hardships and the lows of the 2020 season.

However, I would like to rather highlight a season that I saw as showing the best of our sport and our dedication to our sport. We didn't see the usual number of regattas. We didn't see races against other Clubs. What we did see was the fighting spirit of the SCRC. A spirit we have been known worldwide for.

2020 saw as many as 95 rowers hit the water!! Imagine this, with nobody knowing if there would be any sort of racing or season. Yet we had 95 rowers!! We rowed first in 1X and then as health officials allowed, we moved into 2- and 2X, and then 4- and 4X's. It was amazing to see the dedication of our rowers making a great splash! And we did have our Competitive Training rows... a time-trial followed by a head to head row. And we rowed against Ridley and Brock!! and we did Great!!

To the Athletes, I want to say Congratulations and a job well done.

But all this could not happen without the dedication of the finest coaching staff any Club could ask for. From the program Lead Coaches to all the coaches that assisted... They made this season happen!! I cannot express my appreciation and gratitude enough to the fine Men and Women who guided our rowers in a year of Covid!! The athletes you trained will surely remember the experiences and personal growth they gained this year through your guidance.

Our equipment held up well throughout the season as we had few issues. Everyone was able to get on the water whether it be in 1X or 2X. I feel this experience will pay off for these rowers in years to come should they continue to row!!

I also want to thank the volunteers, our summer student Pat, and all the members of the SCRC Board of Directors who assisted with the various tasks that needed to be done at the boathouse given our Covid protocol requirements.

I also want to thank Mark Welsh, our former Club Manager. Mark left the SCRC in great shape and well organized. It made it seamless for me to move into the Acting Club Manager position! Thanks Mark!!

I also want to thank Bob Schenck and Brian Fisher, our SCRC Rowing Committee, for all their help and guidance throughout the season.

In closing, I want to say "Thank You" to all those that supported the SCRC on-water programming. The cooperation and dedication of our athletes and coaches has put the SCRC in great shape moving ahead.

Thanks for a strange but great 2020 season!!

Jim Marino  
Acting Club Manager