

# ST.CATHARINES ROWING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HEAD COACH/MANAGER & BOATMAN REPORT

2016 some new challenges when the rowing club addressed what we considered to be some unsafe practices. Although the changes took a while to get massaged so that it made sense for the athletes as well as those trying to keep the club safe, it was a much needed exercise. I want to thank everyone for their patience while this project was administered as well as for the many conversations that I had with folks. It was these talks that made the process evolve into a safer environment for us all. I look forward to continued talks in 2017 with anyone that would like to further discuss safety or any other topic.

A very exciting addition to the workshop in 2016 was my assistant Ryan Malcowski. Ryan did outstanding work with all chores around the boathouse as well as learning to drive trailer and some boat repair skills. I am certainly hoping that Ryan is able to return to the workshop in 2017 as he was a pleasure to work with.

As always it is the volunteers that deserve the most thanks and the most credit for the success of the rowing club. I wish I had the most poetic Hallmark type of words to express myself when I get the opportunity to thank the many coaches, board members and regatta staff. There are literally hundreds of you and thousands of hours that deserve all the recognition that can be mustered. It is annually my goal to do what I can to allow all volunteers to take on a role that makes them happy to be at the boathouse. Whether it be to sit in a coach boat, rig boats, fix motors etc., I do my best to take care of the other stuff that others don't want to do so that the volunteers enjoy their time at the boathouse. In 2017 it is my goal to continue to provide whatever is needed to the coaches so that they are happy with their time in the coach boat. Whatever new idea is out there, let's discuss how we can make it work.

I am looking forward to some new lead coaching assignments in 2017. Kathy Boyes and Michele Fisher are trading roles between JrA Women and Sr Women, there will be a new JrB Women lead as well as looking to fill some gaps with masters and para coaching. I am excited about the 2017 coaching staff and once again will be eager to help in any way that I can.

Good luck to all athletes, coaches and volunteers as you all work toward your goals for 2017.

Thank you



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