



Westerville Rowing Club
DRAFT January Board and Coaches Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2025, 6:30pm
Westerville Community Center, Westerville, OH 43081
Minutes prepared by Allison Marshall

- **Invited Attendance**

- Present:

- Chair- Jeff Latimer
 - Vice Chair- Melissa Kappes
 - Secretary- Allison Marshall
 - Treasurer- Bruce Binnig (also Master's)
 - Members-At-Large:
 - Jeff Klima
 - Victor Rosenberg
 - Coaches:
 - Howard Bruss: Director of Rowing and U14 Head Coach
 - Grace Bordner: Women's Head Coach
 - Cory Henderson: Interim Men's Head Coach
 - Betsy Binnig: Masters Coach

Motions Made During Meeting

- Motion to use Boathouse Connect for three months trial, then another 3 months after. Will ask for follow up in April. Seconded. Passed 6/6.
- Motion to have a booth at the Camp Expo Feb 20 @ Columbus summer camp and job fair @ Polaris. Seconded. Passed 6/6.
- Motion to put our Discover rowing camps in digital guide for March through July, sent to 230K families. Seconded. Passed 6/6.

- Motion to give away a single for silent auction raffle item at Casino Night, as requested by the Fundraising Committee. Seconded. Defeated 0/6.

Minutes

1. Budget
 - a. Discussion about the masters segment trialing Boathouse Connect to determine if it's a suitable replacement for SportsEngine.
 - b. Motion to use BHC for three months trial, then another 3 months after. Will ask for follow up in April. Seconded. Passed 6/6.
2. Coaching
 - a. Discussion about communicating information about the coaches' approach to training with families, with the goal of increasing transparency and educating parents.
 - b. Discussion about coaching structure in Spring season.
 - c. Discussion about plans for a club-wide process for selecting captains/leadership (Juniors Men and Women). Will finalize the plan over summer with the goal of implementing in Fall.
 - d. Discussion about upcoming recruitment events:
 - i. Camp Expo Feb 20, Columbus summer camp and job fair @ Polaris. Also has a digital guide that goes out to thousands of parents in the area.
 - ii. Motion to participate in the above event. Seconded. Passed 6/6.
 - iii. Motion to put our Discover rowing camps in digital guide for March through July, reaching 230K families. Seconded. Passed 6/6.
 - iv. Next Discover Rowing day on Feb 22.
 - v. Recruiting at Genoa middle school Feb 5/6.
3. Programming
 - a. Coxswains:
 - i. Discussion about plans for viewing Coaches and Coxswains conference content.
 1. US Rowing says it's not available yet, but will be on YouTube.
 - b. Regattas
 - i. Spring Season
 1. Discussion about readiness of Spring hotel blocks.
 2. Discussion about coaching plan for Spring regattas.
 3. Discussion about possible scrimmages for Junior Men's and Women's teams.
 - ii. Summer Season
 1. Discussion about Summer season regattas.
 - a. MCI not happening this year due to overlap with RowFest.
 - b. Discussion about Juniors and Masters attending RowFest.
 2. Discussion about Dillon and what it will take to successfully host this year.
 - a. Dillon is extremely important to the club and is a top priority.

- b. We show the rowing community what kind of club we are through the quality of our event.
 - c. For U14, which is $\frac{1}{3}$ of the athletes in the club, Dillon is the ONLY race of the summer.
 - d. Volunteering is key, a critical need. Need all families to provide time and energy to contribute to the success of the event.
 - e. Hosting regattas is a huge untapped potential for fundraising over and above profit from entries etc. Sponsorships, partnerships, etc.
 - f. Motion to give away a single for silent auction raffle item. Seconded. Defeated 0/6.
- iii. Discussion about hosting another Hoover regatta and the possibility of partnering with other clubs.