

**Nashville Rowing
Masters Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting of August 31, 2016**

Present: Meg, Al, Jan, Emy, Bethany, Jess
Guest: Sean W

The Masters Advisory Committee met on August 31, 2016, at 7 pm Meg's house. The following is a summary of the discussion:

1. Meg reviewed the minutes of the last meeting and they were unanimously approved.
2. Shawn raised the issue of a payment plan for masters program fees. Jess and Al said we are working on a policy on this.
3. Member Jenn Core had sent a couple of items to review with the committee:
 - a) Need a sufficient number of working lights for the evening practices;
 - b) Need more cox boxes and they need to be charged.Jess said that Eric said he would buy more lights and three more cox boxes as soon as we resolve the charger problem.
4. Bethany had received a number of member concerns at practice and brought them to the committee's attention:
 - a) Missing porthole covers on several boats;
 - b) Shoes need fixing in the Invictus, Maun and Goo;
 - c) We need a maintenance day at the lake;
 - d) Collars on sculling blades have been moved so they aren't at a normal length and are hard for some people to use;
 - e) Need an organized uniform swap day;
 - f) Consider walkie talkies to communicate between boats;
 - g) Need better communications to new members, such as a new member packet. Meg and Emy agreed to work on this; Jess will review before publishing;
 - h) Bob Franks is willing to come to Nashville and offer sculling lessons. Jess said we would need to clear this with Eric. She will ask him about it. The group discussed including his services as part of Nashville Rowing's learn to row options for people who want to learn sculling rather than sweep rowing. The committee agreed this was an urgent need. Jess agreed to talk to Eric but also suggested we use experienced scullers from the club to give lessons.
 - i) There was a request that invoices be sent 30 days prior to the payment due date. Jess said she would work in it.
5. Jess reminded everyone of the Chipotle fundraiser on 9/24 and the Narcos fundraiser at MBA on 9/28. She said we need to get masters to participate so we can sell 550 seats.
6. Emy updated the committee on the Tennessee Gorge Row in Chattanooga on September 10. She said we had permission to load the boats we need prior to the juniors' practice on the 9th.
7. We need to get some new masters trained and qualified to drive the trailer. Right now, only Don and Dietmar are certified. Jess agreed to talk to Eric about the requirements so we can figure out how to get at least 2 more certified drivers.

8. Al raised the issue of a masters leave of absence policy. Al provided a written proposal. It would apply to people returning mid-year. It would need to be used sparingly. There were a number of questions. Al agreed to work on it more and bring it back to the next meeting.
9. Jess informed the committee that we may be able to make arrangements with Harpeth Hall or another location for Saturday morning practices on days when we can't row on the water, but there must be a commitment of at least 10 people to cover the cost of the location. Winter training arrangements have been made and are set.
10. Dock extension - Al reported that Ryan Alles, a junior member, will organize the building of the dock extension on Sept 25. He will need many masters to assist.
11. Jess reported that the fall head race season is updated on the website calendar. We will need volunteers for the Music City Head Race on October 1. Al will send out a request for volunteers.
12. There was general discussion about the masters program calendar and the invoicing process. We reviewed Kren's proposal from an earlier meeting regarding moving the masters spring season to include Southeast Regionals. Jess agreed to talk to Eric about it and then take it to the Board if there is interest.
13. Destination regattas -no further activity has taken place on this. Jess does not think we should so sprint racing February because we will not have had sufficient preparation. She did say she would look into the Clemson race and the San Diego crew classic.

The meeting adjourned about 8:45.

Meg Mazzone