

**WRC Annual Meeting**  
Saturday, January 11, 2025  
Moreland Presbyterian Church

**Meeting called to order at 10:00am by President JP Gianotti**

**In attendance on site:**

JP Gianotti	Steven Rice	Phoebe Shen
Brenda Saling	Sophia Holbrook	Sarah Risser
Corinne Brooks	Lori Jensen	Kat Setter
Mark Olsztyn	Michele Gamburd	Julie King
Fred Steward	Richard Williams	Steven Rice
Petra Callin	Katie Brower-Wojda	Adrienne Kringer
Hannah Rudoff	John Rudoff	Jeff Meyerhoff
Sarah Copeland	David Setter	Scott Smith
Jenny Withycombe	Adam Withycombe	Steve Winnett
Jim Kratochvil	Jamie Finn	Lyndsay Finn

**In attendance by Zoom:**

Jann Byrd

**1. Opening Comments: JP**

JP thanked the team, and Board, for a great year. It has been an honor for him to serve our Club this year in this capacity. He recognizes we, as a team, have our challenges, but we are headed in the right direction. A special thanks to Michele, Scott and Julie for reviewing the dues structure and submitting their recommendations going forward.

JP received a well-deserved rousing round of applause for his dedication and service to WRC and it's members.

**2. Treasurer's Report: Michele**

See attachments below, many of which were available at the meeting, as well as on line.

\$20K is in the bank; our "rainy day" fund, as well as revenue from our CD. We should not see an increase in our USRA dues since we are privately insured.

See 2025 income (\$91,000) and expense (\$89,930) attachment.

We now have 2 launches and are waiting for a second slip to become available at the marina at PRC (Portland Rowing Club).

We will continue to add 15% to regatta fees for the "stuff that happens" at regattas.

Scott reminded all that we are not a for-profit organization and as such raise dues to cover our expenses. The Board voted to stop assessing fees for the annual ORU erg purchase.

**3. Captain's Report: Jenny & Richard**

**Jenny**

Much of what she shared was in her end of the season newsletter. Please be aware that housing costs have increased significantly over last year, but still less expensive to stay together (AB&B type).

Regionals: approx. \$110-120/night/person, and Covered Bridge: approx. \$80/night/person.

She counted 53 members between 26 (AA) and 80 (J) years young. 25 women and 28 men. Holiday Challenge – 11 team members completed the 100K, and 14 completed the 200K. 8 people less this year than last. In total WRC logged 4,056,365 meters, 335,524 more than last year.

Spring/Summer Sprint Season – 5 regattas, 98 events, 63 medals, 17 golds, 14% increase in medals over 2023, and 27 more events than 2023.

Fall Head Season – 5 regattas, 34 events, 24 medals, 10 golds this is 20% less medals than 2023, but more races entered. 9 more events than last year.

All our HOCR boat qualified for guaranteed spots for next year, including Jenny who finishes 4<sup>th</sup> in the Club Single event, and our 2x4+.

We are seeing a higher attendance rate on practice days, which is great.

Team members are asked to be proactive and consider their personal and team goals. Where do you see a need for your personal improvement? Consider meeting with the coach or captain to discuss and plan.

**Cardiovascular** endurance enhances stamina during long rows

**Strength** boosts power and efficiency

**Flexibility** supports proper range of motion, reducing injury risks and optimizing your performance

**Mental Training** sharpens your focus and resilience under pressure

**Technique** improvement here ensures every stroke is effective and energy efficient.

Each of us should have a personal, and team goal. The better we are as individuals, the better the collective team is.

*“For the rest of your life, you will always be able to say I was a member of a very special team whose whole was greater than the sum of its parts, and it was one of the greatest experiences of my life”.*

## **Richard**

Open to feedback on what we would like to see on/in the training plan. The “plan” is about to ramp up in intensity in anticipation of the spring season racing schedule. Erg scores required to race going forward, but do guarantee a lineup seat. They must be completed on time as noted by coach and or team captains in order to be considered for lineups. Suggestion: don’t waiting until the last minute and then missing the deadline. **No** exceptions.

New Concept 2 Challenge - the 4702m erg race that must be completed between January 27<sup>th</sup> and February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Get \$15 to Richard to cover the entry fee. See Richard if interested in joining the fun!

## **4. Coach’s Report: Adam**

Thank you. His goal is to be present and to improve each year – give him constructive feedback. He has been at 81 turn outs (coaching sessions). He is meeting with individuals and is working to provide suggestions for improvement. He stressed that each of us should have a goal we are actively working on/towards; know the goal and what will help you improve to reach it.

Strength training sessions with Pete (trainer) are now up to 10 people. Always open for more to join. Erg session attendance is more consistent. Practice today had 32 out on the water.

We are now ½ way through the winter training/racing plan. We are working on cardio-strength, but will begin to transition.

Team accountability – you owe it to your teammates to train and show up fully prepared to race. Racing in March and April will be here sooner than you think! Keep pushing yourself!

### **5. Membership Update: Scott**

Same number of members as last year: 55

He tells us he gets numerous requests for information (100-200 annually). New person tomorrow: Grace.

### **6. Equipment Update: Richard**

He shares Bill has 2 pairs he pays rack fees for that are available to the club – second pair isn't being used. Bill doesn't want to continue to pay the rack fees if we are not going to use it. Should the team buy it, then keep or sell? information on rack space (keep or lose), what do we need/want to purchase next? Sell? Richard is in favor of replacing the Deaux Cheveaux (2x/2-), and The Byrds (8+). Thoughts? We sold the Mimosa a few years ago instead of The Byrds – is it time to sell it? Julie inquired about taking The Byrds to events like regionals to rent out to make some money for the club. We have 4 new sets of sculls. Richard is looking for and open to feedback.

### **7. Racing Committee Update: Steve & Jamie**

Be more proactive about scheduling regattas. See the new policy regarding required erg test scores submissions in order to race – House Rule #14. Phoebe asks that the erg tests be added to the calendar.

New regatta – Vancouver Spring Sprints (March).

Flow chart:

Captains and Coach set line ups, and submit to the Race Committee.

The Race Committee reviews them for consensus.

Once line ups are set, that is the lineup that will be raced.

We (the team) need to understand we may not get to race every race we would like to, or in every lineup we personally want.

We are reminded to respond to the Google Spreadsheet if we want to race!!!! Do it now!

Sarah Risser asks a good question about required erg score submission regarding races like Opening Day which is a 2k. Should those wishing to race be required to submit a 2k to establish readiness? Many in the room seemed in favor though no vote was taken.

Anyone interested in racing in Boston at the HOCR in October 2025 – Meeting 2-15-2025

### **8. Social Committee Update: Hannah & Katie**

Annual Dinner is rapidly approaching – be sure to RSVP! Now.

Auction – fill in the form if you have anything to add, or see the QR code, or Hannah.

\$80/person.

Dim Sum and Karaoke Night (separate events) on the horizon. Phoebe will add to the Fit Club calendar. If you wish to plan an event, see Hannah or Katie to get it on to the WRC calendar and out to teammates in a timely manner.

### **9. Safety Committee Update: John & Phoebe**

AED Training – January 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> or in February. Required videos to watch (**NO** short cuts on this). There are 2 sections: Cardiac, and then everything else.

John will head the cardiac session (AED instruction, CPR instruction).

Phoebe will run the other session (full safety protocol to be put together). Let Phoebe know if you would like to be part of this committee. USRA Safety Video to watch as well.

Launch driving course for safety and expectations coming.

### **10. House Rules Update: JP**

We now have a second launch. We will use it for safety and possibly for a second coach.

Jenny encourages everyone to consider the boater safety course to acquire their 'Boaters Safety Card'. Highest volunteer need is often for launch drivers. We have a handful of teammates who do this regularly at regattas.

Comprehensive boating training: \$60. Usually takes less than 4 hours to complete.

### **11. Uniforms and Nominations Update: Jann**

<https://rivalkitusa.com/collections/willamette-rowing-club>

Checked in with team member regarding the new team store. Has it met their expectations? Is it easy to use – user friendly? Great response. I appreciated it was easy to navigate!

Questions? Contact Jann at [Motherbyrd1@comcast.net](mailto:Motherbyrd1@comcast.net), or at practice, or cell (360) 609-2764.

### **12. Elections & Voting on Prestigious WRC Awards: Jann**

Hannah has the ballot. Please vote – lots of nominations!

I want to thank my teammates - it has truly been an honor to serve as Secretary for my teammates and WRC all these years. It's time to step away and explore other areas where I can contribute.

Julie King has expressed an interest Secretary. She'll do a wonderful job and is running unopposed.

Petra Callin is running for VP/PRES/Past Pres. She will also be amazing in this role! She, too, is running unopposed. I know the team will be in good hands under her leadership.

Michele Gamburd does a phenomenal job as treasurer is running unopposed.

Jenny Withycombe is an incredible, hardworking leader for the women's team and is running for Captain unopposed.

Richard Williams is an experienced, steady voice as the men's team captain (except when teammates want to name boats after booze. Tanqueray and Tonic anyone?). We value his leadership. He is running unopposed as well.

The Willamette Rowing Club has elected the following officers for 2025:

Past President: JP Gianotti  
President: Phoebe Shen  
Vice President: Petra Callin  
Secretary: Julie King  
Treasurer: Michele Gamburd

### **Final Remarks**

Thank you to David for his work on the web site.

We are going to try to use Fit Club more. New House Rule – Required erg tests to be eligible to race. Sign up on Fit Club by the deadline of 6PM. If you check “maybe” on the spread sheet, it will be changed to a no. Notes on Fit Club are visible!

Jenny has control over the site, but NOT personal profiles (your rowing side, age, etc).

President JP adjourned the meeting at 11:26am (PT) 2:26PM (EST)

*For the last time on my watch, these Minutes are respectfully submitted by,  
Jann Byrd*

