

**Willamette Rowing Club
Board of Directors Meeting
September 20, 2025**

A brief Board meeting was held on April 27. Team Captains, Richard, and Adam were also invited. The topic was our growing membership and how to keep our numbers high but manageable while we retain our collegial culture. Capacity is 60 seats per practice and the

highest number we have recorded is 45. It was decided we will be both more deliberate and more deliberative in choosing new members. In addition to Scott and Adam vetting prospects, team captains will also do informal vetting. Additionally, Board members are encouraged to engage with prospects after practice and at coffee hours. We will not offer membership to prospects until they have rowed with us for several practices.

Phoebe mentioned that the safety committee is working with Adam to determine guidelines and expectations for when our rowers who have a boater safety card are called on to drive our launches.

The Aswepe was damaged in transit to Cascadia and it was determined that replacing it will be more cost effective than repairing it. Richard found a pair/double Vespoli that appeared to be a good boat for us and the Board decided to allocate \$3K from club funds for the purchase. Richard is investigating further.

President's Report

- Please do not put decorations on the boat including flags.
- The Board should start planning for the Annual Dinner now. Hannah is looking into an alternation location.

Treasurer's Report

- Finances are in good shape, likely to end the calendar year with a modest surplus ~\$7K.
- Discussion about increasing dues by 6% in 2026. (Richard mentioned that Oaks Park has agreed to hold rack rates steady through 2028.)
- It is important to keep the club anticipating dues increases that track with inflation.
- Suggested we contribute to the effort to eradicate milfoil on Vancouver Lake.

Boat Manager Report

- Richard purchased a 4+ for \$5K that the people who have rowed it feel it is a better boat than the Brown.
- Consider replacing the C2 smoothie sweep oars with the wooden handles. Probably would want to fund raise (~\$300/oar?, set is ~\$2400 prepainted red)

Captain's Reports:

- Per Jenny, WRC team 'efficiency' has improved from previous year. Medal rating has also improved.
- Per Richard, please be as forward focused in communicating when plans have changed and race lineups need to be changed. Last minute changes by one person cascade into multiple changes and a lot of work for our race planners.
- Reminder to be kind and assume good intentions.

Trailer Report (Fred):

- Let's add more people to the list of people who can drive a trailer and give them training starting with driving around the Oaks Park parking lot as practice, and then serving as a

- Discussion about increasing safety practices. See accompanying document. Particularly creating a log book for the trailer on maintenance, etc.

- Adam would like to be Level 3 recertified. Cost is \$750 for the course, but also requires a full weekend (in Seattle or CA) which means travel costs, and hours of “student teaching” which is difficult given Adam’s full coaching schedule.
- Second launch: Adam has been working to get the second launch out and running, working well.
- Adam is considering what training is needed to get people comfortable as launch drivers.

- TestFest was a big success, both helpful and fun. Let's do more in the future.
- Phoebe is toying with the idea of a weekend away (like Suttle Lake outings of the past) to do more testing, and for more team fun.
- We will continue twice-annual safety events.
- White board at the front of the boathouse that shows water and weather conditions will be filled in by safety committee members particularly for winter conditions.

- Created a bulletin board/white board for details team related concerns. Brand is assisting in building a place for coxboxes to live.

- 57 members currently
- Added 10 full or associate members since March.
- Having prospective members row 4 times before we and they make the decision to join us.

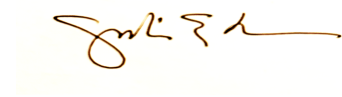
- ★ David Setter for creating and uploading the new member form, it's working great.
- ★ Scott for the amount of time and effort spent on membership.
- ★ Trailer committee for working hard to keep our boats and equipment safe.
- ★ Safety committee for organizing and executing a fabulous TestFest.
- ★ Finance committee for continued attention to our costs and cash flow.
- ★ Jann and Bill for their many volunteer efforts on behalf of WRC.

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Items to be considered at the next WRC Board Meeting:

Developing job description for the equipment manager.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in orange ink, appearing to read "Julie King", is positioned above a light yellow rectangular background.

Julie King, Secretary
WRC Board of Directors