



**Willamette Rowing Club
Annual Meeting
January 10, 2026**

The Annual Meeting of the Willamette Rowing Club took place at the Dance Pavilion at Oaks Park. The meeting was called to order at 9:32am.

Members in Attendance (in person or via video): Phoebe Shen, Petra Callin, Michele Gamburd, Julie King, Jann Byrd, Mark Brubaker, Fred Stewart, Bill Byrd, Lyndsay Finn, Scott Smith, John Rudoff, Adam Whithycombe, Sarah Copeland, Steven Rice, Callen Jackman, Alex Carlton, Jamie Finn, Hannah Rudoff, Lars Ripley, John Alberti, David Setter, Alison Ellsworth, Kat Setter, Grace Arsenault, Stephani Gordon, Brenda Saling, Steve Winnett, Sarah Rice, JP Gianotti, Fred Stewart, Jeff Meyerhoff, Richard Williams, Jenny Withycombe, Katie Brower-Wojda, Jim Kratchovil

Treasurer's Report: Michele

- Michele moved and Scott seconded a motion to pass the proposed budget for CY 2026. The motion passed unanimously.
- Please see the following documents for Michele's complete report.

Captain's Report: Jenny & Richard

- In 2025, we added 5 women and 5 men to the team.
- 12 members completed 100K meters in the Holiday Challenge; 12 members completed 200K; the indefatigable Steve Winnett completed 335K meters.
- As a team, we logged over 4 million meters throughout the year.
- We competed in 5 Spring regattas, entered 114 events, and won 70 medals.
- We competed in 5 Fall 5 regattas, entered 36 events, and won 18 medals.

Coach's Report: Adam

- Adam increased the number of practices he runs per year from 75 in 2024 to 85 in 2025. Adam expects to coach at about 100 practices in 2026 and to give more individual feedback and coaching.
- The team is getting faster. Many personal bests were achieved this year in all racing categories: 1, 2, and 5Ks. Keep up the good work!

Membership Update: Scott

- Several hundred inquiries were fielded throughout the year.
- 10 new members were added bringing our current membership to 58.
- An addition to the vetting process this year is having prospective members attend 4 practices before they are eligible for membership. This allows for greater vetting from both the prospects and the Board.

Equipment Update: Richard

- One boat loss this year, the Aswepe. All other boats are in good condition.
- Richard is looking to replace wooden handled sweep oars which the club has had since 1998. After borrowing newer style oars from Lewis & Clark to add to club knowledge, it was decided to purchase plain-edge, smoothie 2 blades. Richard will purchase the new set. No decision yet on what to do with old blades.

Racing Committee: Steve W.

- Steve Winnett is stepping down as Chair of the committee and leaving the committee altogether. Sarah Copeland will assume the role of Chair. The committee is open to new members.

Training Committee: Richard

- New workouts are in the works. Richard is consolidating feedback from the team into new plans which will include more sprint work and interval training.
- An effort to make the Empower Oarlock system available to the entire team and to codify the data for maximum efficiency is underway and will be rolled out in 2026.

Entertainment Committee: Hannah & Katie

- Annual Dinner is January 31 at St. Irene's

Social Media Committee: Hannah & Grace

- More social media updates will take place in 2026.
- David Setter has been a big help in forward propulsion.

Uniforms: Jann

- For racing, uniform kit purchased from Rival Kit and Regatta Sport are the only manufacturers the team will use in 2026 and beyond. JL is acceptable IF the colors match our current color scheme as laid out by Jann in a recent email and if there are chevrons on the sides.
- Please see the coxswain corner where the cox boxes are now kept. Big thanks to Brand for building the rack.

Safety Committee: Phoebe

- A new safety policy has been written and is published on our website. It will be discussed in detail at our safety meeting on Feb 21.
- Steven Rice created an elegant and useful version of our safety matrix to show whether weather and river conditions are safe for rowing. Look at 'Can I Row' on our website to see wind, water speed and flow, and water temp. Thank you, Steven.

Board Election:

- 3 options for voting for Board members and Team Captains were offered to account for people physically at the meeting and those who attended online. Voting was completed. Congratulations to the 2026 Officers of the Willamette Rowing Club:

President: Petra Callin

Vice President: Mark Brubaker

Past President: Phoebe Shen

Treasurer: Michele Gamburd

Secretary: Julie King

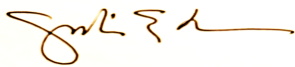
- **Team Captains** will be Jenny for the women and the team of Richard and Jamie for the men.

WRC Awards: Jann

- Hanna is coordinating the voting for team awards which will be awarded at the Annual Dinner. Voting will conclude at 5:00pm, Jan 10.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54.

Respectfully Submitted,



Julie King, Secretary
WRC Board of Directors