**Newport Sea Base Rowing Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 21, 2022 – 8:30 am (via Zoom)**

**Mission**

Rowing changes lives. At Newport Sea Base Rowing (NSBR) we are dedicated to fostering a community that is both welcoming and supportive. Under the banner of Rowing for All, we make rowing accessible without regard to individual ability, race, color, background or experience. We seek to raise the standard of rowing programs through internal excellence and to share our knowledge and expertise with others for the advancement of the sport at all levels.

**Committee Members**

Patricia Robbins - Chair

Robert Cunard – Vice Chair

Kristen Chadwell – Membership

Candace Long-Lerno - Events

Kc Campbell - Fundraising Chair

Lisa Fox - Equipment Chair

Ian Simpson - Director of Rowing

James Long-Lerno – Sea Base Director

Lacey Shelton – Rowing Director

**Proceedings**

| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion Notes and Next Steps** |
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| **OCBSA Update** | Liability insurance is likely to be reinstated next week – which will enable charter schools to come back in. The absence of that insurance had meant that some school districts and charter schools could not contract with us.  The Sea Base is going to pursue NCAP accreditation – another layer beyond our current American Camping accreditation. It will be more stringent and will lead to more focus on our facilities. Staff will be starting work on the process. James reported that this will help us develop clearer ongoing plans for maintenance and improvements at the Sea Base. |
| **Youth Rowing Report** | The Holiday party went very well – per James. We will look to do it again.  The Parent meeting was efficient. The big issue was travel – and safety protocols for it as a result of COVID. One result is that we will allow kids to travel with their families instead of the team if they prefer. This was reiterated in the recent newsletter.  There was a recent issue with the boys squad which required a team meeting. The issue has been resolved, and things have gone well since.  All the programs have had team meetings. Additionally, the girls had one on one meetings with their coaches. |
| **Future Race Plans** | We discussed the Desert Sprints because it’s not clear if many other squads will be attending. James will be contacting other squads. After discussion, we determined that it is still best for the junior squad to attend the race in Tempe – even if the competition is less robust. The kids miss travelling, and going to this race will be good practice for the entirety of a regatta.  The Long Beach races may be cancelled. The Faultline Faceoff is cancelled.  Juniors will be going with a full squad to the Crew Classic – in various boat classes not previously raced. |
| **Facilities and Equipment** | The double and quad the masters recently fundraised for are being purchased – as is an additional quad which should better fit our high school boys. They could arrive in mid-February. We are also buying some new sculling oars.  We are going to add a new gate to the rowing dock. We will be adding more safety features to all gates. Our new gangway is probably going to be installed in February. We have a new lock system for the restrooms which is password-protected. James also wants to add one to the gym.  We need to replace or repair our water bottle filler. |
| **Fundraising** | KC is working on getting Google grants. She is waiting for our 501c3 status to clear. |
| **Upcoming Events** | Ergathon: food is squared away. It will be similar to what was prepared for the Long Beach event. We’re going to upgrade the activities and entertainment – but not as much as originally hoped as a result of COVID.  Aside from Ergathon, Candace wants to begin work on the banquet. Candace will arrange a call with the coaches to clarify the vision.  June 4: National Learn to Row Day. Do we have interest in participating? It could be a good marketing tool for us. We’d cap it at 32. It would be a good chance for our parents to try rowing. We decided to go ahead with planning it. Nguyet Tran Overby will coordinate it. Lacey indicated that our assistant coaches should be able to help on that day. |
| **Health Protocol** | We are going to require that rowers traveling to events get tested for COVID before traveling. Riding together in vans and sharing hotel spaces does create a need. Participants will have to test 24 – 48 hours before the event. Parent volunteers will also have to test as well.  Parents have suggested that we should begin doing our own regular testing for juniors at the Sea Base. We discussed whether running a testing program at the Sea Base would be useful. This would be difficult, and James feels that the Scouts’ leadership would not be in favor of this. |
| **Roundtable** | We’d like to start buying more oars. New sculling oars are on order. Further on, we’d like to buy new sweep oars. |