

RCBC General Membership Meeting

11/13/2024

Call to Order: 7:31 pm

Board Members present:

- Sherry Noud, RCBC President
- Phil Vargas, RCBC Program Director
- Rob Graveline, RCBC VP Ops1
- Frank Stuyvesant, RCBC VP Ops2
- Brandon Booher, RCBC Treasurer
- Ellen Valentine, RCBC VP Administration

1. Welcome & Introductions- Sherry Noud, RCBC President
 - a. Welcomed members and reviewed the meeting agenda.
2. Program Director Updates - Coach Vargas, Girls' Varsity Coach & Program Director
 - a. Coach reminded the group that Winter conditioning begins 11/25 (change due to VHSL calendar governing out of season activities for Spring sports).
 - i. 3:00pm-5:00pm - Boys Team
 - ii. 4:30pm-6:30pm - Girls Team (can wait in Coach Vargas' classroom, E103, until practice begins)
 - b. Grow the family (crew may be an additional option for students trying out for spring sports)
 - c. Erg Sprints, 2/1/25
 - i. Early bird pricing now at [Erg Sprints](#)
 - d. On the water practices start Presidents' Day, 2/17/2025.
 - e. The team will practice during Spring Break. Please plan accordingly.
 - f. Introduced coaches on the call (Coach Cath, Coach Corcoran) (Not on call: Coach Petty, Coach Dale)
 - g. Discussed winter conditioning training.
 - i. Includes weight training and Erg training; don't underpack for practice and bring plenty of fluids.
 - ii. Winter conditioning is open to all.
 1. Anh offered to create a recruiting flyer, since it's open to all students.
3. President's Updates - Sherry Noud
 - a. Highlighted the schedule start date, showed the Regatta Schedule, and recommended that all add to personal calendars.

- b. Discussed Structure and showed Chain of Command for Program Resolution. Any concerns about the team should be communicated first to the coach for the applicable boat. If concerns are not resolved, they should be communicated to the applicable head coach, Coach Petty for boys and Coach Vargas for girls. If concerns are not resolved, they should be communicated to the Director of Student Activities, Mr. Jimmo. Any concerns about the membership obligation should be discussed with members of the RCBC board of directors.
 - c. Highlighted Leadership Team - Board of Directors
 - i. Present board members introduced themselves.
 - 1. Frank and Rob – VP of Operations - volunteer opportunities coming up soon; emails will be sent in the coming weeks.
 - 2. Brandon – Treasurer
 - 3. Ellen – VP of Administration
 - ii. Sherry highlighted vacancies; Three open board positions, VP for Membership assists with recruitment, maintains the team roster and plans swim tests. Secretary plans board and general membership meetings, takes minutes and handles other board correspondence. At-large Finance serves as Assistant Treasurer and will hopefully move in the Treasurer role next year.
 - 1. Looking for parents that have at least one year's experience with the team.
 - 2. The by-laws on RCBC website outlines duties and responsibilities for the positions.
 - d. Introduced Leadership Team - Lead Volunteers
 - i. Highlighted Volunteer Positions and Vacancies
 - ii. There are several open lead volunteer positions.
 - e. 35th anniversary of Robinson Crew - 1990-2025
 - f. Revised handbook and standards of conduct
 - i. Includes student code of conduct.
 - g. Discussed master calendar.
 - h. Please join Slack when you receive an invitation.
 - i. See www.robinsoncrew.org for bylaws, meeting notes, helpful information.
4. Team Financing and Registration Fees - Brandon Booher
- a. Discussed 2025-2025 Season Registration Fees & Payments (\$1,250 Total)
 - i. 1st installment – December 6, 2024 - \$375
 - ii. 2nd installment – January 3, 2025 - \$300

- iii. 3rd installment – February 7, 2025 - \$300
 - iv. 4th installment -March 7, 2025 - \$275
 - b. Discussed why crew is so expensive.
 - i. Robinson Crew is completely self-funded and receives no money from Robinson Secondary School or Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS).
 - ii. The RCBC fees are relatively low because of strong volunteering and generous contributions by our community and families like you.
 - c. Discussed where the money goes.
 - i. Administration (5.2%)– QuickBooks, VASRA membership, boat registrations, State Commission, accountant, USPS, etc.
 - ii. Boat Storage (5.6%)– Storage racks inside the boathouse at Sandy Run
 - iii. Insurance (6.7%)– Property, Liability, Catastrophic, Directors & Operators
 - iv. Equipment & Maintenance (17.6%) – Racing shells, ergs, launch boats, motors, oars, riggers, seats, etc.
 - v. Payroll (27.9%) – Our coaches do not receive additional salary from RSS or FCPS.
 - vi. Regatta Expenses (27.9%) – Fees paid to enter each rower and boat in regattas.
 - vii. Other (9.1%)– Fundraising fees, team building events, additional coaching expenses, etc.
 - d. Discussed Stotesbury Cup Regatta
 - i. It is like the Superbowl of regattas.
 - ii. It takes place in Philadelphia on the Schuylkill River.
 - iii. Usually in mid-May, the same weekend as Robinson’s prom, but RCBC makes every effort to ensure students can attend prom.
 - iv. Post-season event – determination made by coaches mid-March and then there will be an additional cost for attendees (lodging, transportation, food).
 - e. Annual Financial Review (RCBC Internal Audit)
 - i. All books and accounts shall be reviewed at least once every year.
 - ii. Need 2 out of 3 volunteers.
 - iii. The review shall be completed by the end of the calendar year.
 - iv. The results of this audit shall be made available to all standard and contributing members.
5. Membership Obligation - Ellen Valentine

- a. Was 10 and 2 and may go up but will not exceed 12 points.
 - b. The membership obligation for families with two rowers will not exceed 18 points (1.5 times the membership obligation for one rower). The membership obligation for three or more rowers will not exceed 24 points (2 times the membership obligation for one rower).
 - i. Clarified that points do not equal an hour; they are based on time and effort.
 - 1. A list is being finalized and will be circulated once complete.
 - c. \$200 obligation is on top of registration fees, but there are opportunities to lower the personal costs.
 - i. Ergathon
 - ii. Raise Right Scrips
 - iii. The RCBC will assess members a fee of \$50 per point for any shortfall at the end of the season.
6. Volunteer Opportunities - Ellen Valentine
- a. There are several volunteer opportunities.
 - b. Contact Ellen or Sherry through Slack
 - c. Volunteer positions are advertised on Slack.
7. Upcoming Volunteer and Fundraising Events – Sherry Noud for Paige Wroble
- a. Restaurant benefit nights almost every month
 - b. Need parents interested in coordinating for Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, and May; reach out to Sherry or Paige for ideas.
 - c. Recent Fundraising Events:
 - i. Carwash
 - ii. Bridal Show
 - d. Add Upcoming Events to your calendars:
 - i. Paisano's - Dec. 12
 - ii. Bridal Show -Jan. 19
 - iii. Erg-a-thon - Jan. 29 (tentative)
 - iv. Bundt Cakes - Jan. 8 and pick up Feb. 10
 - v. Tag Day is the largest fundraiser - Jan. 25 & Feb. 8 (mandatory)
 - 1. \$23k net revenue in 2024 from 2 days knocking on doors; and additional checks that were mailed.
 - e. Ongoing:
 - i. Raise Right — Enter Code: 8LC961A62146
 - ii. Corporate sponsorships
8. Corporate Sponsorships - Kate Mattice
- a. Platinum - \$2,500 and Bronze - \$500

- b. Currently, we have 2 platinum sponsors.
 - i. ITC Federal
 - ii. Fitness Together
 - c. We have 4 bronze sponsors.
 - i. Peter K. Cocolis Jr., DMD, PLC
 - ii. Ryan's Landscaping
 - iii. DDG
 - iv. Wendroff & Associates, Certified Public Accountants
 - d. Our sponsorship goal is \$10,000.
 - i. Last year, we were shy of the goal and had 13 sponsors.
 - ii. So far, we have 6 sponsors this year.
 - iii. We need help recruiting more companies; places where you personally connect, and the company needs advertising.
 - iv. We are helping the companies by giving them ad space in the QuickCatch.
 - v. We will design T-shirts and a banner that has all the Company names.
 - vi. If you know companies that want visibility, reach out to them.
 - e. This is another way to get after the \$200 membership requirement. Members receive a credit of 10% of the sponsorship amount to be applied to fundraising membership obligation.
 - f. The money raised here helps us obtain the necessary equipment for the rowers.
9. Shared the General Membership Meeting Schedule
- a. December 11, 2024 - @ Robinson
 - b. January 15, 2025 - Virtual
 - c. February 12, 2025 - @ Robinson
 - d. March 12, 2025 - Virtual (Polar Bear Regatta 3/22)
 - e. April 9, 2025 - @ Robinson
 - f. May 2, 2025 - @ Robinson (Board Elections and Stotesbury Parent Meeting)
10. Spirit Wear & Uniforms
- a. Scan the QR Code.
 - b. It is open year-round.
 - c. There is a current coupon code for 25% off full price items (unsure when the code expires).
 - d. Will work with Coach in next couple of weeks to create a uniform package for novice rowers.

- e. We will have items like duffel bags at the in-person meetings.
 - f. Spiritwear Coordinator will work with rowers for measurements and submitting orders before hitting the water in February.
 - g. Anh asked about the splash jacket. It is the same website as Uni's, Regatta Sport.
11. Operations Update, Frank
- a. 8 Ergs are now ready for sale, put up first to General Membership. 7 regular Ergs for \$300 each; 1 dynamic Erg for \$500.
 - b. A brand-new Erg costs \$900-\$1000, so this is a good deal.
 - c. Reach out to Frank, Rob, or Brandon, if interested.
12. Questions
- a. Revised handbook in the works and will be disseminated upon completion. Rowers and families need to sign the code of conduct.
 - b. Final membership requirement – members and nonmembers are reviewing the carpool system. There will be an update for the December meeting.
 - c. Ellen will share points list and this year's tracker in the next two weeks.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:31 pm

Next meeting: December 11, 2024 - @ Robinson

Submitted by: Rebekah Stuyvesant