



South Island
Rowing

Newsletter

Issue No. 1
Date: August 2010

Principal Sponsor



meridian

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Facilities
Course Hire
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The AGM is now over as is the SI Masters Regatta. This time of the year with shorter days and very cold temperatures means that a lot of the activities take longer to do and the enthusiasm tends to be at a lower ebb. Never-the-less Projects continue as does winter training for the keen few.

In spite of the changes and delays we have experienced, the Management Committee have purposed to progress the development of the facilities at Lake Ruataniwha. It is rather unfortunate that we are undertaking such a development when the main focus for Rowing in New Zealand has to be the World Champs. as far as Rowing in New Zealand is concerned. But once the hype and glamour is over, the results of this quiet and persistent development will be realised.

Course

While the course is down and the lake available for training the key ingredients of the course that require upgrading have been left in the meantime. This is not the time of the year to be working on the course. However, we are accumulating materials that will allow that to happen nearer Christmas when the weather is warmer.

SIR AGM

This year the AGM was held in Timaru and we all sincerely thank the Timaru Rowing Club for hosting this event. It was very good to note a full compliment of Delegates and the interested individuals who are keen to see Rowing in the South Island flourish. It was great to have representation from the NZSSRA and the NZRROA as well. The absence of any representation from Rowing New Zealand was noted.

While there was a lot of discussion about various aspects of the SIR operation, there were some key points that the Management Committee will take away from the meeting. One key point was the issue of communication and the fact that this is a two way process. The Management Committee were remiss in not fully conveying the information to the Delegates in a formal manner and this does make it difficult for them to undertake their governance role. But conversely, there has been a serious lack of feedback from the outgoing information from the Management Committee as well. This includes, letters, minutes, reports and even this newsletter. Our newly elected Chairman resolved to improve the Management Committees activity here and called upon the Delegates to do likewise.

There is a perception that Local Associations are responsible for the running of SIR and there have been reports that Local Associations are being "blamed" for the various actions or inaction as the case may be. SIR is run by the Management Committee who are elected by Local Associations. It is this Committee that runs

Academy

Progress with the Academy building continues. But this time of the year when temperatures are so low and the whole environment rather uninviting, the rate of progress is slow. However, we all need to recognise the efforts of Trevor and Catherine Wilson , Mike and Gaynor McClelland and Mike Hennessey with the progress they have achieved. At the last count, the buildings were all in position, "glued" together and made weather proof.

Now is the time that the internal work has to progress and there is quite a lot of it. The first task was to get the electrical side in place and fully operational. This is now well advanced but we do need to get the telephones and the internet in place.



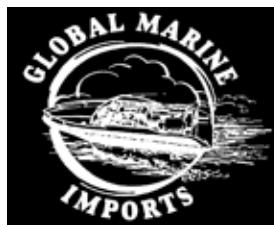
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Although unfortunate, the communications cable to the main complex has been damaged and we do have to replace it. We are awaiting more cable for this to occur. Similarly, the plumbing also needs to be upgraded. This includes paraplegic access. For those who may not know, this is a serious amount of work at the space requirements are well documented and difficult to integrate into an existing building. It also means that ramps have to be installed as well. All this costs and takes quite a bit of time as well.

Regatta Dates

This rather lengthy debate about the dates appears to have been resolved and below are the agreed dates for this season. It is recommended that these dates be locked in to your programme.

| DATE | REGATTA |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 02/10/2010 | Ruataniwha R2 K |
| 03/10/2010 | Mainland Interprovincial |
| 16/10/2010 | Aoraki 1000 |
| 17/10/2010 | Aoraki 1000 |
| 20/11/2010 | NZ Masters Twizel |
| 21/11/2010 | NZ Masters Twizel |
| 11/12/2010 | Meridian Otago Championships |
| 12/12/2010 | Meridian Otago Championships |
| 15/01/2011 | Meridian Canterbury Champs |
| 16/01/2011 | Meridian Canterbury Champs |
| 29/01/2011 | Meridian SI Champs |
| 30/01/2011 | Meridian SI Champs |
| 15/02/2011 | Nationals |
| 20/02/2011 | Nationals |
| 12/03/2011 | Meridian SIS |
| 13/03/2011 | Meridian SIS |

Reporters Diary

The MacRae Lounge has also been having a make over. The Row Shoppe has been transformed into a small area that can be used as a bar. It is anticipated this will have quite an impact on the utilization of the lounge. The result is shown on the picture below.



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FUJI XEROX



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Sponsors

With the new buildings comes new opportunities for signage and sponsorship. SIR is very keen to hear from interested parties wishing to take up this opportunity.

The New Zealand rowers go overseas for competition and during this time, they visit various rowing facilities in other countries. Our Chairman was overseas recently and returned with pictures of some overseas rowing facilities, and in particular Belarus.

The pictures of the permanently established courses and training facilities are what we could only dream of. Yet, this makes it even more remarkable that we can produce the worlds best rowers. This is in spite of shoe string budgets and very limited resources. It also gives us some goals to head towards.

It is quite true that many sports are now finding that funding is a major issue. The requirements of improved facilities, the impact of legislation that regulates almost every aspect of our living and sporting regulations that require legal advice to interpret them means this simple voluntary organization is becoming a thing of the past.

Further the volunteer organizations developing, operating and maintaining these facilities are seldom even acknowledged and coupled with reduced sponsorship the way forward appears to be rather difficult. For those using the facilities, please recognise the fragility and look after them.

Working Bees

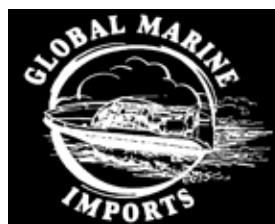
There will be working bees and the last one was the last weekend of August and the next one is the weekend of the 18th of September. We need those with some trade experience to assist and Trevor Wilson has already been emailing out to get volunteers. If you can help, please contact Trevor.

Some of you will have seen the TV 1 interview with the volunteers at the lake and will have noted that both Trevor and Catherine were up there assisting the team to start and get the facilities ready for the World Championships.

A number have noted that even the interviewer could not get over the closeness of the rowing community and that people would be able to come from Twizel to assist. Such is the rowing family. Sadly though, there were very few younger ones assisting here and this is perhaps a call to anyone wanting to become involved, please make contact with the appropriate organization.

We are looking for additional single beds or bunks. If you have any surplus ones, please let us know.

If you have any contribution or comments to make please send it to the Secretary at SIR.



Rule Comment

There is confusion and misunderstanding of rules within the rowing community. SIR has asked senior Officials to highlight some of these rules and explain how they are applied. If you have any questions or doubts: Ask an official! They are happy to help.

Rule 25 - Protest

| | |
|---|---|
| How does a crew protest? | A crew must make its protest immediately after the race and before leaving the boat. This is done by raising an arm (coxswain or any other crew member) to attract the attention of the race umpire. The race umpire shall then ask the crew for the reason of the protest. He will inform the chief judge by raising his red flag and then explain to the chief judge, why the result shall not be published. |
| What can a crew protest against? | A crew claiming that the race has been improperly run. This means that the crews had not the same conditions to finish the race or not the same chance of being placed. Any other reason shall be given to the starter or race umpire before the start (like a crew change that was not announced) so that they can check this. Again, raise your arm to attract the umpires attention! A protest against an entry shall be made to the race committee before the first heat. |
| Can a crew protest against a change in the qualification system? | A protest is always possible, however if the change does not change the chance of being placed it is unlikely that the protest is successful. |
| What is the crew's responsibility? | The crew or its representative shall confirm the protest in writing to the race committee. This has to be done within one hour after the race has finished. The statement must set out facts and reasons for the protest and pay a deposit. |
| How will the race committee deal with the protest? | The race committee will communicate with all parties involved and ask for their statement. Based on all available information the race committee announces its decision not later than 2 hours after the last race of the day. |
| The crew capsizes after the finish and is not able to raise the arm. How do they protest? | Under these circumstances a protest can be raised within one hour regardless of raising the arm. The reason for raising the arm is to inform the race umpire so he can make his notes immediately while the race is still present and he has not to try to remember the race with a delay. This ensures a fair procedure with the protest. |
| What happens if the protest is successful? | The race committee will announce the decision and the deposit is paid back. The decision can include a re-row of the race at any time during the regatta. |
| What happens if the protest is not successful? | If the protest is not upheld the deposit shall be forfeited to the regatta committee. An appeal against this decision can be made to the local association running the regatta within eight days. |