



NEWSLETTER

February 2009

After a successful inaugural season, Chelsea Boat Club had quite a bit to celebrate this year. Our new home at the Marina at American Wharf was the launching point for getting our experienced members back on the water doing what they love, as well as introducing the sport to a good number of new rowers. Of course none of this would have been possible without the assistance of Lou DePina, director of the Norwich Recreation Department and our dedicated members (and even a few family members) who volunteered their time to coach, cox, operate the chase boat, trailer the boats, and attend to the numerous behind-the-scenes responsibilities necessary to operate a successful club. Thank you to all who have helped build a strong foundation for Chelsea Boat Club to expand upon into the new year!

2008 Highlights

New Shells

In addition to the fours, Norwich Recreation purchased three singles and a double. These smaller shells allow for greater flexibility – everyone can get time on the water regardless of the number of available rowers present. Many members took advantage of the opportunity to learn how to scull and thus became acquainted with the freedom that sculling offers.

Racing

September 14th marked our club's first entry into competition. CBC entered a Women's Masters 4+ as well as a Men's Youth 4+ in the Coastweeks Regatta held in Mystic. Despite a long cold wait at the start, and rainy conditions, our Youth boat was all smiles after completing what was for most of them, their first race. The ladies in our Masters boat also had reason to smile after winning gold medals in their event. Everyone who raced appreciated the support of their families and fellow club members who, braving the elements, turned out to cheer them on.



Women's Masters 4+: Kirsten Therrien(cox), Diane Herr(stroke), Linda Congdon (3), Laura Smey (2), Becky Paquette (bow)



Men's Youth 4+ : Kirsten Therrien (cox), Ben Tules (stroke), Forrest Loeffler (3), John Conway (2), Jaclyn Tules (bow)



Gold Medalists!

Social Events

We proved that we can have a good time off the water as well. Whether it was relaxing at a summer cookout, looking over race photos at the season wrap-up party, or unwrapping silly dancing snowmen during a Yankee Swap at the holiday party, we've enjoyed getting to know each other better.



With these accomplishments under our belt, we are looking forward with great anticipation to the 2009 Season. Our elected executive board has “taken office” and include Jody Doll-Foley serving as President, Pat Fuery as Vice President, Becky Paquette as Secretary, and Linda Congdon as Treasurer.

What’s New for ’09?

CBC is pleased to announce a partnership with Norwich Free Academy in the rebirth of their high school rowing club. The NFA club is set to start up in March to coincide with the spring interscholastic sports schedule. CBC will be offering instruction and conditioning guidance in an effort to introduce youth to the sport and get them ready for scrimmages against established programs from local schools.

This year we have decided to separate our Learn-To-Row (LTR) offerings from the regular memberships available. The summer LTR program will consist of a total of twelve hours of instruction, with a maximum of four participants per session. We feel that this will give our inexperienced rowers a safe and more personalized environment to build their confidence and skills.

Our CBC membership structure has been streamlined as well. Experienced rowers (including those who have participated in the NFA club or summer LTR) may join as either adult or youth members. We continue to offer the general club membership which includes the social benefits and voting privileges of CBC to those not wishing to row.

Learn-To-Row

NFA Club - \$100/student
Summer LTR Program - \$125/participant

Club Membership

Club Member: Adult - \$75, Youth - \$50
Rowing Member: Adult - \$250*, Youth - \$200*, Family - \$600 (maximum)
(*Upon completion of our LTR Program, participants may join at a \$50 discounted fee)

For more information on joining Chelsea Boat Club, please contact Jody Doll-Foley at rowice2@yahoo.com or (860) 884-9856. You may also visit us online at our official website www.chelseaboatclub.com

Our CBC Open House will be held on Saturday March 21st from 10am to noon, at the Norwich Recreation Department, located at 75 Mohegan Drive. This event is a great opportunity to catch up on CBC activities - we look forward to revisiting with you or meeting you for the first time!