

Orillia Rowing Club

n e w s l e t t e r

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Ontario Summer Games

Congratulations to the five of our own student members who are entered in the upcoming Ontario Summer Games in Port Perry, August 13.

Laura Pidgen, Gordon Kerslake, Laura Kelly, Susan Brasier and David Reid have been training extensively in Orillia and at other clubs. As part of the north Central District rowing team, 26 team members in total from Orillia, Barrie, Midland and Durham will race in various rowing events against teams from the rest of the Province.

The students just returned from a training camp in Port Perry last week and previously had also trained in Barry and Midland. Barb Pidgen is the female rowing coach for the North Central team and has also been coaching our Orillia students during their training.

Hopefully this is just the first of many competitive events for our Orillia Rowing Club student rowers and many others.

Good luck, team!

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

- August 7: Cross-Canada relay, Rama Road to the Narrows: ORC members Kristi and Jeff Cole, who are also avid runners, have both been selected to run in the local leg of the relay.
- August 8-13: Henley Regatta in St. Catharines.
- August 13: Ontario Summer games in Port Perry. Good luck to our Orillia Rowing Club competitors.
- September 10: Georgian Bay Rowing Club Regatta in Midland. Sign up if you wish to participate.
- September 15: Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. Watch for broadcast schedules of rowing events.

Fun and Games

Rowing provides a life-long opportunity for challenging fun and exercise. Congratulations to our forty-two learn-to-row graduates and over fifty (and growing) ORC members who have registered as recreational rowers.

- Don Kent, who is seventy-plus, has been seen rowing this summer.
- Gordon Kerslake and Laura Pidgen are among young teens who have progressed to competitive rowing.
- Judy Gaudaur-Savage from a famous rowing family is a mid-life, learn-to-row enthusiast.
- Ada MacLennan and Esther Chepyha are sisters who have learned to row this summer and are out in a "four" some mornings.
- Cheers to Rhonda Lauer who is one of our most dedicated learn-to-row graduates. She's out on the water almost every day as a recreational rower.

The present rec schedule will be expanded due to overwhelming response. In September, rec rowing will continue on week-ends. Check the schedule.

Remember to come out to Fun Nights, 6:00 pm, for rec rowing:
 Mondays: Orillia Rowing Club
 Wednesdays: Midland (Little Lake)

Reminder: To form your own crew, pick up a weekly up-dated membership list at the boat house.

Long-sleeve T-shirts with ORC logo may be purchased at cost. A sign-up list is in boat house.

VOLUNTEERS

Your club is run by volunteers who donate hours of time coaching, supervising boat house activities and attending lengthy executive meetings to help the Orillia Rowing Club grow successfully. We have doubled our membership each year since inception and are now incorporated as a not-for-profit organization.

Executive

President: Tony Kaija
Secretary: Barb Pidgen
Treasurer: Dave Barr

Executive Committee Members:

Diane Carter
Heather Kerslake
Russ Nicholson
Heather Potter

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help strip and refinish blades.

Anyone interested in coaching next year, please contact any executive member about training requirements.

We need qualified drivers for the coach boat. Dave Burke has volunteered to instruct a power boat operators= course sign-up list in the boat house.



THANK YOU!

- City of Orillia for the use of the boat house building free of charge.
- Twin Lakes Secondary School for lending three singles.
- Midland Boat Club for lending "Old Boys" four.
- Janet Earle for organizing the June Tag day. We raised over \$1,054.
- Laurie Clarke for donation of Pepsi for ORC social.

Rower's Rant

I am a rower.

No, I've never met Silken or Derek or Marnie,
but I'm sure that they are nice people.

No, I've never seen Martindale Pond
and I will not be travelling to Sydney.

But I brave the spray from the lake of big winds
and nurse my blistered hands by dawn each day.

And I scull or sweep or cox or coach - -

for the high that comes from the perfect stroke
when the blade catches the water
and the shell glides like an eagle in flight

I AM A ROWER.