



Halifax Rowing Club Annual General Meeting

December 4, 2025
St. Mary's Boat Club

1. Land Acknowledgment
2. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (December 4th, 2024)
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Presentation of Reports
 - 4.1. Financial Report
 - 4.2. Equipment Report
 - 4.3. Programming & Membership Report
 - 4.4. Safety Report
 - 4.5. President's Report
5. Additional Items from the Membership

None added to date.
6. Departing Board Members

Mieke, Rob
7. Reoffering Board Members

President: Martha Radice
Secretary: Michaela Farrow
Registrar: Lesley Griffiths
Member at large: Janice Graham
Equipment Director: Brian Robinson
Program Directors: Marisha Caswell, Ruby Weinberg
Safety Director: Bonnie Anderson
Director: Sabine Wilkie
8. Vacant Board Positions

Vice President: Tim Church (offering)
Communications Director: San Patten (offering)
Treasurer: Pat Hart Blundon (offering)
Director: Michael Vandenburg (offering)



9. Nominations from the floor (3x)

10. Vote to approve the new board

11. Meeting adjournment



Halifax Rowing Club Annual General Meeting

December 4th 2024

Saint Mary's Boat Club

Meeting Called to Order: 6:11pm

Attendance: Owen, Jonathan, Rob, Mike, Danial, Krista, Bonnie, John, Joane, Lesley, Cooper, Jessica, Kate, Macaila, Marisha, Sabine, San, Martha, Janice, Dave, Missy, Heidi, Katherine, Georgette, Erin, Ruby, Brian, Mieke, Melissa

1. Land Acknowledgement

Presented by Martha

2. Approval of Minutes from Previous AGM

Motion to approve: Brian

Seconded by: Melissa

Approved by majority vote

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Jonathan

Seconded by: Georgette

Approved by majority vote

4. Presentation of Reports

Motion to receive reports: Jonathan

Seconded by: Krista

4.1 Equipment – Brian

- See report for full details
- Several major hull repairs were completed this season
- The Mission Lwt 1x was donated to PEI
- The club purchased a new Mercury 9.9hp engine
- The club sold the older Yamaha 8hp engine, and the oldest Mercury was retired from service
- A list of repairs that will be completed in the off season was presented

4.2 Renovations -Martha

- See report for full details
- Building is slated for renovation in the near future
- We have struck up a committee to provide advice during the planning stages
- A Project Manager has been hired, but the architectural design has not yet gone out to tender.



- Question – What are the design options?
 - Response: Too early to know, still in planning stages. We are discussing our options for where we can setup during the renovations.
 - HRM is dispersing their fleet of boats and operations during the renovation, so moving with them is not an option.
- Question – Have they made a commitment to HRC having space in the new building.
 - Response: They have not said anything to the contrary, this is a heritage building and the history of rowing plays a big roll in the building. New board needs to reach out to the new Mayor and City Councillors.
- Question – When does our lease expire?
 - Response: The city rolls it over every year, we have not had a new lease in many years.
- This is a heritage site, not a heritage building. Which has subtle differences, but no significant alterations could be made.

4.3 Safety – Bonnie

- See report for full details
- The club purchased VHF radios
- Discussion about the traffic flow pattern
- Visibility was good (lights and clothing)
- Waiver – New swimming component
- Tipping clinics – huge success
- Sign-out system
- Online incident reporting
- Plans for next year – tipping, bowling, docking clinics
- Minor incidents and close calls, no major injuries
- Question – Is HRM planning to upgrade/repair the docks?
 - Response: We have not had those discussions
- Comment – Coaches may not have got all the information regarding athlete health issues that could impact rowing abilities
- Question – Is there a process in place to report safety issues in the Arm?
 - Response: we have had issues with Coast Guard and HRM enforcing the no wake buoys, previous boards have tried to address this without success.
- Comment – The seadoos are rentals, so maybe we could contact those companies

5. Voting to approve the Equipment, Renovation and Safety Reports

Motion: Jon, Approved by majority vote

6. Financial Report – Melissa

- See report for full details
- No significant differences between last year and this year with regard to financials
- No grants this year, substantial drop in our LTR income



- Federal Grants – We didn't fulfill any of the local requirements for the federal grants this year, but Melissa will apply for next year since the local requirements have changed for 2025
- Provincial Grants – We will apply, received feedback from Linda Lee with recommendations for applying
- HRM Grant – Used to pay for Bates repair
- Increase in members who wanted to pay in instalments, manual tracking for the treasurer
- Junior program still has low numbers. To improve this, we did both a spring and fall LTR program through Armbrae.
- Adult LTR was also low this year, not due to lack of advertising since we did both neon signs and Instagram
- Great retention of LTR to the Development program, thanks to our coaching staff
- Moving fund, potential funding through SportNS
- Bursary fund needs a committee
- Comment – National Sports Trust Fund, info on website
- Question – Possible to pay registration fees through RowNS, especially for multiple payments?
 - Response: RowNS took away that option due to fees.
- Move to receive the financial report: Mieke, Approved by majority vote

7. Programs – Melissa (in place of Jasmine)

- Differ to report
- Noted the decrease in adult LTR, but very high retention
- Good success this year with coaches being assigned to specific programs
- Question – Could we recruit through a referral program?
 - Response: That can be a point of discussion for the next board.
- Move for the membership to receive the report – Jon, Approved by majority vote

8. Presidents Report

- Thank you to all coaches, board members, rowers and volunteers who work in the background
- Highlights of the Season – See the report
- Discussion about RowNS Trailers, multiple needs for trailers by multiple clubs/programs, committee has been struck
- Discussion about increase in fees for RowNS
- Move for the membership to receive the report: Martha, Approved by majority vote
 - Question – What happened to the cabinet with trophies that was in the hall? We should ask SMBC what happened to it.

9. Departing Board Members

Daniel, Melissa, Jasmine, Kathy

10. Reoffering Board Members



Safety Director: Bonnie Anderson
Equipment Director: Brian Robinson
Communications Director: Mieke Hagesteijn
Junior Representative: Daphne Andreou

11. Vacant Positions

President: Martha Radice (offering)
Vice President: Vacant
Treasurer: Rob Ellis (offering)
Secretary: Michaela Farrow (offering)
Programs: Marisha Caswell / Ruby Weinberg (offering)
Director at Large: Janice Graham (offering)
Registrar: Lesley Griffiths
Director: Sabine Wilkie

12. Nominations from the Floor (3x)

13. Vote to approve the new board

Motion to approve: Jon
Seconded by: Janice
Approved by majority vote

14. Meeting Closure – 7:15pm

Motion to adjourn AGM: Krista
Seconded by: Brian

HRC Financial Report 2025

November 1st, 2024 to October 31st 2025



Accounts Overview

	2024, October 31 st	2025, October 31 st
General Chequing	\$ 36,966.35	\$ 39,100.00
Bursary Fund	\$ 6,248.47	\$ 8,314.58
Boat Fund	\$ 32,305.32	\$ 32,401.76
National Sport Trust Fund	\$ 1,040.89	\$ 1,040.89
Moving Fund	\$ 5,084.65	\$ 6,174.74
Peloton	n/a	\$ 1,324.22

Profit Loss

	2024, October 31 st	2025, October 31 st
Income	\$ 92,316.48	\$ 121,520.29
Expenses	\$ 85,518.68	\$ 119,386.64
Net Income	\$ 6,797.80	\$ 2,133.65

Income

1. Membership Income

Membership dues for the 2024-2025 season were collected exclusively through Peloton. The cost of using this service was automatically deducted from the membership dues transferred to HRC. These fees totaled: \$1625.69.

2. Grants

We received three grants in the 2024-2025 season. This included: HRM Municipal Community Grant, Federal Student Employment Grant and a Sport Nova Scotia Sport Fund Grant.

3. Other

We topped up the Moving Fund and the Bursary Fund. We used the Boat Fund to make several equipment purchases (Coach boat, dolly and 3 pairs of oars) and we replenished the Boat Fund from the Sport Nova Scotia Sport Fund Grant as well as general revenue..

Expenses

1. General Expenses

- Salaries continue to be our major expense, this year we spent just over \$63,352 which is more than the previous two years (\$44,185.00 in 2024 and \$51,000 in 2023).
- Rent continues to be \$3,450.00 per year and Marine Insurance was unchanged \$6,781.00. Errors and Omissions Insurance was down slightly at \$1040.00/year.

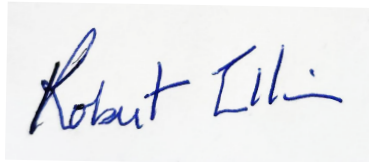
2. Future Expenses and Income

Out of the net income, there are several expenses yet to be withdrawn from the accounts, including:

- One more payroll expense to close out the on-water season.
- Regatta expenses and income for the 2025 season remain outstanding.

2025-2026 Season - Future Considerations

1. Our first year using Peloton to collect Membership Fees was a success, the process itself was smooth and reduced the overall work load for the Treasurer.
2. The Grant Committee's first year was a success and it should continue into 2026.
3. The bursary fund has received another year of contribution, but the Club still needs a clear direction and policy on how to use and administer these funds.
4. The St. Mary's Boat Club renovation is expected to occur in the near future, which will require a detailed budget. Sport NS indicated there are possible grants available to help offset costs of relocating.



Rob Ellis

Halifax Rowing Club Treasurer

Profit and Loss

Halifax Rowing Club

November 1, 2024-October 31, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Income	
2024 Regatta Income	\$2,964.72
2024 Visitor Fees	\$387.07
Cogswell prize money	\$100.00
Federal employment student grant	\$5,000.00
HRM Grant	\$2,500.00
Membership Dues	\$85,969.20
Regatta Fees	\$3,559.97
Sales of Product Income	\$1,330.00
Sport Nova Scotia Grant	\$3,974.40
Transfers from Boat Fund	\$6,169.67
Winter Training	\$9,290.26
Winter Training Fees 2025-2026	\$275.00
Total for Income	\$121,520.29
Cost of Goods Sold	
Gross Profit	\$121,520.29
Expenses	
2024 Regatta Fees	\$4,722.01
Advertising	\$804.47
AGM expenses	\$267.95
Bank charges	\$100.50
Board Service Gift	\$222.99
Boat maintenance	\$4,833.41
Coach boat	\$2,677.80
Cogswell Pelham expenses	\$67.80
Cogswell Pelham prize money	\$200.00
Courses and training	\$549.85
Erg Purchase	\$500.00
Errors and Omissions Insurance	\$1,040.00
Gas	\$1,113.58
Insurance	\$6,781.00
motor maintenance	\$1,160.92
Oar purchase	\$3,491.87
Parts/Hardware	\$2,004.66
PFD expenses	\$2,146.24
PO Box payment	\$238.26
Quickbooks	\$327.00
RCA Membership fees	\$5,541.10
Regatta Expenses	\$3,591.10
Registry of Joint Stocks	\$31.15
Rent or lease payments	\$3,450.00
Repair and maintenance	\$441.39
Salaries	\$63,532.78
Transfer to Boat Fund	\$6,169.67
Transfer to Bursary Fund	\$2,100.00

Profit and Loss

Halifax Rowing Club

November 1, 2024-October 31, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Transfer to Moving Fund	\$1,000.00
WCB	\$29.76
Winter Training Expense	\$249.38
Total for Expenses	\$119,386.64
Other Income	
Other Expenses	
Profit	\$2,133.65

2025 Program Directors Report

During the 2025 season, Halifax Rowing Club (HRC) ran eleven regular programs, including thirteen unique Learn to Row sessions. There is a lot of work behind the scenes that makes this programming possible. Before getting into the report itself, we want to thank previous HRC Board members Jasmine Frickleton and Melissa Barker for all their support during the transition and availability to answer all the various questions we had throughout the season. We also want to extend our gratitude to the HRC coaches who made the programming possible.

Programs by the Numbers

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Competitive	27	36	29	28	31	6	x	20	18	20	22
AM Fitness	52	45	27	33	36	59	63	37	23	25	22
PM Fitness									12	17	30
Punch Pass			12	10	8			4	8	11	10
Student									3*	3*	n/a
Adult LTR	57	34	53	61	65	x	63	35	51	40	46
Adult Development	23	18	18	25	15	x	13	14	27	22	16
Jr Competitive	18	13	25	22	19	4	x	7	1	**	**
Jr Fitness	14	17	10	9	7	14	11	8	1	**	**
Jr Summer Only									5	7	4
Jr Punch Pass									6		
Jr Summer & Fall										2	8
Jr LTR	54	48	69	44	57	x	31	19	41	12	15
Jr Development	27	26	44	23	27	x	13	4	13	5	10
Armbrae Spring Pilot										6	n/a
Armbrae Fall										10	5
Visitors								8	14	14	17
Total Adult Members	102	99	74	86	82	65	76	75	91	98	100
Total Jr Members	59	56	79	54	53	18	24	12	26	30	27
Total HRC Members	161	155	153	140	135	83	100	87	117	128	127

* All part of the competitive program.

** Junior competitive and fitness programs were combined in 2024.

Adult Fitness and Competitive

Adult fitness continues to be our largest group of athletes with 52 athletes spread between the two programs. This year the evening fitness group saw the largest growth in registrations, with 30 athletes registered - a growth of 76% from the previous year. These numbers are particularly impressive given the traffic on the Arm in the evenings, including sailboats, jet skis, power boats, a hitchhiking seal, and even a sea plane landing on the Arm! The large numbers caused some issues in terms of boat availability during the LTR season, although we managed to make it work. We are looking at ways to address this challenge for next season.

Midway through the season, evening fitness rowers identified concerns about the lack of development opportunities and how they were plateauing in their training. We worked with the evening coaches to change our approach and integrate more emphasis on training pieces throughout the evening

sessions. Special thanks to Coach Matt Thompson for his flexibility and efforts to address these challenges. Anecdotally, the evening rowers were much more satisfied with the changed approach.

The competitive program welcomed some new rowers this year. Competitive athletes represented HRC in six regattas throughout the season. We had a strong showing during this year's regattas, winning multiple medals across multiple categories.

The makeup of our Fitness and Competitive programs have raised some questions, particularly in relation to whether the timing of our programs best suits the needs of our members and how accessible pathways to competitive programming are at HRC. We are distributing a program survey, which will be used to inform our programming decisions for the 2026 season.

Juniors

We are very grateful to Coach Maddie Murphy who has been working hard to rebuild the junior program at HRC. There were 12 junior athletes registered in the spring, summer, and fall sessions, which is starting to approach our pre-Covid numbers. Special thanks is owed to all the coaches working with the junior athlete for all their efforts in supporting junior athletes and fostering a strong junior program at HRC.

With several juniors interested in competing further, we also added an additional Saturday morning training session. It's not often that you see teenagers up at 6 am on a Saturday willingly, but there they were consistently throughout the season. We also saw HRC Juniors competing in Sprints, the Atlantic Rowing Championships, the Cogswell, and Really Chili. It was exciting to see so many new juniors competing and we look forward to seeing what they achieve next season!

In consultation with the coaches, the Board made the decision to not cancel Junior Learn to Row programs that did not meet the minimum participant numbers. This approach contributed to us doubling our Junior Development numbers to 10 during the 2025 season for a retention rate of 67%! We will consider this approach for the 2026 season in hopes of a similar result.

We continued our partnership with Armbrae during the fall season. Coach Rob Richards attended the Armbrae Sports Fair in September and recruited five athletes from Armbrae. The Armbrae rowers trained alongside the HRC Juniors two days a week and had the option of a third day. Despite some windy conditions, two Armbrae athletes participated in the club-wide Fun Regatta with their parents watching (and shivering) from the top deck of SMBC.

Adult Learn to Row (LTR) and Development

This year's LTR numbers represent a slight increase from last year's numbers. We advertised programs through sponsored social media posts as well as signs in Horseshoe Park and the Commons. We are examining ways to increase our LTR numbers and are considering fall LTR options and a Come Try event early in the season. Despite some hiccups with one session, this year's LTR ran well. Of the 43 participants in this year's LTR, 16 continued into the development program, for a retention rate of 37%, which is a decline from last year's high of 55%. This year's development group was dedicated and a welcome addition to HRC. We hope that they continue to join us on the water again next year.

Following feedback from previous LTR and Development rowers, we increased our communication to participants in Learn to Row and Development programs, focusing on ways to answer common questions and highlight the pathway through the programs. Special thanks to Sabine Wilkie for her contributions to these efforts.

One of the most significant challenges in the LTR was the last-minute and mid-program cancellations. In response to these issues, we updated and clarified our cancellation policy. We will also work to improve communication with LTR participants before their sessions start to limit these issues.

Winter Training

We continued our arrangement with Dalhousie's Sexton gym for the 2025 winter season. This has proven to be an excellent solution and one that we hope continues. There were 19 dedicated participants who continued to erg throughout the dark days of winter. Junior winter training started at North Star in November and moved to Sexton in January. The trip to Dartmouth proved less popular and we made the decision to start junior winter training in January 2026. In response to the increased number of evening participants for on-water training, we have expanded our offerings of coached sessions for the upcoming 2025-6 winter training.

Coaches

HRC is lucky to have a team of strong and dedicated coaches. While managing this group is easy, finding people to coach programs was a large undertaking. We were lucky to have ten coaches return for the 2025 season. We also hired an additional three coaches to ensure coverage for all programs.

Community Building

In the winter, the board heard about challenges with the club culture at HRC, particularly the sense of an unwritten club hierarchy and less-than-welcoming experience for newer rowers. This is a significant cultural challenge, particularly in terms of retention and HRC's reputation. To help address these challenges, we worked to build community and foster a more welcoming club by using the row-alls to mix crews with members from different programs. There is still work to be done on this initiative and we will continue to work on ways to better integrate a cross-club community element as we plan the 2026 programs.

It has been our pleasure to volunteer as your Co-Directors of Programs at HRC. We look forward to continuing to contribute to the sport that we all love (even on the wet and windy days).

Ruby Stocklin-Weinberg and Marisha Caswell
Co-Directors, Programs
2 November 2025

Equipment Director Report – 2025 Season

Submitted by: Brian Robinson

It was another busy year at HRC, and I'm happy to report that overall the club equipment is in great shape. The board made several investments in equipment this season including:

- 3 new sets of Concept2 Oars**
- 1 slightly used Erg**
- 1 new inflatable coach boat and dolly**

Our fleet of three Mercury outboard engines performed very well with no major issues or downtime. A big thank you to our coaching team for taking care of the engines and reporting when there were problems. All three motors each have ~600hr and we will continue to use these motors into next season. Thank you to Jim Thompkins for his assistance with the winterization of the motors.

There was no major hull damage to any shells this season, so the majority of my time was spent repairing and replacing hardware (foot stretchers, seats, wheels, riggers, shoes). Salt water continues to be the biggest cause of wear and tear on club equipment. To help reduce some of the corrosion, next season I plan to experiment with a few new hardware setups to prevent galvanic corrosion on certain high wear areas.

There were several reports of shells not tracking straight this season. Next season I would like to form a rigging team to help evaluate and setup each shell. If anyone is interesting in joining this team, please send me a message.

HRC Safety Report

2025

Radio training happened on Good Friday. Thank you to Judy Robertson who donated her time and we just have to pay for registering the licenses. Judy also made the course available to club members at cost. The radios have proven to be great for communication between the coaches.

For the first time the board subsidized the sale of PFD's to members. Nineteen were sold very quickly and the people who bought them now have a small, and always dry, PFD to wear. If there is interest from members I hope to do it again next year.

A lot of PFDs need to be rearmmed. Some blew up accidentally and some just turned from green to red. The cost to rearm each one is \$35.

I'll be checking all our PFD's this winter to see if they remain inflated after manually blowing them up.

There were numerous flips but no major incidents this summer.

The 'Flippin' clinic' was offered again this year with about 15 people taking part. Thanks to Bella, Lauren and Krista for guiding the rowers through this.

Four bright rechargeable lights were purchased for use by club members.

No sharks were seen in the arm.

Respectfully submitted

Bonnie Anderson

HRC President's report

December 2024 to November 2025



Martha Radice - president@halifaxrowing.ca

This has been another great year for Halifax Rowing Club. Without reprising the whole of the Program Directors' Report, I'd like to share that in the on-water 2025 season, HRC:

- participated in eight regattas in 2025 as athletes, umpires, and volunteers
- saw race successes across categories from novices and juniors to senior and masters
- supported St Francis Xavier RC by providing equipment at several events
- won the point score at the NS Sprints regatta
- continued to build our partnership with Armbrae School
- had strong and slowly growing enrolment in all programs
- learned how to flip and recover safely again
- ran a superb Cogswell Regatta (thanks to Bella, Maddie, and Brian)
- closed our season with a fabulous Fungatta and a very efficient club clean-up morning
- sustained no major boat damage!

This year's **coaching team** was highly reliable and engaged in both growing the club and supporting members to develop as athletes. It was great to welcome back past athletes as coaches. So, heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the coaching team for teaching us and keeping us rowing toward our goals!

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| • Head Coach: Rob Richards | • Liam MacSween |
| • Daphne Andreou | • Hannah Meeson |
| • Antonia Chircop | • Lauren Morehouse |
| • Steve Coats | • Maddie Murphy |
| • Jen Devitt | • Katie Pearson |
| • Krista Loewen | • Matt Thompson |
| • Bella MacLeod | |

This club would not be running without the consistent commitment and incredibly hard work of our **Board members**, who are all volunteers, giving our time to make sure that programs are scheduled and staffed, equipment is maintained, safety is prioritized, communications are sent out, and much more besides. I want to emphasize how much work this takes, and also underline that we are all members of the club too. We pay the same fees as other members and get no perks (though we are allowed to accept a gift when we leave the board worth a whopping \$10 per year of service!). We run this club as a non-profit organization and our goal is to keep it afloat as best we can, and I think we have a particularly strong, committed, and active board at the moment. So I want to thank our board members, especially our outgoing communications officer Mieke and treasurer Rob:

- Bonnie Anderson (safety)
- Marisha Caswell (programs)
- Rob Ellis (treasurer, outgoing)
- Michaela Farrow (secretary)
- Janice Graham (member-at-large)
- Mieke Hagesteijn (communications)
- Martha Radice (president)
- Brian Robinson (equipment)
- Ruby Stocklin-Weinberg (programs)
- Sabine Wilkie (director)

I would also like to thank: Club Registrar Lesley Griffiths, who makes sure the RCA system registration system runs smoothly for us all – a crucial job especially when our training seasons start; Jonathan Tyson for repping HRC on the board of Row Nova Scotia; Pierre Poirier for joining the RowNS trailer committee; and the folks who are volunteering to join the board, whom I'll introduce later.

Serving on a board is not the only way **our members volunteer** to help the club as well as the sport at large in NS. The grants subcommittee, formed by Owen Falkenham, Krista Loewen and San Patten has had huge success this year. Tracey Evans has kept us in clean towels! And I want to thank all club members who have volunteered their time helping fix and clean things at the boathouse, driving safety boats here or elsewhere, umpiring and assisting at regattas, and providing us with clean towels and potluck treats from their laundry rooms and kitchens. There are even past members like Paul Shaw (who helps keep the website in shape) who still help out. This club is nothing without our members, and I deeply appreciate the community we make together in the pursuit of our enchanting sport.

Our biggest or at least most unusual challenge ahead is the upcoming **renovation of SMBC**, which we expect to start at the end of the 2026 season and continue at least throughout 2027. We have few updates on what I presented to last year's AGM, as progress has been slow on HRM's side to engage contractors. A few have been shortlisted and invited to bid. I am in regular contact with Lee Moore, manager of SMBC, about this process. The Renovations Committee has been meeting regularly to discuss both our participation in the renovation process and the options we have of where to go for the 2027 season, as we won't be able to row out of SMBC. (If anyone has any suggestions or insider info, please contact me.) The Renovations Committee met on March 11, August 11, and November 27 in 2025. I've been chairing it until now, but since both chairing the Renovations Committee and being President of HRC is too much, we agreed that Chloe Greisman would take over as Chair. Members come from all member categories (except juniors, though we do have a parent) and are:

- Owen Falkenham
- Janice Graham
- Chloe Greisman (incoming Chair)
- Jess Houtsma
- Jeff Kirby
- Jonathan Langdon
- Martha Radice (outgoing Chair)
- Daniel Ruzzante
- Jim Tompkins
- Sabine Wilkie

Happy winter training, everyone, and thanks for a fantastic year.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Radice, December 4, 2025.