

OTTAWA ROWING CLUB
February 18, 2010

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Registrar's Report
Lana Burpee**

The Ottawa Rowing Club is Canada's second largest rowing club. In 2009, growth in registration across competitive, sport and non-rowing categories brought our participant number to over 900.

Competitive Highlights for 2009

Approx 15% of our rowers are in the competitive stream giving the ORC the distinction of being the second largest competitive club in the country.

Competitive rowers registered as full or seasonal members. In 2009 competitive registrations surpassed our budget predictions. Full membership registrations were strong, but the total head count was buoyed by university-aged rowers choosing the ORC as their club for the Henley season. SrB rowers displaced Masters as the largest competitive age group. A new registration option of "spring & summer" kept high school athletes rowing in Ottawa before heading to out-of-town universities in the fall. **The ORC continues to field more competitive rowers than many provinces.**

Junior Development, introduced in 2008, supported the competitive stream by providing skill development for 30 students last summer.

Recreational Highlights for 2009

Recreational rowing successfully combined coached rows, social activities and recreational regattas. Great organization and program value had Recreational members returning to the water in 2009. Quality 'feeder' programs of Learn-to-Row and the Adult Rowing League added 49 new members. The Guest membership, started in 2007, remained popular with those visiting Ottawa in the summer. Recreational membership exceeded budget expectations by some 40% bringing Recreational members to 14% of the club total.

High School and University Rowing in 2009

Seven high school programs operated out of the Ottawa Rowing Club in 2009. These programs trained over 150 rowers from beginners to CCSRA contenders. Most importantly, these programs supported both Junior Competitive and Junior Development programs during the summer: 40% of participants from the spring season stayed on with the ORC for the summer. High school rowing registrations met budget expectations.

Two universities --Carleton U and uOttawa -- train and race out of the Ottawa Rowing Club each fall. In 2009, uOttawa experienced the larger growth than Carleton's program. High school and university programs combined accounted for 25% of ORC participants.

Other Programs

Other registrations included: Adult Rowing League, Learn-to-Row, Youth Camps as well as non-rowers such as umpires, coaches and volunteers.

The Adult Rowing League continued to be one of the Ottawa Rowing Club's most popular programs, selling over 200 seats before the first boat went onto the water. This program contributed 23% of 2009's rowing participants. Learn-to-Row introduced another 110 people to the sport last summer. Of these LTR participants, 17% joined as a Recreational member – a number consistent with 2008. Youth Camps continue to strengthen each year, and in 2009 met the budget target. The ORC registered more coaches than any other club in Canada. These non-rowers made our competitive, recreational and instructional programs possible.

All competitive, sport and non-rowing participants were registered with Rowing Canada (RCA) and RowOntario (RO) in accordance with the rules governing these bodies. One benefit of this registration is the liability insurance provided to rowers. As a result, the ORC continues to permit rowers on the water only when each membership registration has been completed in full.

In 2009, the ORC began to investigate on-line – paperless – registration, payment and waivers. This initiative will go live for 2010 registrations. Later in 2010, the ORC will pilot an integrated registration system under development by RCA.