

INDIANAPOLIS ROWING CENTER

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2025



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2025



INDIANAPOLIS ROWING CENTER YEAR IN NUMBERS

10,000+

Spectators visiting IRC and Eagle Creek



3

New Staff Members

2

New Masters teams with 10 practice times per week

OVER

200

Adults learned-to-row at IRC



73%

Of the graduating class of 2025 were recruited to row in College



600+

Rowers on our teams



12

Alumni Collegiate rowers who returned during the summer to coach programs for us.

OVER

8000

Volunteer Hours Fulfilled



11

Top awards/honors/medals won by Youth Athletes



As we wrap up 2025, I want to acknowledge the significant transitions and changes we have experienced over the past year. These efforts have strengthened the Indianapolis Rowing Center's operational and financial foundation, setting us up for continued success in the years to come. This year, the Board has concentrated on several important initiatives. We have worked to improve the athlete and member experience, provided additional support and guidance to our coaching and operations teams, and developed key operational and financial strategies. Additionally, we have focused on building strong relationships with our stakeholders to ensure the long-term health and sustainability of the organization.

IRC ANNUAL UPDATE AND KEY INITIATIVES

As we reflect on 2025, I want to share some of the key initiatives and achievements that have defined this year for IRC. These efforts have been focused on strengthening our programs, supporting our coaches, enhancing athlete experiences, and building stronger community relationships.

Fleet Improvements

This year, we expanded our fleet by adding six new Pocock shells and purchased a larger boat trailer. All club shells were updated with BAT Logic shoe plates, navigation lights were installed on every boat, and all club oars were regripped, ensuring top performance and safety.

First Strokes Program

We proudly hosted the sold-out U.S. debut of the First Strokes Learn to Row class, welcoming over 120 new rowers. This remarkable turnout led to a growth of more than 50% in our Adult Program, marking a significant milestone in our community outreach and development.

Coaching Enhancements

To better support our athletes, we doubled the number of salaried coaching staff. We also reviewed and adjusted coach compensation to align with standards at similar rowing clubs, reinforcing our commitment to quality coaching and staff retention.

Athlete Success

We celebrated two Juniors representing the U.S. National Team and outstanding performances across our Adult and Junior programs. Notably, IRC athletes earned medals at major regattas nationwide, including the club's first-ever medals at Youth Nationals.

Facility and Course Upgrades

Significant improvements were made to IRC's facilities and venue infrastructure, aiming for regional and national prominence. Highlights include outdoor floodlighting for extended practice hours, a solar-powered, fully equipped coaches' shed, handheld radios on all boats and launches, reorganized indoor boat racks, and an eight-lane course retooling for year-round use. Fleet management and sales generated funds reinvested into new equipment.

A MESSAGE FROM IRC BOARD PRESIDENT:

Upcoming Projects

- **Wakeless Launches:**

Two new wakeless launches have been ordered for 2026 as part of a five-year plan to replace Jon boats, enhancing safety and coaching efficiency on the water.

- **Dock Replacement:**

Work continues to replace all docks with EZ docks by the end of 2026, a project started in 2023.

- **ICrew Transition:**

In 2026, we will fully adopt ICrew to improve communication among coaches, athletes, families, and staff.

We recognize that this year has brought significant growth and adjustment. Every initiative has been undertaken to build stronger programs, better support our coaches, and provide an

improved experience for all athletes and their families. We also remain dedicated to nurturing relationships with our community and partners. On behalf of the IRC Board and leadership, I extend heartfelt thanks to our rowing community for making IRC what it is today. It's an exciting time to be involved, and we look forward to entering the new year united, energized, and ready to build an even stronger future together.

With gratitude,

Amanda Coddens

and the IRC Board
of Directors



HISTORY

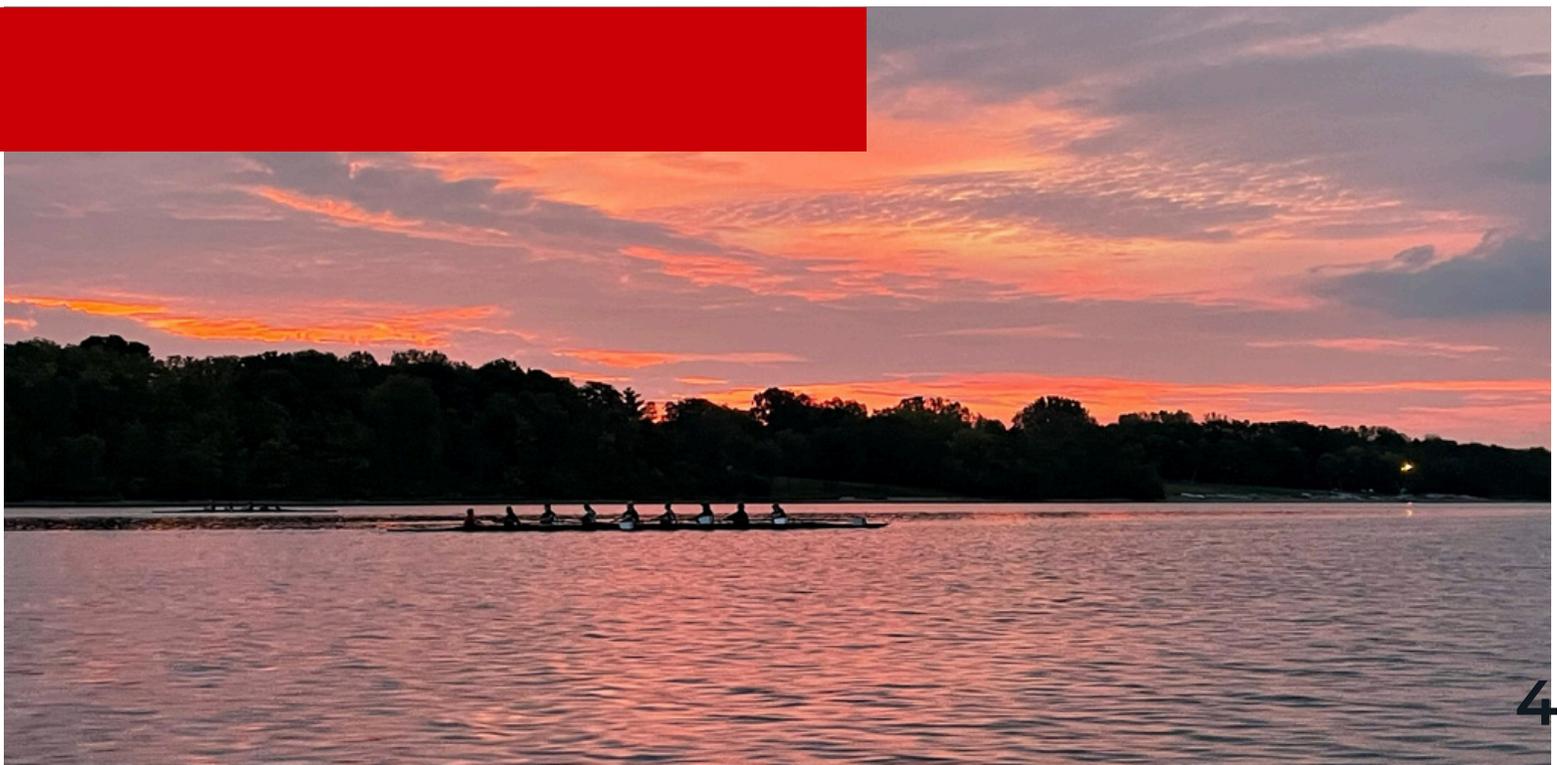
The Indianapolis Rowing Center (IRC) was founded in the early 1980s during a period when the City of Indianapolis was intentionally investing in amateur sports for economic development and national visibility. Rowing first came to Eagle Creek Reservoir in 1982 with an event held as part of the National Sports Festival. The following year, Indianapolis hosted its first National Championship regatta, marking a pivotal moment in the city's rowing history. Those early regattas were held at the south end of Eagle Creek Reservoir, with the finish line located near the present-day site of Rick's Café Boatyard.

The success of these initial events demonstrated the potential of Eagle Creek as a premier rowing venue and led directly to the development of a world-class rowing course.

In 1984, the City of Indianapolis committed to constructing a dedicated rowing course in the north pool of Eagle Creek Reservoir and submitted a bid to host the World Rowing Championships. Development of the course was accelerated when Indianapolis was unexpectedly awarded the 1987 Pan American Games after Cuba was unable to host the event. The rowing competitions at the Pan American Games were widely regarded as a success and helped solidify Indianapolis's reputation as a capable international host city.

Building on that momentum, Indianapolis was awarded the 1994 World Rowing Championships- the first time the event was held in the United States. Since then, this rowing course at Eagle Creek has remained one of the premier venues in the country.

Over the decades, Eagle Creek Reservoir has hosted USRowing National Championships, NCAA National Championships, Big10 Women's Rowing Championships and countless national, regional, collegiate, junior and masters regattas. The legacy of competition continues to define IRC's role as both a steward of the venue and a leader of the sport of rowing nationally.



OUR MISSION:



To develop youth and adults of all social and economic backgrounds through the sport of rowing by providing experienced and knowledgeable instruction, and a variety of skill-enhancing programs.

The Indianapolis Rowing Center (IRC) is a premier rowing organization in the Midwest, dedicated to nurturing athletes, fostering community, and offering a diverse range of programs for rowers at every level, from beginners to seasoned competitors. Located on the stunning Eagle Creek Reservoir in Indianapolis, Indiana, IRC provides access to world-class facilities that meet the highest national and international competition standards, making it an ideal training ground for aspiring rowers.

Whether you are looking to row recreationally or pursue competitive excellence, IRC's comprehensive programs are designed to help athletes reach their full potential. IRC is committed not only to the development of physical skills but also to creating a supportive environment that promotes teamwork, leadership, and personal growth. With a focus on inclusivity, IRC ensures that rowers of all ages and backgrounds can experience the benefits of the sport, from fitness and discipline to the joy of being part of a dynamic and passionate rowing community.

Our mission drives everything we do, from beginner experiences to high performance training, and shapes the inclusive, community-focused culture that defines IRC.



During the past year, IRC continued to advance its mission by delivering high-quality rowing programs, maintaining world-class facilities and venue, and fostering a strong, inclusive community. Through strategic partnerships, responsible financial stewardship, and dedicated volunteer support, IRC served close to 6,000 athletes and participants across all programs and hosted more than 10 events and regattas at Eagle Creek Reservoir.

IRC's programs are designed to support athletes at every stage of their rowing journey. From first-time participants to nationally competitive athletes, IRC provides clear pathways for growth, achievement, and lifelong engagement in the sport of rowing. Our programs emphasize skill development, personal growth, teamwork, and a lasting connection to the rowing community.

ADULT ROWING PATHWAY

IRC's Adult Rowing Pathway remains a cornerstone to lifelong participation in the sport, serving 163 adult athletes during the year through learn-to-row, developmental, and competitive programming

FIRST STROKES PROGRAM

A friendly, supportive introduction to rowing that lowers barriers to entry and builds confidence. The First Strokes Program welcomed over 120 new participants, introducing them to rowing in a supportive and accessible environment. Individuals learn the fundamentals of rowing technique, equipment handling, and water safety in a welcoming environment that emphasized fun, fitness, and community with 41% of participants continuing into ongoing IRC Programs.



FOUNDATION AND PERFORMANCE TEAMS

These skills-based teams served 48 adult rowers, providing structured, skills-based development focused on technical proficiency, fitness and on-water confidence.

Throughout the season, athletes completed approximately 125 training/practice sessions and also participated in regattas and scrimmages, demonstrating measurable improvement in skill progression and performance readiness.





COMPETITIVE MASTERS TEAM

Designed for adults seeking high-level training and competition, the Masters Team offers race-focused preparation, structured practices, and opportunities to compete. The Masters Team supported 35 competitive athletes who trained and competed at the local, regional, and national levels. During the year, Masters competed in 9 regattas, achieving several top finishes earning multiple medals, bringing home the championship cup in the Masters Summer Sprint series and winning 3 spots in the top half of the pack at Head of the Charles, and one boat winning a National Championship Medal, all while maintaining strong participation and retention rates of over 87%

JUNIOR ROWING

IRC's Junior Rowing Program, serving Middle School and High School aged youth from over 30 area schools, is recognized for its commitment to athlete development both on and off the water. The program emphasizes character, discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness while preparing athletes for competitive success. Junior rowers develop technical proficiency, mental resilience, and leadership skills that serve them well in rowing and beyond, whether their goals include collegiate rowing, national competition, or personal growth through the sport. The Junior Rowing Program served over 325 youth athletes, logging almost 500 training hours throughout the year and competing in 12 regattas. 2025 was a remarkable year for our youth program with these notable results:

- 1 Youth Rower winning world record indoor erg competition
- Our first medals won at Youth Nationals in IRC History - MY2x: 2nd place; WU171x: 3rd place
- 3 medals at RowFest (Summer Nationals)
- 1 Medalist at the Inaugural Youth Beach Sprint Nationals - WY2x(composite)
- 2 IRC Rowers competed in US Trials and qualified for Worlds, representing TeamUSA - 1 MU23 2x, 1YW2x Beach Sprints
- 1 IRC Rower Medaling at Head of the Charles and several others with top finishes securing bids for next year
- Our WY4x taking 1st at Head of the Hooch, being the highest placing IRC Female Crew at this regatta

Beyond competition, the program emphasized character development, teamwork, leadership, and academic balance. We said goodbye to 18 graduating seniors in the Class of 2025, with 100% of them heading off to college or other educational or workforce programs and 73% of them continuing on to further their rowing careers. Some of our rowers this year have gone on to row at Clemson University, Michigan State University, University of Louisville, University of Central Florida, University of North Carolina, Temple University, Wellesley College and Drexel University. We also have rowers who are studying abroad in Norway for a year, at the Coast Guard Academy, Purdue University, Indiana University, Vanderbilt University, Creighton University, and Wabash University all reflecting the program's long-term impact on not only athlete development, but development of the whole person as well.





CAMPS, CLINICS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

IRC expanded its community impact through several camps, clinics, and outreach events, engaging over 150 participants from schools, corporations, and community organizations. These programs promoted teamwork, fitness, and exposure to rowing for new audiences.

IRC also hosted local, regional, and collegiate championships, including MACRAs and Nationally ESPN televised BIG 10 Women's Rowing Championship regattas at Eagle Creek Reservoir, welcoming many visiting teams and an estimated 10,000+ spectators, contributing to the local economy and strengthening Indianapolis's reputation as a premier sports and rowing destination.



OUR HOME AT EAGLE CREEK RESERVOIR

Eagle Creek Reservoir remains one of IRC's most valuable assets and a defining element of program success. Located within the largest city park in Indianapolis, Eagle Creek Park, the reservoir's protected environment, and eight-lane racing standard course, supported 13-20 on-water practices from March through November, almost 15 race days, and more than 10 hosted events this year.

The venue's long history of hosting Collegiate Championships, National Championships, and major regattas reinforces IRC's ability to provide athletes with training and competitive experiences that meet national and international standards.



OUR COMMUNITY

IRC's work is powered by a dedicated community of athletes, coaches, volunteers, staff, board members and supporters. During the year:

- Hundreds of volunteers contributed an estimated 8000 total volunteer hours
- 18 coaches and staff supported daily operations and athlete development
- 55 donors and sponsors provided critical financial support

Our community is united by shared values:

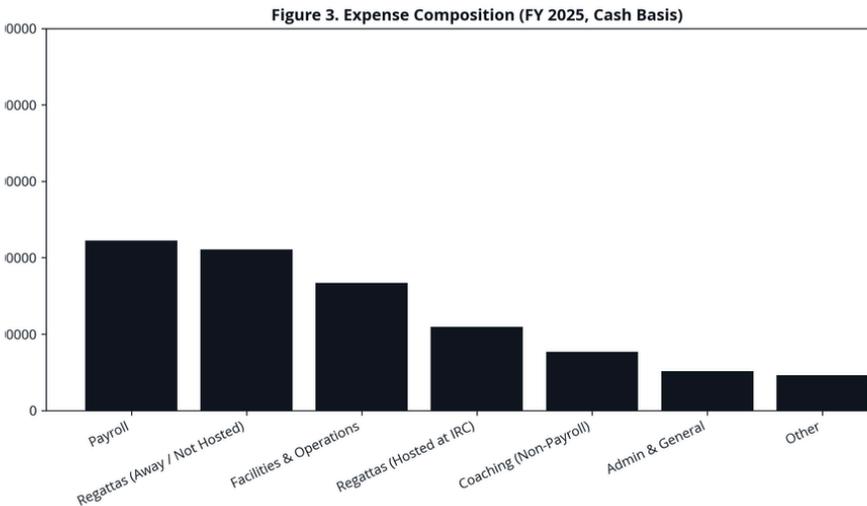
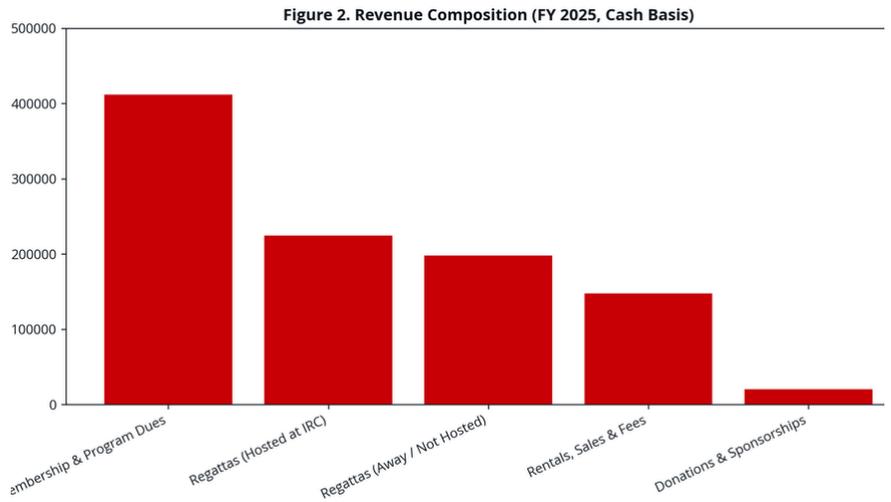
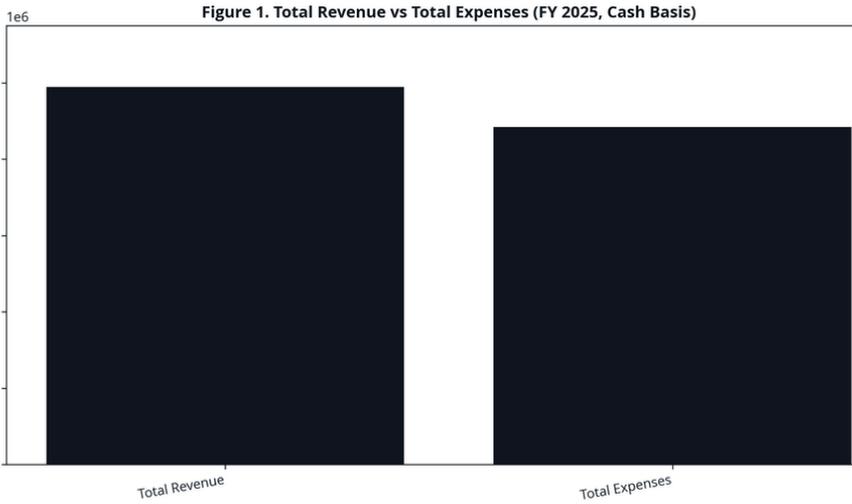
- **Inclusivity**- Creating access and opportunity for all
- **Progress** - Supporting growth at every level
- **Teamwork** - Achieving success through collaboration
- **Stewardship** - Caring for Eagle Creek Reservoir and its environment
- **Excellence** - Upholding the highest standards in safety, coaching, and development

Whether it's introducing new athletes to rowing or supporting competitors on the national stage, IRC continues to deliver meaningful impact- strengthening the sport, enriching the community, and creating a place where athletes of all ages can belong.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Indianapolis Rowing Center – FY 2025 Financial Figures (Cash Basis)

BoardReportingSet • Revenue/Expense-axis capped at \$500,000



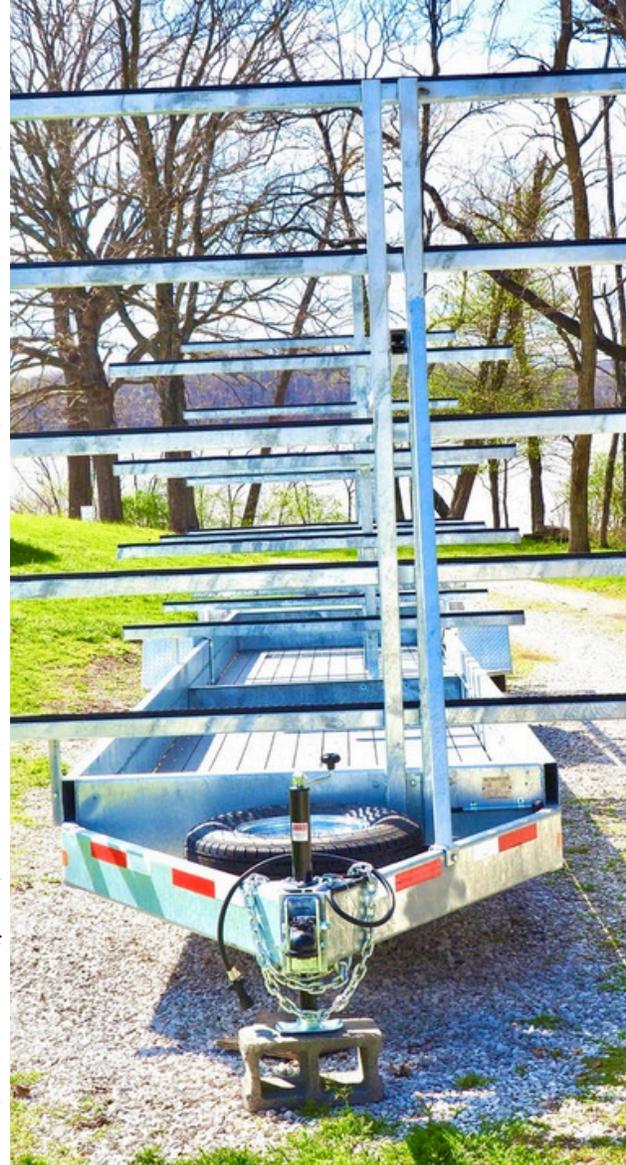
FY 2025 Total Revenue: \$988,877.16
 FY 2025 Total Expenses: \$883,678.61
 Net Income: \$105,198.55

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Hired full time employee to take ownership over daily operations, facilities, venue, and regattas
- Transitioned all previously managed DPW course work responsibilities to internal management
- Removed over 200 cubic yards of trash, scrap metal, and non-useable equipment from the site and boathouse
- In doing so, recaptured over \$60,000 selling and recycling in scrap metal, old equipment, and non-useable equipment for direct reinvestment into our infrastructure and equipment.
- Purchased 16 seats of new rowing equipment (8+, 4x, four 1xs) as we continue to standardize our fleet. This brought the average age of IRC equipment from 21 years old to 12 years old. Goal is 5-7 year average.
- Invested in handheld radio communication systems for all athletes and coaches to use during practice, and for use at hosted regattas, to keep safety protocols easier to follow quickly and effectively.
- Recovered quickly and made necessary repairs to the course after an F2 tornado crossed the start line. Held the MACRA regatta 3 weeks later
- Reinvested in updating the course infrastructure for ease of use, reliability, and preventing breakage
- Added outdoor floodlighting and lights on boats and launches to allow for extended practice hours
- Updated coaches shed to be solar powered and be fully equipped for practices with all coaching needs in shed instead of boathouse.
- Full Gas tank on-site to remove need to transport portable gas cans to be refilled.
- Invested in adapting all IRC owned equipment to BAT logic shoe plates. Allowing the club a positive ROI, and providing a more comfortable and sanitary experience for all rowers.
- Purchased a new, bigger boat trailer that can carry more boats to regattas and is safer.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

- Won bid to host 2026 and 2027 Big10 Championships
- Hosted 6 profitable and successful rowing regattas - MACRA, Indy Junior Sprints, Blg10 Championships, and Indy Summer Sprints, Bald Eagle regatta. 8 days of events.
- Hosted Survivoars Dragon Boating camp and raceday.
- Held Largest Indy Junior Sprints regatta ever
- Held the largest Big10 Championship Ever
- Re-engaged the Indiana Sports Corp for Volunteering Support and Bid writing and submitted bid to host 2029,2030,2031 IRA Championships and 2027, 2028 USRowing Rowfest. We will hear back this spring



MAKING THINGS HAPPEN

It was a busy year at IRC, with many changes and improvements. This list of notable accomplishments is giving us a great springboard to move into 2026 with big goals.



2025

INDIANAPOLIS ROWING CENTER



THANKS OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS

**over \$15,000
came in from
individual
donors in 2025**

**Volunteers
contributing to
over 40,000
hours to IRC this
year**

**4 youth coaches
that volunteer
thier time to
coach**

**Dedicated
volunteers
regularly giving
20-40 hours a
week to IRC**

**100% participation
from Board Members
contributing \$\$
and/or time to benefit
IRC**

**20+ rowers
received
scholarships,
discounts, or
assistance this
year**

SPONSORS:

- **Divergent Rehab and Wellness, LLC**
- **The Runners Forum**
- **Horizon Realty**
- **Greenleaf Fitness**
- **St. Richards Episcopal School**
- **Janssen Veterinary Clinic**

**90% of regatta
snacks for Junior
team donated.**

2025

IRC LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

- Amanda Coddens - President
- Dave Carter - Vice President
- J. Palumbo - Treasurer
- Denise Bain - Secretary

DIRECTORS

- Lisa Stickle
- James Betley
- Matt Imes
- Susana Duarte
- Ryan Hurd
- Leslie Thompson- Jr's Booster President

STAFF

- Chris Marr - Director of Operations and Venue
- Julio Sanchez - Director of Youth Programming/Head Youth Coach
- Madison Waddle - Director of Adult Programming/Adult Head Coach

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUPPORT IRC?

We are always very thankful for our volunteers, sponsors, members, and donors. If you'd like more info on how to support iRC, please email info@indyrowing.org

BOATHOUSE ADDRESS: (NO MAIL)

7350 Eagle Beach Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46254

MAILING ADDRESS :

PO BOX 53223
Indianapolis, IN 46253-0223

WEBSITE :

www.indyrowing.org

EMAIL:

info@indyrowing.org

SOCIALS:

  @indyrowing