



Indianapolis Rowing Center Board Meeting Minutes
Date: April 13, 2026

Board Member	Office	Attende
Amanda Coddens	President	
Dave Carter	Vice President	
Lisa Stickley	Vice President	
Denise Bain	Secretary	
J. Palumbo	Treasurer	
Susana Duarte De Suarez	Director	
Ryan Hurd	Director	
Matt Imes	Director	
James Betley	Director	Y(via
Leslie Thompson	Booster President	
Suzanne Stone	Masters Representative	
Chris Marr	Director of Operations	
Madison Sanchez	Director of Adult Programs	
Julio Sanchez	Director of Youth Programs	

Guests at meeting: (in-person) Patti Carpenter – Junior Parent and Master Rower, Zach Wilding – Junior Parent (on google meet), Erin Murphy-Schlick – Junior parent (on google meet), Craig Ulmer – Junior Parent (on google meet)

Meeting called to order at 6:04pm

Minutes – Dave motioned to approve minutes from last meeting; Lisa seconded. All approved, March meeting minutes have been approved.

Patti Carpenter asked to speak to the board

- Proposing that we implement a listening session on a periodic basis with the Junior parents so parents can have a place to hear what is happening and have a place where they can raise concerns and give feedback. Second concern is that as the team changes and we have different levels of talent, what are we doing with the 8's? Is there a space for parents to voice concerns?
 - Response from Dave – the booster parent is the representative to the Junior parents and the Masters rep is the same for the Masters. Anyone can attend a meeting at any time. The board is not involved in daily operations. This is a business and running like a business. Concerns should be addressed with staff and coaches in the appropriate channels and then addressed to the Board when appropriate.



- Susanna suggested a shareholders meeting, Dave reminded everyone that we changed the by-laws to not have that because of the size of the organization.
- Will work on educating members on how to address concerns and direct people to work with our staff when issues and questions arise.
- Patti asking for community meeting to address concerns about the Junior program.
- Madison has sent an email describing Summer formatting with information, a zoom link for a meeting where people can ask questions, and asked for people to submit questions ahead of time. Nobody has submitted any questions yet.
- Ryan stated that we need to remember that everyone has different concerns and recommendations and we have to remember that we cannot make everyone happy and we shouldn't put our coaches in a spot to be addressing questions without knowing what the questions are.
- Questions around whether a different need than the beginning of season? Patti says people aren't comfortable asking questions. Lisa suggests a google doc where people can submit questions ongoing.
- Continued discussions around this will keep happening.
- Thank you Patti for taking the time to come and address the board.

● **Ops Report Questions/Discussions (Chris Marr)**

- AED and case purchase for ~\$1500 after minimal grant discount

--Board discussion

- moving current AED, still operational but hard to get replacement parts for, down to the coaches shed and purchasing a new one for the boathouse.
- Makes sense to budget for about every 10yrs to purchase a new one.
- AEDs have periodic checks
- Denise motions to approve this purchase. Ryan seconded. All vote yes and purchase is approved.

- Timeline or process look like for approving identified capital purchases? I am asking so I know when to ask

--Board Discussion

- Look at capitol expense and purchases on an annual basis and go into every year with a known list of asks and expenses. Start working with Finance committee in the Summer, post our hosting regatta season. Keep a running list of wishes/needs/etc and plan to work with Finance committee on budgeting in late summer/early fall
- don't wait on safety items.

- Madison and I have spoken about looking at the average annual cost of travel only related operational expenses, and billing our athletes attending regattas proportionally. This would shift



the cost of travel regattas squarely on the shoulders of those traveling, rather than on the general operating budget. Travel specific Example expenses include:

- -Tires for trailers
- -Depreciation on trailers
- -Annual service on trailers
- -New Boat straps, seat bungees, rigger bungees, etc.
- May we make a new GL code and start estimating these costs and adding them to the regatta billing?

Board discussion

-there needs to be a balance of what we are charging. Can we look at the numbers in more detail before we vote and then look at it for next year's budget?

-can we start collecting data to see what this looks like. Will make a new GLcode. Chris and Madison will look at what expenses would fall into this category this year so we can come back and discuss this with more knowledge and discuss what's best for the club.

● Program Updates

- Masters (Madison)
 - Collegiate summer rowing parent meeting scheduled
- Juniors (Denise/Julio)
 - Nationals Bid Acceptance Policy
 - In response to the Nationals bid policy sent out to Juniors, Matt Imes wrote the language regarding the bid appeal process.
 - Craig Ulmer asked about the club perspective on what regattas are an "anyone rows" policy and what and which are "only the top" go?
 - Will continue to look at and address this question as a board/club, thank you Craig for bringing this up.
 - Regatta Transportation
 - Deferred to next meeting

● Finance Report (J/Lisa)

● Fundraising Update (Madison)

- Spring fundraising update – just over \$8000 in scholarship funds
- Sponsorship – deferred to next meeting



○ Boat/Seat Naming – Lisa motioned to approve this new policy, Susanna seconded. All voted yes and policy is passed.

● **Governance Committee (Dave)**

- Resignation notice received
 - Denise has resigned from all duties from Board, Junior Roles, and other duties.
- Welcome M. Barr
 - bylaws – will need to amend bylaws due to some numbers, new mission statement and discussion on if non-voting members can serve on the Executive Committee

● **Old Business**

- First Strokes/Summer Camp Update (Lisa/Madison/Denise)
 - actively searching for coaches for these and will join those staffs to have one big pool of coaches available.
- Juniors Programming and Boosters
 - boosters suggests doing less cooking at regattas and more catered or boxed lunches.
 - transportation, chaperoning, hotels, etc, is becoming too much. Discussion around how to move to individual travel and how that would affect the team.

- RFP Update – going before Parks Council on May 19th, need to put together a power-point prior. Parks dept has assumed maintenance over most of our property. Rent will be \$36,000 a year. Will go up 1% every other year. 20 years with 2 five-year extensions. Can we add a “hardship” clause? Separate MOU for the finish tower and boatyard.

● **New Business**

- Board Meeting Expectations – Read all materials and present questions prior to meetings.
- Secretary – See above under Governance Committee

Adjournment

- Denise motioned to adjourn, J seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm

Upcoming Board Meetings

May 11, 2026 6pm
Jun 8, 2026 6pm
Jul 13, 2026 6pm
Aug 10, 2026 6pm



Sep 14, 2026 6pm
Oct 12, 2026 6pm
Nov 9, 2026 6pm
Dec 8, 2026 6pm