

**MaCKRO Annual Meeting**  
**1:00pm, October 18, 2008**  
**Lisa's Restaurant, Augusta**

Meeting convenes following the 10am MaCKRO fun race/paddle from the Sidney boat launch on the Kennebec to the Fort Western Boat Launch in Augusta. All paddlers finished by 11:30am.

Those attending: Jeff Owen, Don Wescott, Mike Sproul, Joe Axford, Bob Dean, Shelia Karajin (guest), Bob Miller, Pan Miller, Paula Lunt, Carolyn Welch.

1. **President** John Alsop resigns and is not in attendance due to health issues. Current VP Jeff Owen steps in as President for the remainder of 2008 and conducts the meeting.
2. **Quorum** A quorum was not present. The group decided to discuss issues and summarize them in the upcoming newsletter. The newsletter will also include a ballot and stamped envelope such that members will be able to submit votes on each item. Tallying of the votes will take place two weeks following the post-date of the newsletter.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** The MaCKRO account has \$4831.18
4. **MaCKRO Equipment** Discussion about the collection of boats and equipment MaCKRO has accumulated for use by MaCKRO members.
  - a. Currently in possession: 4 WW boats and 2 FW boats, all of which need repair.
  - b. Jeff has received \$500 from MaCKRO and \$300 from ACA New England to fund repairs. (ACA NE also spent \$300 to acquire two of the Sundowners.)
  - c. Jeff will see that they get fixed, WW boats first.
  - d. Policies Discussed:
    - i. Loaner damage. The Use Policy should emphasize responsible use of the equipment in a manner that promotes rather than prohibits active use. Paddle and PFD loss or damage should be charged at 50% of replacement costs, if damage is more than minimal. Borrowers should be required to help repair boat damage (beyond minimal).
    - ii. Loaner boats should be available to MaCKRO members only. This may be a way to get new members. Signed agreements should be required from all borrowers, and waivers for use will be required for minors.
    - iii. Loan of boats will be at the discretion of the program director (currently Jeff Owen) and/or MaCKRO President.
5. **White Water Series** Modifications to the White Water Series proposed and discussed. Particular modifications proposed:
  - a. Modify the list of series races to include those struggling with attendance (Sebec, E. Branch, Dead, and Union). Remove Sou and Marsh Sprints from the series, keeping the DR races.
  - b. Paddlers to accumulate points individually, not as teams, based on their finishing positions in whatever classes entered.
  - c. Youth (18 and under, on date of final series race) and First-time MaCKRO members to be scored on participation, not finishing position.
  - d. Series Champions:
    - i. Kayak Woman, Kayak Man, and Kayak Senior (over 60)
    - ii. Canoe Woman, Canoe Man, and Canoe Senior (over 60)
    - iii. Youth—all youth (18 and under) awarded as champions for completing the necessary 5 races.
    - iv. MaCKRO Rookies—awarded as champions for completing the necessary 5 races.
  - e. Awards
    - i. Kayak and Canoe Champions—nice sweatshirts with a MaCKRO Downriver Series Champion logo on the front, a paddling image on the back, and sponsors listed down the sleeves.

ii. Rookie Champions—same nice sweatshirts, and entries into a Youth and Rookie ONLY drawing for a canoe. Number of entries determined by: 1 entry per race attended, plus one entry per point earned.

iii. Youth Champions—same sweatshirts, same entries into drawing as Rookies, and \$100 gift certificates.

iv. Every MaCKRO member completing the necessary five races will be entered into a drawing for a gift certificate—Number of entries determined same as above.

**6. Junior Class** It was recommended that ACA-NE (and possibly other race directors) consider breaking from ACA on its definition of a Junior. We suggest the development of two Youth categories, Jr. Youth (aged under 14 on March 15<sup>th</sup>) and Sr. Youth (aged 18 and under).

**7. Flat Water Series** Wholesale revamp of the Flat Water Series proposed and discussed. It was recognized that the club's FW Series has gone by the wayside, probably for a variety of reasons (not discussed). The simple fact is that the serious racer is rare through the heat of the summer. It was proposed that the current series be scrapped and replaced by one that utilizes the most productive summertime paddling groups currently in existence—weekday evening groups that convene in Waterville, Orono, and Brunswick. We propose making three rotations among the three venues, for nine consecutive Tuesdays (5:00pm), culminating with a Championship Race at the 9<sup>th</sup> session. Specific Details of the proposal will appear in the Newsletter, and proposed awards would follow a similar pattern to those proposed for the WW Series.

**8. Dues**—We propose, for a one-year trial, to have the annual membership fee be determined by donation. At the 2009 Annual Meeting data will be compared with previous years to see if (a) more members were attracted, and (b) revenues went up. It was also suggested that a flier be created that details what membership benefits are.

**9. 2009 Annual Meeting**—Proposed that we investigate if the 2009 meeting could somehow take place after War Canoe Race on the Sunday of Columbus weekend in October at Atlantic Brewery in Somesville.

**10. Website**—See if Ray Wirth still wants to be Webmaster. Have him investigate mimicking NECKRA's race calendar, with race form and waiver printing capability.

**11. Handbook**—Create a new handbook for 2009. Use past handbook created by Paula Lunt as a sample, and NECKRA's handbook as well.

## **12. Club Promotion**

a. Will look into finding club display board and banner, and will try to have it at races with a staffed table with membership forms, membership benefits fliers, and Series fliers.

b. Will investigate pricing/ordering MaCKRO wear.

c. Will investigate hosting Race Course Clinics in the days preceding St. George, Passy, Sou, Marsh, and Kenduskeag.

**13. Messages from Brad Ryder**, MaCKRO member and owner of Epic Sports in Bangor. Brad wanted to let the club know that he is very satisfied with the early success he's had offering racing equipment at his store. He'd like to continue supporting the sport, and would like to know what other products the racing community would like him to try to carry. Also, Brad has expressed a willingness to support the proposed WW and FW Series by offering to MaCKRO \$100 gift certificates at a cost of \$50 to be used as awards to Youth paddlers completing the Series.

**14. Election of 2009 Officers**—All current officers, except President and Vice President have either offered to, or are hereby asked to, continue in their roles for 2009. Jeff

Owen has expressed interest in running for President, and Paula Lunt for VP. These two positions will be on the ballot enclosed in the newsletter.

Joe Axford steps up as 2009 Newsletter Editor. The email address he will use as his contact address for questions and submissions: <mackro@roadrunner.com>

3:10 Bob Dean made a motion to adjourn. All agreed.