

1. The Board is responsible for coordination between the LBRA and its lessee organizations, the CSULB Crew, Long Beach Junior Crew, CARP and Powerhouse Fitness. As a Board member how would you help to coordinate use of the facility and equipment between these organizations?

At the present moment, all clubs are working well together and cooperating with each other. This requires patience and respect of each of our fellow clubs and an understanding that we all share the same passion. In the past, financials have been a challenge, the boathouse expenses created tension and conflict amongst the clubs. The current Board has focused on resolving these differences and creating a working relationship that is agreeable for all clubs and a much healthier club environment.

2. Membership in the club is growing by leaps and bounds primarily due to Learn to Row Day and the new lesson programs that have grown out of that effort. How do you propose to keep those new members happy and continue their development as rowers and effectiveness to the club as new members?

Historically I'm not sure how the membership numbers have ebbed and flowed. I am concerned that there may be ego in that we need to keep our membership constantly growing. To keep rowers happy, we need quality equipment to row, erg and train on. The amount of damage to our fleet is staggering, we need to get this under control. We need to implement stricter guidelines and boat handling policies to all rowers. As a member, if you damage a boat, you should be held accountable and financially responsible.

3. As the club continues to grow so does the need for space and ongoing issues over boat storage, use of ergs and other equipment. How can the club continue to manage its existing storage and needs in the future?

This is in line with my statement above. I think as a club, we need to be mindful of our motivation for increasing our membership. We have a finite amount of space to work with. Yes, we need to eliminate unused boats and free up valuable space. Something to consider is to determine a maximum occupancy for LBRA. Once this occupancy has been met, people wanting to join will be put on a waiting list. I know this doesn't sound attractive, but the boathouse is already feeling the stress of the increase in membership, and this will not improve by increasing numbers. Too many is just simply too many.

4. What is your perspective on paid staff? Should or shouldn't the club hire a manager or regular coaching staff? Why or why not? Pros and cons?

I don't know how well this works for other clubs and is not anything I've ever thought about. I can't comment either way on this, only that I wouldn't want my dues to increase to support this.

5. The LBRA fleet is aging and new boat purchases are ongoing and will continue. How should boats be prioritized for purchase in the future? What would you suggest we do with our older boats?

We need to meet the needs of all rowing levels. However, we need to assess the current level of damage and make people accountable. We need the membership to take pride and ownership in what we currently have.

Older boats, if there is not much value, should be donated. If there is value, we should attempt to sell.

6. LBRA has typically hosted 2 -3 regattas per year (Christmas, Spring/Solstice and Beach Sprints). There have been concerns with the organization of the events by prospective officials and other clubs who might participate in our events. What are your suggestions or thoughts on how to improve our regattas?

We need to implement a Local Organizing Committee. We need to get our members involved. Putting on our regattas shouldn't be done by the same 10 people. Regatta participation should be required, and there should be a 4 hr. minimum of time given. It's a tough situation, everyone wants to race and use that as their out.