

PORPA

est. 2014

Pend Oreille Rowing



COVID19 Response

In 2020 PORPA like everybody else, faced challenges with positive forward motion. Using the USRowing guidelines, PORPA members adapted and continued to row in 2020. New guidelines allowed individuals to row single shells, reserving double shells for multi-member family rowers. Additionally PORPA adjusted membership fees to better serve member's budgets through financial uncertainty. We will continue adapting our program to support members in 2021.

2020 Rowing Season

The rowing season kicked off mid July. With the help of local residents, 2 more single shells were added to the fleet for members use. July and August recreational rowing registrations showed use almost every day. With the smoke situation in September, activity slowed down. A new spin on the season was the addition of "Ladies night" on Wednesdays. Rowing continued until mid-October and after water became too low to be safe at the Mudhole, the last session was held with a sunny launch on Spirit Lake.



2021 Rowing Season

Plans are in place to start activities following our COVID 19 protocol as soon as water flow is considered safe at the Mudhole. On a case by case basis we will consider launching on other bodies of water earlier.

We now have 7 singles and 2 doubles available in our fleet. USRowing guidelines permitting, we might be launching our large boats too.

Wednesday's Ladies night will continue this season. For our male members, an interest group is being formed with rowers from across the Inland NW (*Moses Lake to CdA and Pullman/Moscow to Priest River/Sandpoint*) to row large boats at least once a month (*COVID permitting*). Contact secretary@porpa.org for information.

2021 Priest River Sprints

Together with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PORPA is gearing up for the first Priest River Sprints on August 21st at the Mudhole. It will be a day of fun races for all experience levels and ages, for single sculls, kayaks, canoes, SUPs, etc. Racers register at PORPA.org by August 14. Junior racers (14 and under are free, but must register). All registered racers will receive an event t-shirt. Special guests from the Kalispel Tribe of Indians will provide a presentation of canoe and river culture in the afternoon. Free entry for spectators.



Dues Renewal Deadline: June 30

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| Family Rowing | \$225 |
| Individual Rowing | \$150 |
| Junior Rowing | \$50 |
| Social Membership | \$20 |

NEW! Renew your dues online at: www.porpa.org (Membership and Schedule Registration)

Just like last year, due to the current health emergency and situation, our board has determined that these are recommended fees. A minimum \$20 Social Membership fee is required to participate in all social and rowing activities.

UPDATED Board Member Contact Info:

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|--|--|
| Gayne Sears - <i>President</i> | president@porpa.org |
| Erwin Muller - <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i> | secretary@porpa.org |
| Debbie Eagley - <i>Safety Director</i> | safety@porpa.org |
| Stan Birnbaum - <i>Advisor</i> | director@porpa.org |
| Sheila Thomas - <i>Assistant Treasurer</i> | sheila@synergystudio.net |



Warren Foersch Award

This award was introduced in 2019 to honor our recently departed friend, in the spirit of prevailing against all odds with never-ending optimism and commitment. **Sheila Thomas received the award in 2019** dedication to the club, the regatta, the master ladies novice four and her improvement in rowing technique.

For 2020, Val, Riley and Jace Thompson were selected to receive this award for their commitment to teaching, learning and participating in rowing activities throughout the summer. They had altogether over 50 sessions registered in 2020, rowing in recreational singles, doubles and advanced singles.



Meet the Bonners Ferry Thompsons:

Val rowed in college with the Gonzaga Bulldogs. After graduation she didn't get to row again and married Si, had two healthy boys Riley and Jace (*now strapping young men*) and lives in Bonners Ferry ID. For her birthday back in 2014, her sister Jenny (*one of the PORPA maiden row crew*) wanted to surprise her and with Si's assistance they got her to go to Riley Creek to attend one of our

eight crew sessions. There was no way back after that. Val has been very involved with PORPA activities since then. In 2019 Riley started coxing on our large boats and Si learned to row. Towards the end of that season, Jace started coxing and Riley got on our beginners single. Riley has now graduated to advanced singles and Jace has also learned to row on the beginners single. Now we will have to find new talent to assist us with coxing.



Introduction to Rowing Sessions

PORPA will continue offering three introduction to rowing sessions to interested people. The program consist of one or two on land sessions to go through safety and technique theory, rowing technique practice on an ergometer and hands on instruction of rowing equipment, both shells and oars. Then, depending on learned and applied skills on the ergometer, one or two on water sessions on one of our beginners singles. These three sessions are complimentary. If interested, participants can then join PORPA.

Gomotion Web-based Management System

PORPA's new website supported members with club updates, fleet information and allowed members to use online tools for booking row sessions, purchase gear and pay membership fees. See www.porpa.org for more information or seek help from secretary@porpa.org.

Safety Corner:

Safe practices and skills are integral to this sport! PORPA requires that club rowers pass a swim test: 15 minutes of treading water, then you must be able to put on a life vest within a reasonable amount of time. We will administer the test if required at the mudhole once operations have started.

As part of the certification process for advanced singles, rowers will need to participate in what in our jargon is called a flip test. This consists of turning over into the water, righting the shell and getting back on. This test will be required for all advanced single rowers.



Membership Annual Meeting and Boat Maintenance

Please mark your calendar for **May 30th** for combined boat maintenance, membership annual meeting, potluck BBQ and team building day. **May 31** we will continue maintenance on boats, setting up racks at the "Mudhole" and with any luck (water levels permitting) the 1st row of the season will take place.

Events discussed in this newsletter may need to be modified, cancelled or postponed. We will keep you informed via Porpa.org/News.

****PORPA operates our activities on Army Corps of Engineers federally managed lands. We appreciate this partnership and will continue to provide non-motorized boating opportunities for the people of north Idaho, NE Washington, and visitors to the area****



The PORPA Fleet

We have now a fleet of 12 row boats and one coach/safety launch.

Arthur Ericsson 8+ (coxed eight)

Our first PORPA shell. On loan from WSU men's team, named after their coach who made the loan happen. It is a 1994 Vespoli fiberglass shell that came to PORPA in 2014. Our preferred sweep learning shell.

George Bertram III 8+ (coxed eight)

Our premier competition eight. Donated to PORPA by the University of Oregon, named after the gentleman that donated it to OU. It is a 2000 Millennium Vespoli carbon fiber shell that came to PORPA in 2016.

Yam Pah Pa 4+ (bow coxed four)

Our workhorse four. Donated to PORPA by the University of Oregon, named using their convention after a body of water. Yam Pah Pa is a native American name of the Snake river, border between Oregon and Idaho. It is a 2000 Millennium Vespoli carbon fiber shell that came to PORPA in 2016. This boat can be rigged as a quad if we had the right rigging and oars.

LW 2x (light weight double)

Our petit rowers double for average 75 kg rowers. It was donated to PORPA by current members. Still waiting for the naming ceremony (suggested name The Bard) It is a 1997 Starline Carbon Glass Double that can be rigged as a pair.

Patricia 1x (Recreational single)

Our learn to row single. Named after PORPA founder, donated by a Sandpoint resident. It is a Trimline recreational fiberglass single. Our preferred sculling learning shell. It now has a twin sibling acquired used in 2020.

Trimline 1x (Recreational single)

Patricia's twin sibling, ready for action in 2021

Neher 1x (Recreational single)

Our show and tell shell. Wooden shell built and donated to PORPA by a Sandpoint surgeon. It is a beauty that requires tender love and care when taken out. Great to go out for an afternoon spin.

Coastal 2x (Open Water double)

This coastal double belongs to a current member and is accessible to all members. Great learn to scull shell that can be also rigged as a single. It is a Wintech racing coastal fiberglass shell.

MAAS-24 1x (Advanced single)

This MAAS-24 single belongs to a current member and is accessible to all members that are certified for its use.

WARREN 1x (Advanced single)

This Little River Marine Pro Am 25 single belongs to a current member and is accessible to all members that are certified for its use.

Star 1x (Advanced single)

This Alden Star single belongs to a current member and is accessible to all members that are certified for its use.

Ocean 1x (Coastal single)

This Alden Ocean single belongs to a current member and is accessible to all members that are certified for its use.