

# **Grateful Oars Rowing Club Guidelines**

## **Revised 5/9/17**

The club has developed practices and informal policies over the years since the founding year of 1997, and some of them may not be familiar to new members. This document is intended as a kind of corporate memory for use by current and future members.

### 1. **Various established policies not found in the bylaws:**

- The boathouse door is to be locked when no responsible person is present.
- The Clarkson clockwise circulation pattern is to be used on the lake. (See diagram in the boathouse.)
- Guests and prospective members must pay seasonal dues before rowing again after having rowed twice. This policy is cumulative, not per each season. The Board may make exceptions.
- Record each rower's name and the coxswain on the boathouse log sheet.
- Reserve boats using the on-line calendar for each rowing session. If not reserving in advance, check the on-line calendar before taking a boat out.
- Boats are to be wiped down after each use.
- Report equipment and maintenance issues to the appropriate Maintenance Coordinator (boat, boathouse, or launch).
- At least two experienced rowers must be in any beginner 8, not including the cox. At least two experienced rowers must be in any beginner 4, which may include the cox.
- A minimum of two hours of service is given each season by each member. The service may include serving on the Board or appointive position, rowing with a Learn to Row crew, working on boats and oars, caring for the building and grounds, cleaning the dock, and so forth.

### 2. **Policy on storage of personal rowing equipment in the GORC boathouse:**

Storage of personally owned equipment in the club boathouse is permitted under the following circumstances:

- The owner must have a current regular seasonal membership in the club as of June 1 and must pay the annual storage fee as set by the club.
- Storage must be authorized by the Board of Directors or, between meetings, by the President. The Boathouse Maintenance Coordinator will decide which rack is to be used.
- Storage is limited to one rowable 1X shell, slings, and sculling oars, provided there is available rack space or overhead storage. Other personal gear must fit inside a locker.
- Stored equipment must not interfere with the use of the boathouse by crews and other members.
- Inactive boats may not be stored during the season.
- Storage authorization may be revoked for cause by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may refund prorated fees at their discretion.
- If storage authorization is revoked or the required membership and fee are not paid, equipment must be removed promptly.

### 3. Policy on use of the club's Small Boats

**Users:** Only regular members (not alternates or guests) may use the singles or pair/double unless in a Learn to Row setting. Guests may use a small boat when under the supervision of a regular member approved for independent use. Rowers of the small boats are not required to be members of regularly scheduled crews.

**Scheduling:** Priority goes to the person signed up for a particular time period. Use the on-line schedule to make sure a boat is available and that you are signed up (access to the schedule is given after checkout). If you don't have access to the on-line schedule, please call Dick Mooers (315-854-4186) to schedule a session. Please limit a session to 1.5 hours; be back at the dock before the next scheduled row time. The schedule allows time to remove the boat from the rack, get in a good workout, and clean and return the boat to the rack. A boat may be reserved for recurring time slots up to 4 weeks ahead (not the same as a calendar month).

**Handling:** The user is responsible for damage. Be careful of the skeg (fin) as you launch or recover. The risk of damaging the boat is greatest when it is out of the water. Carry the boat overhead if alone. If you can, place the boat on your head. Handling the boats is much easier for two people than one.

**Rowing and Safety:** Refer to safety guidelines posted on the GORC website.

**Location:** The small boats are not to be used elsewhere without GORC board approval.

**Notes:** To keep sand out of boats with clogs, use clean-soled water shoes or sneakers. Heavy socks will do in a pinch. Bottles, jackets and gloves can be held under the bungees in the bow of the singles. Hold oar handles when adjusting clothing. With the Alden singles, use only the red and white club sculls hanging on the rear rack. Close drain plugs before rowing and open the drains after racking.