

**TO:** Wappingers Crew Club, Inc members and families

**FROM:** Jennifer Gilmore, President, the WCC Board, and Patrick Hancock, Head Coach

**DATE:** June 1, 2020

**RE:** Partial refund of 2020 Dues

**Refund Google Form:** <https://forms.gle/CnytCi6HvjbaMLL37>

As in our earlier communication of May 6, 2020, we hope this finds you as well as you can be under the current circumstances. We hope you are all healthy.

We made a general comment on May 6th that we would explore our finances and the feasibility of a partial dues refund given the lack of a 2020 racing season. We have done so. This memo will address the refund issue as well as other important issues as we move forward and look to operating next year. In particular, we would like to thank our Treasurer, Trudi Newhard, for doing a lot of number crunching which enabled us to have an informed discussion.

We understand that some families have been impacted severely by the virus. Our intention is to give as much financial relief as possible while keeping WCC solvent and in a position to move forward next year. Below is a summary of our refund calculations.

**The following table shows our income and expenses as of May 17, 2020.**

Income from dues	\$43,510
Income from fees, fundraising, etc.	\$15,370
Purchase of new launch & engine	-\$5,865
Equipment Maintenance	-\$4,432
Equipment and Liability Insurances	-\$5,872
US Rowing & other membership dues	-\$1,759
Facility Rental	-\$12,434
Indoor sprints rowing fees	-\$1,380
Team & sponsor T-shirts	-\$2,686
Coaches Salaries	-\$8,200
Office Expenses	-\$2,107
Misc. Expenses	-\$1,963
End of the year banquet	-\$1,500
<b>Refund Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$10,682</b>

\$43, 510 : total dues paid by Novices and Varsity (part of total income)  
\$14,840 Novice portion of dues (34% of total dues)  
\$28, 670 Varsity portion of dues (66% of total dues)

**Fund balance \$10,682 x .34 = \$3,643.32 available for novice refunds**  
28 novices.....\$130.12 per novice rower

**Fund balance \$10,682 x .66 = \$7,038.68 available for varsity refunds**  
45 varsity.....\$156.42 per varsity rower

This is the rationale for the refund. These numbers are adjusted on the next page based on the payment (or not) of the \$100 equipment fee.

**EQUIPMENT FEE:** Some years ago, the club started the equipment fee to help keep up with the deterioration of equipment, the ongoing expense of repairs, and from time to time as funds allow, purchasing equipment to replace what we have. Crew equipment is very expensive. Used shells are typically over \$15,000 even with careful shopping (new is more than \$30,000). We are in the midst of replacing safety launches and engines over the next five years, a must for operating on the Hudson River. A new launch and engine is over \$5,000. Oars are about \$400 each new or \$3,200 for a set of 8.

Our point is that the equipment fee is an essential component to the ongoing success of the program. If the equipment fee has not been paid, it is being deducted from the refund amount. Therefore, refunds are typically one of four numbers:

Paid Equipment fee:           **\$130.12** per novice rower  
  **\$156.42** per varsity rower

**OR**

Unpaid Equipment fee:       \$130.12 less \$100.00 = **\$30.12** per novice rower  
  \$156.42 less \$100.00 = **\$56.42** per varsity rower

**A FINAL THOUGHT ON REFUNDS:** For those of you who are able and willing, please consider giving your refund back to the club. As a 501(C)3 nonprofit, your donation would be tax deductible. Aside from the ongoing expenses of running the program, we face the distinct possibility that the District may cut funding for our bus in which case we would have to fund a private vendor. This would cost many thousands not previously in our budget.

## **WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU ONE WAY OR THE OTHER!!**

For the sake of clarity, please respond to [this Refund Google Form](#) in one of the following ways:

1. Please send me the calculated refund.
2. Keep the refund and send me a receipt indicating a charitable donation to WCC, Inc.

We ask all members to respond to the google form by **June 15th** and if a refund is requested, it will be mailed by June 26th. If we do not hear from you by that date, we will assume that you are making a donation to the club.

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### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

1. **SENIORS/BANQUET:** Our first choice would be to have a conventional BBQ at the boathouse as we have done in the past and potentially go out for a row.

If HRRA does not open by **August 1st**, we will move to a contingency plan which is currently under consideration. At the very least we want to:

- a. Recognize graduating seniors
- b. Announce new captains
- c. Give awards/senior gifts

We will remain in contact on this matter. Details will follow when we have them.

2. **WCC OFFICERS:** We need individuals to shadow current officers who will be done at the end of next year. We also need a Secretary **NOW!** Please consider serving. Terms are for 2 years. Wappingers Crew Club has always been blessed with terrific parental leadership. The last question of the [refund google form](#) addresses these openings.

We can't do it without you.

**Immediate Opening:** Secretary

**Shadowing:** Treasurer, President, Registration, Fundraising

**Contact for Questions:** Jennifer Gilmore at [wccwinning@gmail.com](mailto:wccwinning@gmail.com)

Amiee Reilly at [wccfundraise@gmail.com](mailto:wccfundraise@gmail.com)

### 3. **REMINDERS/REPEAT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEXT YEAR:** How next year looks depends on the virus of course and your skill level.

**In the Summer, HRRRA** announced on May 28th that the boathouse will be open in a very limited capacity as the state begins its re-opening process. Unfortunately for our style of rowing, sweeping (one oar per rower), they decided it is only safe to train in small sculling boats (two oars per rower) for “some time”. Keep an eye on their website for updates as this may change. If it does not, the coaches highly recommend joining HRRRA for their fall programs if they are open in a full capacity.

- A. **Current Varsity:** Our first choice would be to row as Wappingers for as long as is feasible this summer. If this is not possible, seek out HRRRA. As stated above, they are currently only open for sculling. If you would like to learn to scull, definitely check out their available programs. If you prefer sweeping, keep an eye on their website for updates. Regardless, maintain some level of conditioning.
  - i. [HRRRA Programs](#)
  
- B. **Current Novice Rowers:** Seek out HRRRA if they open this summer. Most of you have limited experience and need water time. The point is to stay engaged.
  - i. [HRRRA Junior Learn-to-Row](#)
  
- C. **In the Fall,** any one of three things might happen:
  - 1. If schools are still closed, so are we. Keep training at home.
  - 2. If HRRRA is open, participate in the Fall programs they offer.
    - i. [Junior Sweeps Fall Program](#)
  - 3. If we do a typical Learn-to-Row at Sharpe, we would like to add a boat or two to get additional water time for current novices and thus “bridge” them into the varsity program for the Spring of 2021 alongside any 2021 novice.

D. **2021 Novices:** Typically, we start new rowers in the Fall by recruiting at the various school orientations and by word-of-mouth. At present, we do not know if schools will be open in the Fall or if Sharpe Reservation will be available. If not, we will have to get creative in the development of new rowers: perhaps we distribute ergs and train online, perhaps we come to a large parking lot with ergs and spread out. We are open to ideas.

One thing is clear, it will be **more important than ever for current rowers to get the word out. Let newcomers know why you love the sport.** A STRONG INFLUX OF NEW ROWERS IS CRITICAL FOR THE ONGOING VIABILITY OF THE PROGRAM.

**THANK YOU!**