



BOC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Brattleboro Outing Club is to promote community participation in outdoor activities by developing, operating, and sponsoring affordable recreation programs, events, and facilities in Brattleboro and the surrounding towns.

www.brattleboroutingclub.org Spring/Summer 2017

SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER

**2017 Board of Directors
Brattleboro Outing Club**

- | | |
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BOC

2017 Spring NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Spring of 2017 is almost upon us. Oh man winter has a way of reminding us that we are not out of the woods yet. With that said, the past winter season provided perfect timing of snowfall and excellent conditions for cross country skiing. Area students continued to use the trails for practices and events although a couple of events were cancelled. Brad Dinwiddie performed a superior service in keeping the trails groomed and the hut well managed. Many thanks to all those who have helped and supported the cross country ski program.

BOC’s Spring and Summer season programs are underway in getting ready for all its members. Please take a moment to review each of the program’s writeup in this newsletter. There’s a lot of information and some new things going on in each one.

The BOC board of directors began a project to help promote the awareness and growth of the organization through new membership enrollments, donations and volunteers. We made our presence at a couple local gatherings such as Stone Soup Social and Get the Word Out where the public was invited to interact with local non profit organizations. Each one was its own success. We plan to utilize more social media, participate in more local gatherings and provide more activities that would draw more participation to Brattleboro Outing Club.

I feel confident that with this endeavor, we can continue the club’s mission and longevity for another generation.

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We had a terrific season with Mother Nature sending timely snowfall, and our hard-working volunteers and our groomer team creating and maintaining some of the most enjoyable skiing conditions in New England. Anecdotal reports are that BOC maintains the best ski conditions of the several Southern Vermont venues.

More than 100 students from area schools attended supervised winter activities on the facilities of the Brattleboro Country Club, where our cross country skiing takes place. A big Thank You! to Melanie Boese for making this beautiful facility available to the BOC. The Brattleboro Union High School Nordic Ski Team continued to train on our facilities, and we hosted BOC cross country ski members and their guests during Winter Carnival, where our Friends Ski Free event was well attended on that Tuesday and Wednesday.

We look forward to next season and encourage anyone who hasn't tried our beautiful groomed trails, 20 miles long, with beginner to advanced choices, to come and try us out.

Volunteering is fun, where you get to meet your neighbors, warm up in the ski hut with some hot apple cider and cookies, and choose from our well-stocked inventory of skis and boots to rent for the day.

And, after a day of skiing, refresh yourself with some food and beverages right across the parking lot from the ski hut, at Jack's Tavern and Restaurant, inside the Brattleboro Country Club clubhouse.

See you next October!

Jay Jacobowitz

XC Committee Chair



"This year's Paddling Season will be April to October, with 12 outings, mostly in the Tri-State area; VT, NH & MA. We will host a 3 day/2 night canoe/kayak camping trip on the upper CT River (part of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail) in August, and a trip out to the Thimble Islands, Long Island Sound in September. All outings are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Details on the BOC website; calendar is below.

April 29th, Sat...Hinsdale Setbacks, CT River, NH

May 14th, Sun...Herrick's Cove, Rockingham, CT River, VT

May 17th, Wed...Gale Meadows Pond, Winhall, VT

May 24th, Wed...Grafton Pond, Grafton, NH

June 7th, Wed...Tully Lake/Long Pond, Royalston, MA

June 17th, Sat...Sunrise, Harriman Res, Wilmington, VT,

July 16th, Sun...Somerset Res, Somerset, VT

August 25-27, Fri/Sat/Sun...Upper CT River camping trip, VT

Sep 6th, Wed...Thimble Islands, Long Island Sound, CT

Sept 20th, Wed...Spoonwood Pond, Nelson, NH

Sept 23rd, Sat...Pillsbury State Park, Washington, NH

Oct 1st, Sun...Somerset Res, Somerset, VT

17th Annual Consignment Sale & Swap of human & wind powered small boats will be....Sat, May 13th, from 11:30 to 2, in Brattleboro at the Outlet Center. More information on BOC website.

Questions/suggestions/comments....Larry (802)254-3666 or <Lmacyak@gmail.com> "

Larry McIntosh

Paddle Chair



It's April 2 and the courts are covered with snow. But April is a transformational month at the Outing Club. By the end of the month the peepers and the early flowers will be out, and the red clay courts will return to Cedar St. I can't wait!

The tennis committee (Gwynn Yandow, Pam Bolduc, David Mischke, Roni Byrne, Kate Fleming, Ed Powers, Martin Sipowicz and myself) have been busy planning and we're looking to improve on last year, which was a great year.

Jacob Miller is back as our instructor/program director. He has also expanded his racquet stringing/repair service to include some lines of racquets and shoes. Let him know if your tennis gear needs help.

John Donaldson has stepped down as facilities manager, and will be replaced by Bill Bandish so we expect the facility to be humming along as good as ever.

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS: April 22 & 23 and April 29 & 30. With the late snows we're going to need to push to get the courts up and running by May 1, so please everyone come out on one or two of these days and help get the courts, grounds and clubhouse ready for this season!

BOC TENNIS NEEDS HELP FROM ITS MEMBERS.

We have decided to keep our dues at a very reasonable \$200. We feel that it is an important part of our mission to provide a first-rate tennis program at a cost that allows for as many people as possible to be a part of our tennis community. But here's what everyone needs to know about how this works.

We run really close to just breaking even every year. Some years a little on the positive side, other years a small negative number. And since we're not in this to make money that's been o.k. However, a realistic look at the needs of maintaining our facility over the next few years mandates that we start to accumulate some money to sink back into the club.

We're asking everyone to help us out in whatever way they can. Here's what you can do:

1. Volunteer! The BOC has been a volunteer organization longer than any of us has been a member, and that's a big reason it's so great. We come together as a community and make it happen. Help out with the work days, volunteer for a committee, take on a special project, big or small. Talk to anyone on the tennis committee about

how we can use your talents.

2. Forego taking the volunteer credit on your dues payment. The payment form on the web site has a box indicating you wish to take the credit. If you've put in the time and it's important to your situation please feel free to take the credit - that's what it's for. But consider putting that money back into the club by not asking for the credit.

3. Donate. Consider putting the BOC on the list of nonprofits that you give to. Donations to the Brattleboro Outing Club Education Fund are fully deductible on your tax return

4. Register early. Registration is available online or by filling out a form available at the clubhouse; mail form with your check to our PO Box or deposit in the drop box at the clubhouse. Adult membership is a very reasonable \$200.

- To register online, go to brattleborooutingclub.org and pay using PayPal.

- To mail registration form and send check: PO Box 335, Brattleboro, VT 05302 (add note if name on the registration is different from check name).

We strongly encourage online registration. It saves administrative costs and activates your membership more quickly. If you have trouble with your online registration, please contact any of the tennis committee members for help. Once you've registered, read/download the Tennis Welcome Letter and instructions concerning court reservations on our website. You'll also find a calendar of events and information about our many summer programs.

Once again we've planned an extensive youth program and adult clinics, as well as private lessons available from our pros.

Our popular doubles league will run again this year, and for those who prefer singles we are going to sponsor singles evenings where singles enthusiasts can come test their games against other players of similar ability.

The youth programs are a great learning experience and healthy environment for area kids.

I'm excited about the upcoming season, our new initiatives, and seeing you all on the courts!

Joe Meyer—Tennis Chair





An eager group of club members - both new and old - met in early March to set the 2017 agenda and important dates for the upcoming season. The all-important DOCKS-IN day is set for Sunday, April 23rd at 9:00 am (weather permitting). We need all hands on for that day! It dovetails nicely with the Early Bird Membership registration date (reduced fee of \$225.00 for the season) - same day! Registration is on line at this very BOC website.

The following Saturday, April 29 will find club members at the boathouse getting boats rigged and cared for after their winter rest (both rowers and boats!) and tidying up the boathouse.

All are welcome. There will be a RowBOC gathering at Pliny Park on May 6, Saturday, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, complete with a beautiful rowing scull to view up close and personal.

This is an opportunity for community members and curious folks to learn about our club, our Learn to Row Clinic, and our free Check Out Rowing Day on May 20, Saturday, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at the boathouse. Folks

who want to give it a try will be able to get in a boat on the West River with help and encouragement from club members.

The Learn to Row Clinic will start June 10, yes - another Saturday! and will run for several weeks - Saturday mornings and most Wednesdays - late afternoons. Graeme King will be the instructor-coach-mentor along with Linda Gobbo and many of the club members helping out. Graeme is eager to reinstate sweep rowing as part of the clinic. Our other coaches - Tim Whitney (our very own Olympian) and David Gessner - US Rowing certified instructor - will also be on hand to teach and lend their expertise and skill to new and returning rowers. Clinic registration is separate from membership and will again be offered at the incredible rate of \$150.00, with option to join the club for the remainder of the season for an additional \$75.00 fee, following successful completion of the clinic. Registration forms will be available in early MAY for download from the web site.

We also hope to schedule more activities with Putney Rowing Club, especially group rows - quads and doubles back and forth to Putney! Membership in the club is \$250.00 for the season. Members are encouraged to register and pay on line as well as sign the necessary waivers. Looking forward to a wonderful year on the water! Questions can be sent to rowboc@gmail.com.

Margery McCrum

Brattleboro, VT 05302-0335

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for good sports
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