LRC NEWSLETTER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Wednesday, November 11 - Board Meeting**
- **Sunday, November 15 - End of Summer All Member Meeting**

PADDLING THROUGH AUTUMN

Welcome to the October edition of the Louisville Rowing Club newsletter!
It looks like fall has finally settled in, leaves are falling, and the air is crisp.

The boathouse has officially closed and we keep moving through all the Fall Racing after the inagural Derby City Head Race!
As we get into the colder months there are still opportunities to get out on the water and also start some indoor conditioning.





In this newsletter, you will learn about upcoming events, recaps from the LRC fall season, and all the exciting happenings at the club.
Be sure to check out our calendar for everything coming down the line as we head into another great transition season.

Ready all, Row!

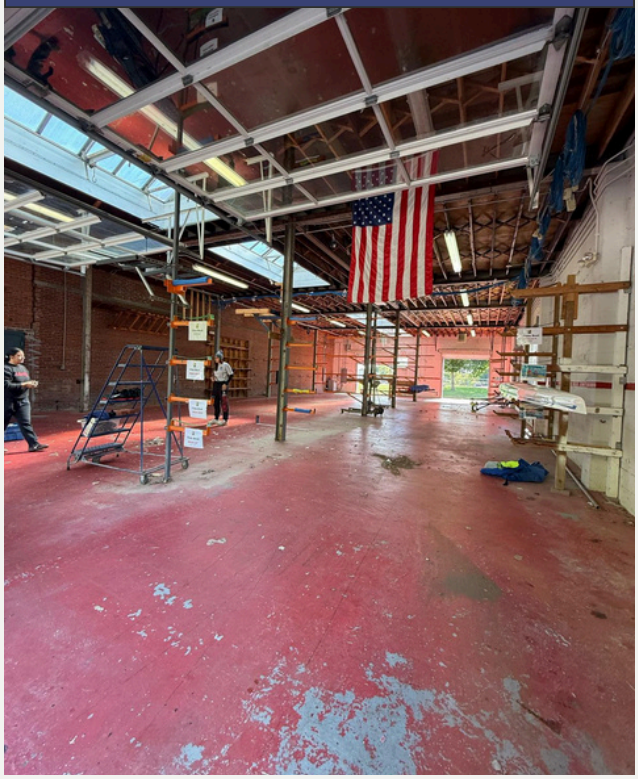
BOATHOUSE NEWS

IT'S A WRAP! THE BOATHOUSE MOVE IS COMPLETE!

Many hands make light work – and our rowing club proved it!

On Saturday, October 17th, we completed the move out of our boathouse, with every last remaining item finding its temporary home in a fenced area of the parking lot and an adjacent shipping container.

Long before the final moving day, club members were busy coordinating with Waterfront Development, arranging fencing and storage container delivery and installation, moving ergs and other items to temporary storage, and inventorying, sorting and organizing boat parts and equipment.





A few of the key contributors were Denis Roux, leading the planning of the project, while Coach Riley worked with Waterfront Development, Stephen Burch secured the shipping container, and Tori Murden McClure inventoried and organized boat parts and even built out functional and beautiful oar racks inside the shipping container.

Those behind-the-scenes efforts laid the groundwork for a smooth move ensuring the equipment would be organized and accessible while we are away from the boathouse.

On that final move day, both masters and juniors pulled together to get the house emptied! Every member who showed up to help lift and carry, organize, store and do whatever was asked was important during the move days.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, energy and expertise to this projectthroughout its planning and execution! Let's look forward to our return to our boathouse next year!

STARTING LINE

A SUCCESS! THE DERBY CITY HEAD RACE MAKES HISTORY

We did it!

As of October 10th, LRC has officially hosted its very first regatta: the Derby City Head Race! After months of planning, preparation, and plenty of helping hands, our inaugural event is officially in the books, and what a day it was!

The water was pristine, almost perfectly still, with not a single barge in sight. The weather was absolutely perfect, with rain clouds holding off until the moment we finished racing. We couldn't have asked for more beautiful conditions for our maiden voyage!





LRC Brings Home the Medals

Our athletes showed up and showed out! LRC brought home an impressive collection of medals across our Adaptive, Juniors, and Masters programs.

Adaptive
- 🥇 2 Gold
- 🥈 2 Silver
- 🥉 1 Bronze

Juniors
- 🥇 4 Gold
- 🥈 4 Silver
- 🥉 2 Bronze

Masters
- 🥇 6 Gold

That's 21 medals for LRC! Congratulations to all our athletes on their outstanding performances.

A huge thank-you to Buckeye and Indiana University for joining us and bringing the competition, and a round of applause for St. Xavier and the University of Louisville for their fantastic performances! An extra shoutout to the U of L Women for finishing in the top 10 at the Head of the Charles Regatta this past weekend. Amazing job!

STARTING LINE

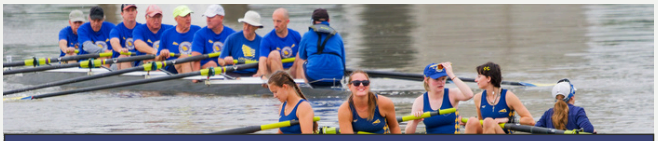


Bringing Rowing to the Waterfront

We were thrilled to see such a wonderful turnout of supporters and spectators. Throughout the day, curious passersby stopped to watch the racing and learn more about the sport. Events like this are a fantastic opportunity to introduce new people to rowing and invite them to discover what makes our niche community so special.

Here's to turning that curiosity into interest, interest into participation, and participation into a growing rowing community in Louisville!





100+ Helping Hands

Of course, none of this would have been possible without our incredible volunteers. Between Friday's setup and Saturday's races, more than 100 pairs of helping hands came together to make this event happen.

From providing snacks and keeping our parking lots running smoothly to setting buoys at 5 a.m. and keeping the race course moving throughout the day, our volunteers showed up wherever they were needed. Every task, big or small, helped make our first regatta a success. To everyone who gave their time and energy: **thank you!** We couldn't have done it without you.

Help Us Make Year Two Even Better!

If you missed the survey that went out last week, there's still time to share your feedback! Every suggestion, observation, and idea is valuable as we look for ways to improve and grow the event for future years.

Planning for next year will begin in the new year, and we'd love to have more club members involved. If you're interested in stepping up to the plate and joining the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), please contact Riley.

Finally, mark your calendars and start getting excited for next year's Derby City Head Race! This year, we planted the seeds. Now, let's see how much we can grow.

Here's to year two!

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 11 at 6pm at Joan Vandertoll's condo meeting room at 5601 Coach Gate Wynde. All are welcome to attend any and all Board meetings.

END OF SUMMER ALL MEMBER MEETING

Sunday, November 15 at 3pm at Joan Vandertoll's condo meeting room at 5601 Coach Gate Wynde. All are welcome and encouraged to attend to hear a recap of the summer season and plans moving forward. The slate of board members will also be presented and voted on.





WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN LRC?

The LRC Board is a group of volunteer representatives from across the club (Masters, Juniors parents, and coaches) who meet monthly to help lead the club from a program and financial perspective.
If you are interested in being a part of this group, please reach out to Riley Kerber, president, by **Friday, November 6** (coachrileyrowing@gmail.com).

The slate of proposed board members will be voted on during the **All Member Meeting on Sunday, November 15.**

MASTERS RECAP

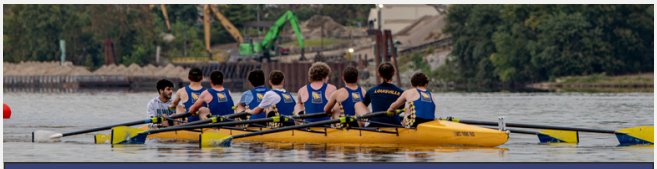


MOVIE NIGHT!

13 Masters gathered the evening of Sunday, October 11 to watch the 1986 sports drama"The Boy in Blue" starring a very young Nicholas Cage as Canadian rower Ned Hanlan.
Fun was had by all as we enjoyed a variety of apps, chili and popcorn under the stars riveted by the stellar acting and rowing technique displayed throughout. (Just kidding: there is a reason it did not receive any Oscar nominations).

Thanks to Lew Acampora and Amy Coultas for organizing this successful Masters event off the water!





FALL/WINTER ERGING AT TURNER'S

LRC has relocated eight (8) ergs to Turner's. This location provides a warm and safe environment for LRC members to condition and stay strong during the off-season.

- **Address:** 3125 River Road, Louisville, KY 40207

- **Erg Hours:** 6-10am, Everyday (Monday-Sunday)
- 5-8pm, Friday and Sunday only

*Subject to change. Notice to be provided.
**Please be respectful of cutoff times.

- **Access:** Key in lockbox outside the main door.

*E-mail Niki Liegel for the code to the lockbox – nliegel@gmail.com

House rules

1. No shoes on the aerial mats!
2. Be aware of the overhead sprinklers! These drop down from the ceiling along the path between the locker room and gym. If you hit a sprinkler with an erg, it will trigger the release of fire-retardant foam and you will be responsible for the cost of the clean up.
3. Always place the key back in the lockbox when you leave! Do not take it home.

Feel free to organize dedicated group erg sessions by entering the sessions in **iCrew**, same as you would an organized row.

MASTERS RECAP

2026 TOUR ROW: A BEAUTIFUL DAY ON THE KENTUCKY RIVER!

On Saturday, October 24, 15 rowers set out for our annual Tour Row along the beautiful Kentucky River Palisades! This year's trip was especially exciting, as we brought out **three gig boats, the largest turnout in our Tour Row history!**

Our adventure began bright and early at the High Bridge Ramp near Wilmore, Kentucky. Although the morning started off chilly, the weather warmed up beautifully throughout the day, making for nearly perfect rowing conditions. We enjoyed approximately **20 miles of rowing**, surrounded by the stunning scenery of the Kentucky River Palisades and the changing fall foliage.

Throughout the trip, everyone demonstrated incredible teamwork, whether it was rigging and launching the boats, taking turns rowing and steering, or helping one another throughout the day. With three boats on the water, it was wonderful to see such a great turnout and share the experience with so many fellow rowers!





After a full day of rowing, beautiful views, and great company, we made our way back to Louisville around 8 PM, tired but happy! Overall, it was a fantastic trip filled with teamwork, camaraderie, and memorable moments on the water.

A special thank-you to Mike and Mari for all their hard work planning, organizing, and hosting this wonderful trip! From coordinating logistics to making sure everything ran smoothly, their time and dedication made this memorable experience possible. Thank you as well to everyone who participated and helped make this year's Tour Row such a success. We're already looking forward to next year's adventure!



JUNIORS RECAP

JUNIORS FALL SEASON

The LRC Juniors have had an extremely successful fall season! The varsity members traveled to Cleveland, OH on September 26th to participate in the 30th annual Head of the Cuyahoga Regatta. All boats performed extremely well! The mixed eights captured gold and bronze medals, defeating collegiate rowers from Ohio University, John Carroll University, and Case Western Reserve University.





Two weeks later, the novice members of the team joined with the varsity for the first annual Derby City Head Race here in Louisville! The teams worked incredibly well together to capture medals in every event. A special thank you to Buckeye Rowing Club from Columbus, OH for joining forces with LRC to fill out our youth quadruple sculls!

The novice and varsity juniors competed in Columbus, OH on October 24th and 25th in the Blake Haxton and Speakmon Memorial Regattas and will finish their fall season in Chattanooga, TN on November 7th and 8th at the 2026 Head of the Hooch Regatta.

This is also the second year that the club has hosted a foundations squad, open to athletes in 7th and 8th grade. These athletes have been learning the basics of rowing in addition to skills such as teamwork, perseverance, and athleticism. This program has grown since its first year and it will continue to grow and flourish!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LRC KUDOS & SHOUTOUTS!

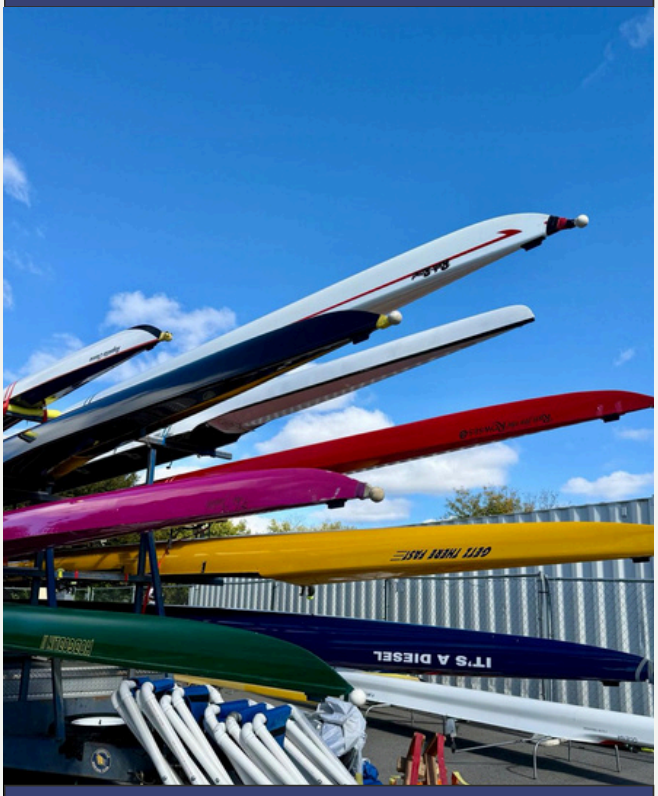
A huge thank-you to the incredible LRC members who go above and beyond to make our rowing community so special! From organizing our first-ever regatta to keeping our boathouse running smoothly, we have so much to celebrate this season.

🏆 **Derby City Head Race (DCHR)**

- A huge round of applause to the entire **DCHR Local Organizing Committee (LOC)** for planning and executing Louisville's first-ever regatta! This was an incredible milestone for LRC, made possible by the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of so many members.
- Special thanks to **Brittany Harper** for her outstanding work as Volunteer Coordinator for DCHR! Despite starting without an established framework, she successfully organized an amazing team of volunteers who helped make the event possible.



- Kudos to **Pam Wardrip**, **Michael Jones**, **Shannon Kelting**, **Amy Coultas**, **Denis Roux**, **Diana Honey**, and **Chet Riley** for coordinating practices, organizing crews, and getting as many rowers as possible on the water for the inaugural DCHR!
- A big thank-you to **Riley**, **Robert**, **Paul**, and **Evey** for their tremendous work coordinating rowers and keeping everything organized before, during, and after the regatta. Their behind-the-scenes efforts helped make the event run smoothly!



- Special recognition to **Diana** for being an extraordinary coxswain, both throughout the season and at DCHR! Thanks also to **Denis** for stepping in as a fun, supportive, and productive coxswain for the Women's 8+ during the weeks leading up to the regatta

ANNOUNCEMENTS

🛠️ Boathouse & Operations

- Thank you to **Denis** and **Stephen** for their leadership in planning and executing the massive undertaking of moving out of the boathouse!
- A huge shoutout to **Tori** for her tireless work maintaining, repairing, and organizing our boathouse! From tackling unexpected repairs to crafting new oar racks for the shipping container, Tori's resourcefulness and craftsmanship help keep everything running smoothly. Her newly built racks will make oar storage more organized and accessible throughout the shutdown period.



🤝 Membership & Community

- Kudos to **Lew** for dedicating his Monday evenings to coaching rowers through Sculls & Suds! His patience, encouragement, and commitment to helping members improve their skills have been especially valuable to new LRC rowers.
- Thank you to **Pam** for spearheading the creation of LRC's Membership Committee! Her leadership is helping strengthen connections across our club through initiatives like this newsletter and other opportunities to bring members together.
- A shoutout to everyone who participated in **LRC Night at the Movies**! It's always wonderful to see our rowing community come together and connect beyond the water.



💙 Club Leadership

- A heartfelt thank you to our **2026 LRC Board of Directors** for an extraordinary year! From hosting our inaugural regatta and welcoming large Learn-to-Row groups to establishing a new Membership Committee and navigating the boathouse move, this board has helped guide LRC through a remarkable season of growth and change.

To everyone who contributed their time, energy, and talents this season: THANK YOU! LRC wouldn't be the same without the dedication and generosity of our members. Here's to continuing to build an even stronger rowing community, on and off the water! 🚣💙



GIVE FOR GOOD LOUISVILLE

Thanks to everyone who donated to LRC on Give for Good On September 10! This year, $7931 was raised for the club. Some of the funds were directed specifically to the Juniors program, the Masters program and the Derby City Head Race, but most were not specifically earmarked and will be used for the club as a whole. Current thinking is that the funds could be used towards obtaining newer boats. It's amazing to see what can be achieved when we all work together!

SAVE THE DATES

October 24 - Blake Haxton Fall Regatta, Columbus, OH

October 25 - Speakmon Memorial Regatta, Columbus, OH

October 31 - Music City Head Race, Nashville, TN (Masters Only)

November 7 and 8 - Head of the Hooch, Chattanooga, TN

November 11 - Board Meeting (6 pm)

November 15 - End of Summer All Member Meeting (3 pm)

