



Welcome!

# High School Rowing: Challenges and Successes

***Building and Maintaining***



***Healthy Organizations, Healthy Programs & Healthy Events***



# Welcome!

## **Andrew Knorr**

- Head of Rowing at Vancouver College

## **Jay Peacock**

- Head of Rowing at Claremont Secondary School
- VP - Greater Victoria Youth Rowing Society

## **Graham McLaren**

- Head Coach at Mt. Douglas Secondary
- President - Greater Victoria Youth Rowing Society

***Building and Maintaining***



***Healthy Organizations, Healthy Programs & Healthy Events***

# Victoria High School League

## Management Structure

- Lower Vancouver Island Secondary School Athletic Association (LVISSAA)
  - Governing body for all High School Sports
- [Greater Victoria Youth Rowing Society \(GVYRS\)](#)
  - Volunteer group that supports youth rowing

-2018 season: 413 athletes grades 8-12, from [17 schools](#).



# Victoria High School League

## LVISSAA

- Sets parameters for season of play  
Sept/Oct/Nov
- School reps (teacher sponsors/coaches)  
are voting members
- Follows BC School Sport Rules (eligibility)
- Generate [Rowing-specific League rules](#)



# Victoria High School League

## GVYRS



- Works to provide facility and equipment use
  - Owns and manages a fleet
- Partners with [VCRC](#) and [GNRC](#)
  - Equipment sharing/rental agreements
- Works with users at Elk Lake (Victoria Rowing Society)



# Victoria High School League

## GVYRS



- Organizes and operates 3 regattas
  - Administers volunteer bonds to secure volunteers
- Facilitate coach education
  - Provide funding for coach education



# Measures of Success

- Provides opportunity to athletes and coaches
- Try & taste rowing
- Inclusive sport: No sitting on sidelines
- Non-contact
- Develops athleticism
- Develops confidence
- Encourages teamwork
- Safe place to learn through failure
- Enjoy being outside



# Challenges

- Building a school program from scratch
- Recruitment & retention of athletes and coaches
- Balancing needs of novice vs. experienced athlete
- Strong personalities at organizational level
- Operational: Training and competition
  - Training: Equipment Usage and cost
  - Competition: Regatta organisation



# Distinguished Alumni

Famous Olympians that started rowing within the Victoria High School League:



Gavin Hassett, St. Andrews  
Adam Parfitt, Parkland  
Iain Brambell, Claremont  
Lindsay Jennerich, Claremont  
Patricia Obee, Stelly's



# Distinguished Alumni

Famous Olympians that started rowing within the Victoria High School League:



Caileigh Filmer, Mt. Douglas  
Malcolm Howard, Stelly's  
David Calder, St. Andrew's  
Kevin Light, Parkland

