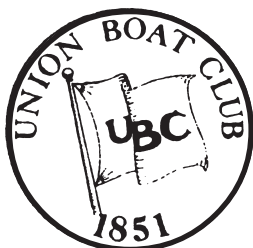
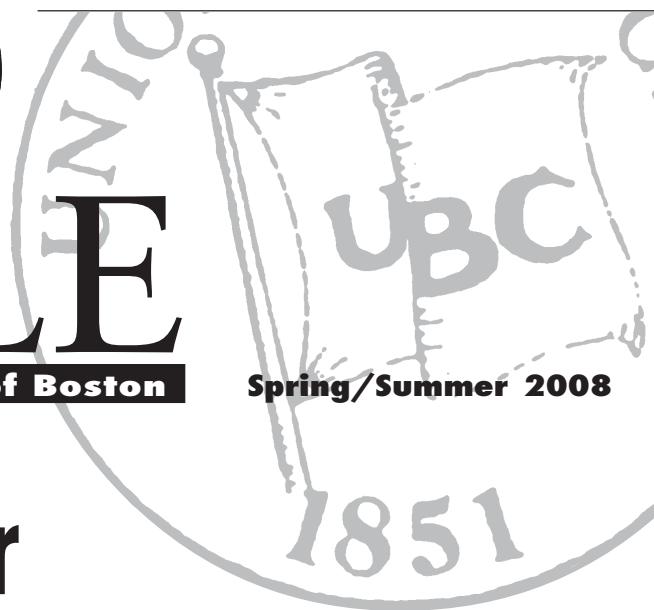


THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club of Boston

Spring/Summer 2008



President's Letter

Time Plus Effort Equals Success

I am very pleased to report that the UBC continues to prosper. Our success is in part, the result of the time and efforts of our Executive Committee members. In particular, Brent Shay has done a wonderful job as our treasurer. I am pleased to report that our cash balances have never been stronger and we continue to be focused on paying down our indebtedness. Dave Page has done an outstanding job ensuring that both buildings remain in "tip-top" condition and Jamie McIntyre has done a great job with both new and existing social outings. Having added several new venues, we hope that you will make a point to come see some old friends.

Doug Irwin continues to introduce great candidates to our membership. While membership activity is vibrant, we continue to stress to each member the importance of introducing new candidates.

As you are aware, UBC has a unique tradition of reducing annual dues for twenty, thirty five and fifty year members. While we hope never to eliminate this tradition, the financial impact of it is significant to our balance sheet. Your continued help with membership is integral to preserving this special tradition.

Lastly, I would like to mention both Steve Glick and Jim Hunnewell. Jim and Steve have done a great job with the ground floor committee. As mentioned in my previous letter, the ground floor of the club is under-utilized. Steve, Jim and their committee have undertaken a very thoughtful process of seeking input from membership as to the best long term uses in this area. In the June executive committee meeting, a recommendation was put forward by Steve and Jim to retain an architect and provide some preliminary

funding to better understand the feasibility of building either a doubles or single squash court as well as creating either a new exercise or social area. The motion was unanimously approved and we anticipate having two schematic concepts to review by early fall. That said, the Executive Committee recognizes the importance of the memberships complete support of any project of this scale. There is no time-frame for this project, and we look forward to active discussions with members which invariably will bring about the best decision for the Club.

Best wishes to you and your families.

Respectfully, Bill Motley ■

Squash Update

The squash courts at the UBC seemed to be busier than ever this year. Our league teams had a strong year with the 4.5 (B) and 50+ teams both getting to the semifinals and the 5.5 (A) team losing in the finals to a tough University Club team. On the individual side we once again had a great showing in the state finals. Six UBC members competed for Mass State singles titles:

- 5.5— **Preston Quick**
- 3.5— **Rob Soni (finalist)**
- 35+— **Tyler Hindermann**
- 45+— **Philip Constable**
- 55+— **Bob Loring**
- 60+— **John E. Smith (finalist)**

The club championships were at record numbers this year with 145 players competing in 9 different draws. Finals night was huge success with an enthusiastic crowd filled with friends and family. We added two new draws this year and had 105 people compete in the Handicap draw. Below are the champions and finalists:

- 5.5 (A)— **Tyler Hindermann**
over Anthony Bardaro 3-2
- 4.5 (B)— **Mike McElroy**
over John Gates 3-2
- 4.0 (C+)— **Hans Sherman**
over Rob Soni 3-1
- 3.5 (C)— **Rob Soni**
over Jeremiah Daly 3-0
- 2.5 (D)— **Baily Dent**
over Jon Hyde 3-1
- 50+— **Bob Loring**
over Chris Fox 3-2
- 60+— **John E. Smith**
over Mike Keating 3-2
- Handicap—**Philip Laird**
over Rob Soni 3-2

1st Annual UBC Doubles Club Championships

The University Club hosted the UBC's first ever club doubles championships on a Saturday in early May. Over 20 boat clubbers competed for three titles. The A division had heated competition between 4 teams in a round robin. Tyler Hindermann and Roland Lemay came away with the title and Anthony Bardaro and Chris Smith in a very close second place. The B division saw some newbies try the game for the first time. It was Drew Pluhar and Jeremiah Daly who prevailed the 5 team round robin. Jamie McIntyre and Curt Lewellyn, who finished second, were the most improved team. The 50+ draw was won by doubles veteran John C. Smith and Philip Laird over Archie McIntyre and John Hemenway.

A Doubles

Tyler Hindermann/Roland Lemay
over Anthony Bardaro/Chris Smith

B Doubles

Drew Pluhar/Jeremiah Daly
over Jamie McIntyre/Curt Lewellyn

50+ Doubles

John C. Smith/Philip Laird
over Archie McIntyre/John Hemenway



Good Camaraderie at Finals Night



Doubles 50+ Finalists Laird/Smith & Hemenway/McIntyre



Doubles In Action



David Page & Brent Shay at Finals Night

Editors' In-Box:

If you have a personal interest story – or anything else you'd like for consideration in The Puddle, please email editors@unionboatclub.org

Safety Message

Fellow UBC members, in light of a potentially deadly incident that resulted from two guest minors rowing out of Union unaccompanied and having to be rescued by a coach from freezing water, we would like to reiterate the rules we have to prevent dangerous situations like this.

While the river might appear calm and inviting, it is very easy, especially during the early and late season, to put yourself or someone you put out in a boat at real risk. The water is cold, survival times are short, egress from the water in the basin can be difficult, and the weather can change in just a few minutes with serious consequences. So that we can all continue to enjoy access to our boathouse, and the great experiences that rowing on the Charles can provide, we must all follow some simple safety rules.

When leaving the boathouse, you must sign your boat out. Thus, if you don't return we will know to look for you.

When the water temperature is below 50 degrees, all boats launched from the boathouse must have four oars on the water (IE a double or larger.) This is to minimize the chance of flipping. With temperatures that cold, your ability to survive and help yourself is measured in just a few minutes. If you are not experienced enough to keep a double upright, do not go out. If you go over, always stay with the boat.

No one under 18 should be going out without a coach's launch accompanying them.

No guest should be rowing

unaccompanied. When you bring a guest down, you must either be in the boat with them, or next to them. They are your responsibility. When the four oar rule is in effect, no guests should go out in a boat smaller than a quad.

Know the traffic pattern! A collision between a shell's bow and an unprotected body can be devastating. It's posted in multiple places at the boathouse.

Read the full set of rules on the UBC website, or find them posted at the boathouse. ■

Rowing Notes

After another long winter of training, UBC rowing is back in racing mode for the summer and fall. Although it seems like it happened a lifetime ago, the UBC held the Gov. Keyes 500 Meter erg challenge in late January. We had as many participants as last year, and the testosterone, adrenaline, sweat

and popcorn flew for two straight hours. A special thanks goes to Bob Mannino, Jim Keating, and Nick O'Connor for helping with setup, and Bob and Chris Storm for helping with cleanup. Thanks also to Preston for giving us the court and coming up with the rug, and Colin for overall logistical support. The winners were as follows:

Male Rowers

Open Winner— J. Besser
1.23.1

Handicap Winner— Gene Clapp
1.29.9(1:19.65 adjusted)

Non-Rowers

Open Winner— P. Quick
1.36.1

Handicap Winner— S. Crowley
1.36.6(1:24.35 adjusted)

Female Rowers

Open Winner— Regan Bernhard
1.38.1

Handicap Winner— Lisa Macalaster
1.52.8(148.4 adjusted)

...continued on next page



The Governor Keyes Rowing Challenge



Taking in Some Rowing Tips

The rowers won the age-handicap challenge to the squash players, who received a small positive adjustment for having more than 10 participants. Special mention to: **Gene Clapp**—who obviously was in a hurry to finish his piece since he broke 1:30 and raced off to dinner.

David Crosby—the only man to row the piece 3 times.

Bob Ackerman, Spencer Macalaster, Nick Godfrey—two timers.

“Welcome to Stanleyville Award”—My father **Don Besser**, who rolled off a plane from Africa and still beat his time from last year.

We also had a small group attend crash-b’s, and about 30 hearty souls made the trek to BU 3 times a week to try and build the base for the spring season, which is now finally upon us.

In addition to hosting the UBC-UBC regatta (in July for

the first time in memory) and attending a variety of sprint races this summer, including a few brave souls who went to the Olympic trials, we are getting the mileage in for another strong effort during the head race season.

In equipment news, the club purchased a heavyweight Empacher single, and a new heavyweight Empacher double. Union continues to strive to maintain one of the best club boat fleets in the country, despite the collapse of the dollar.

For those of you that are not aware, Tom Bohrer has significantly altered the daily coaching schedule, to make coaching both more intensive, and more accessible to different levels of rowers. 45 minute blocks are now set aside for different ability levels and sizes of boats on weekdays, with our usual team practice on Saturdays. This allows you to plan for your

coaching group in advance.

We have a group specifically dedicated to novice scullers, or those who are just getting back into the sport, which usually meets on Fridays. For those who enjoy sleeping past 5:00 a.m., there are blocks that begin at 6:30 and 7:15. If you’ve been waiting to get back into rowing, or always wanted to get proficient enough to take a boat out on a calm summer afternoon, it has never been easier. For more details, email Tom Bohrer, ask to be added to the [ubc-rowing](mailto:ubc-rowing@unionboatclub.org) usergroup, or just swing by the boathouse and check the weekly schedule. We would love to see new faces down on the river.

See you at the Head of the Charles, and row hard!

Jeb Besser,
Rowing Committee ■

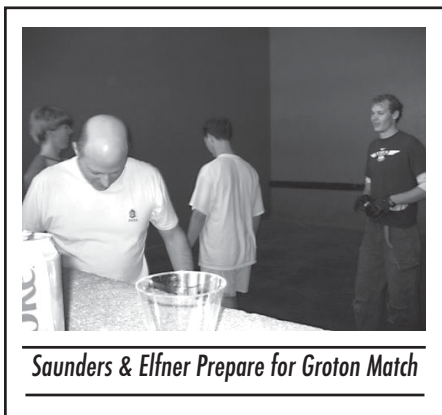
Note:

The Puddle now will be published twice per year; a Spring/Summer issue to deliver in July, and a Fall/Winter issue to deliver in January; please be sure to read each issue! Please visit www.unionboatclub.org for ongoing updates and event information.

Fives Update & Notes

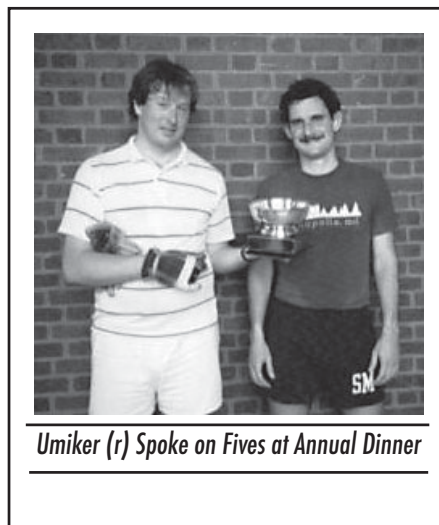
One of the key initiatives implemented by the Fives Committee at the start of 2008 was the establishment of a bi-monthly clinic on Tuesday nights. Experienced players are actively instructing beginners in the fundamentals of the game. Newer players Chris Storm, Tyler Chapman and Ben Faucett among others participated in the Club Championship after improving their games at the clinic.

Solidifying a rivalry that dates back to the Great War a handful of UBC Fives players made their presence felt on the Groton Fives courts on March 30th. John Hartley, Greg Saunders, Marvin Klein and Nick Elfner participated in a clinic and played matches with young Groton players who occasionally showed them a thing or two about their English-style courts especially when it came to scoring and serving the game.



In a re-match of the 2007 Club Championship, #2 seed Nick Elfner defeated #1 seed Bill Motley 21-17 on May 19th to win the 2008 Gardiner-

Norwood Trophy. Elfner opened with an 8-2 lead only to watch Motley answer with ten straight points to go up 12-8. The two battled to 17-17 before Elfner squeezed out the win. The Draw of twenty-four players was a substantial increase over the prior year.

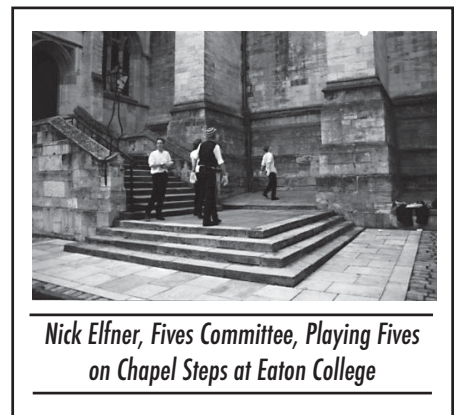


St. Marks Assistant Head of School Rick Umiker was the featured speaker at the 157th Annual Dinner on May 15th. Rick, an accomplished Fives player and longtime friend of the UBC, put together a first-rate historical presentation on the sport of Rugby Fives and all its peculiarities. Rick's comments were both amusing and insightful and educated the broader membership on Fives in all of its forms.

We learned from Rick that during the 1860 Republican National Convention President Lincoln passed some free time playing Fives. Around the same time, American Revolutionary War-time accounts state that General Thomas Sumpter excelled at the game of Fives. He reminded us that Endicott Peabody built Fives courts at Groton School in 1890,

followed by the UBC in 1892 and St. Marks School in 1899.

The Fives dinner was held May 29th at the Rats Club with twenty players and invited guests in attendance. A healthy mix of cocktails, oysters, roast beef and after-dinner cigars inspired some first-rate toasts, roasts and jokes. Special thanks to Jamie McIntyre, Maxwell Turner and Rick Cleveland for organizing a truly memorable evening. ■



New Members

- Philip M. Hooper
- Devereaux F. McCaltchey
- Alison Skelley
- David J. Brown
- Jeffery M. Fairbairn
- William B. Lyons
- David B. Zug
- Ian H. Gardiner, Jr.
- Nathaniel T. Heald
- Edward F. Demetriou
- Walter T. Hyde III
- Stuart F. Pratt
- Schuyler S. Reece
- Charles C. Ruch
- Elizabeth C. Demers
- David Robert Hale
- Henry George Bender II
- James Nicholas Lee



Thirsty Paddle

For the second year in a row 60+ boat clubbers and their guests avoided the frigid cold of January 12th by joining in on the hot competition of “The Thirsty Paddle” ping pong tournament. In order to move such a large number of players through the brackets in one afternoon, match play was best out of three games to 15 with the serve switching every 3 points. Probably the largest challenge of the day was the assembly of 3 tables which arrived at the clubhouse at 11 am, with play starting at 2:00 p.m. Thanks to the efforts of Matt Emans, Carey Herrlinger and Baily Dent, as all three tables were functional and on time.

As play started, it was once again evident that the Boat Club has many skilled ping pongers. Battles were ranging in courts 1, 2, and 3. Steve Dietz was in charge of the Draw and he worked hard to move 60+

participants through the brackets. At the end of the afternoon the group crowded onto court 1 and its gallery to watch two guests play the final round: Glenn Prichett, a guest from California, and Larry Sconzo, a US Squash Doubles Referee in town for a doubles tournament at the Uclub. The final match was played best of three (to 21), with the serve switching every 5 serves. Both players put on a great show. In the end, Larry Sconzo came out victorious to win the 2nd Annual Thirsty Paddle. Fun was had by all. ■

Contributors To This Issue:

Jeff Bernier	Doug Irwin
Jeb Besser	Jamie McIntyre
Charlie Clapp	Bill Motley
Bill Coughlin	Preston Quick
Nick Elfner	Brent Shay
Jane Hester	

Pro Shop Update

New to the pro shop are blazer buttons, key fobs, and umbrellas. For the golfers out there we have logo balls, windbreakers and polos in multiple colors. For a complete list of items please stop by the pro shop anytime or check out the gear online at

www.unionboatclub.org/haberdashery.htm

Items can be shipped by request. For questions or suggestions please contact Preston at 617-720-2252 or

prestonquick@unionboatclub.org ■

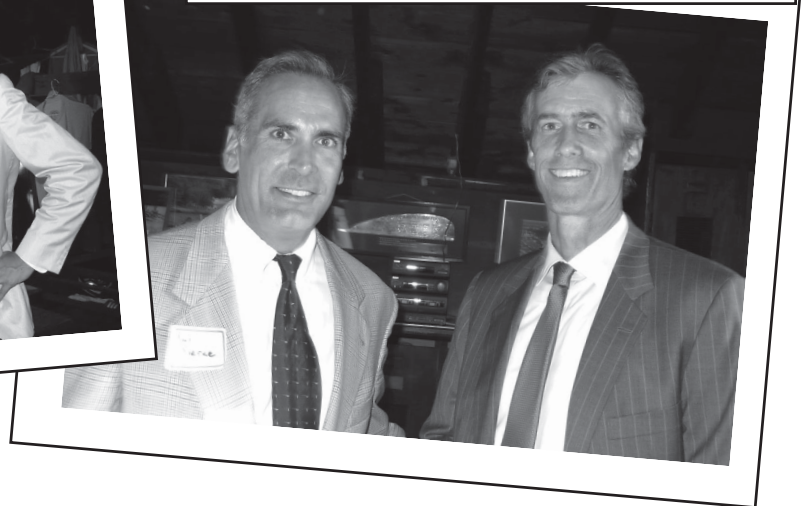


UBC Windbreaker



UBC Umbrella

UBC New Member's Party at the UBC Boathouse – June, 2008



THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club

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Upcoming Events

August 7th, 5:30 a.m. :

Chicken Dinner at the Boat House

September 25th:

Come kick off the 2008-2009 Squash Season at the "The Cross Town Showdown!". Invite prospective members, friends, and family down to the clubhouse to watch Boston's best battle it out.

October 8th & 9th:

National Golf Links of America golf outing.

October 19th 6:00 p.m.:

Head of the Charles Party

October / November:

Rites of Fall Backgammon

Notes & Reminders

- The Executive Committee extends a special thank-you to all those members who contributed to the Employee Christmas Fund.
- House Rules Reminder—guests must be registered in the guest book at the clubhouse.
- Please be sure to dispose of used towels in the towel bin.
- Goggles must always be worn while playing on the squash courts.