

Meeting Information

Meeting Date:	February 17, 2026
Time:	6:25 PM - 7:03 PM (EST)
Committee:	International Dory Racing Committee (IDRC)
Attendees:	Rachael, Derek, Linda, Jimmy T., LP, Thomas, William, Ashley, JJ, Tyler
Total Present:	10 members

Call to Order

Rachael called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM EST.

Approval of Minutes

Not addressed in this meeting.

Opening Remarks

- Rachael announced that she and Ashley would address issues with the email list.
- The committee celebrated its first fundraiser of the year - football squares - which successfully raised \$1,250.

Agenda Items Discussed

1. Race Planning and Location

Discussion: The committee reviewed potential locations for the U.S. international race.

Decision: The race will be held in the outer harbor: Harbor Loop/Coast Guard Station (alternatives discussed included North Channel).

Process: Questionnaire to be communicated via email with a 7-day response window for member feedback or rebuttal.

2. Learn to Row Events and Deck Tours

Program Details:

- Events will be conducted in partnership with Schooner Adventure
- Schedule: Monthly sessions on Thursdays and Saturdays throughout the summer
- Volunteers needed to assist with rowing instruction and steering

Volunteer Commitments:

- Jimmy T. agreed to volunteer for selected events
- William Edmonds is committed to participating in all Saturday sessions

3. Community Events and Outreach

Earth Day Event:

- Primary Date: April 11th, 2026
- Rain Date: April 25th, 2026

Pier Block Party:

- Date: September 16th, 2026

Foster's Food and Toy Drives:

- Ashley Smith reported on last year's success: 300-400 pounds more donations than previous years
- Committee to coordinate with Foster's to select optimal dates for this year's drives

4. Sail Boston Event (July 10-16, 2026)

Opportunity: Display dories in Boston during Sail Boston week

Options Discussed:

- Display a dory on land
- Display a dory in the water near the Adventure ship

Commitment:

- Jimmy T. volunteered to represent the Dory Race Committee
- Jimmy to coordinate with Emily Pearce regarding bringing the "Heart of Gloucester" boat
- Jimmy also agreed to speak about the committee during one of Adventure's Sunday learning sail events

5. Additional Event Opportunities

Gloucester Education Foundation Event (March) @GHS : Not feasible for this year; will consider for future years.

6. Indoor Storage for Dory Maintenance

Need: Indoor storage space for dory maintenance and repairs during winter months

Locations Being Explored:

- Maritime Gloucester
- Heritage Center
- Vito Gigolone's metal storage unit
- Private properties through contacts (Jack Alexander)

7. Grant Writing Support

The committee discussed the need for experienced grant writers to support fundraising efforts.

Action Items

Responsible Party	Action Item	Deadline/Notes
Rachael	Send email to group with: (a) decision on U.S. international race location with 7-day response window, (b) poll for virtual vs in-person meeting preference, (c) sign-up list for Learn to Row/Deck Tour volunteer days	ASAP
Rachael	Contact Jack Alexander regarding available indoor or heated space for dory maintenance	Ongoing
Rachael	Set date for next meeting via email, considering member availability (e.g., Jimmy's April absence)	Before next meeting
Jimmy T.	Coordinate with Emily Pearce regarding bringing the Heart of Gloucester to Sail Boston (July 10-16)	Before July
Jimmy T.	Discuss participation in Adventure's Sunday learning sail event with Emily Pearce	Ongoing
Jimmy T.	Meet with Emily Pearce to discuss Adventure-related collaboration and event participation	Schedule soon
William	Contact Mike Tecaster about grant writing resources/contacts	Ongoing

William	Call Heritage Center contact to inquire about possible indoor space for dory maintenance	Ongoing
William	Contact Vito Gigolone about possible use of his metal storage unit for dory storage	Ongoing
All interested members	Sign up for Learn to Row/Deck Tour volunteer slots once sign-up is distributed by Rachael	After sign-up sent

Meeting Format Discussion

The committee discussed potentially offering both in-person and virtual meeting options to accommodate more participants. A poll will be sent to gauge member preferences.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM EST.