



KIDS General Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2026 - Draft

BOARD:		
Name	Role	Present/Absent
Melodie Pike	President	Present
Annette Hanna	Vice-President	Present
Janice Gee	Treasurer	Present
Marlene McKay	Secretary	Present
Wendy Cummer	Director at Large	Present
Tracey Gibson	Director at Large	Present
Heather Davidson	Director at Large	Absent
MEMBERS in attendance:		
Tracey Scott	Jen Wolney	Joyce Balkin
Heather Bepple	Trudy Gould	Peggy Adams
Valerie Walsh	Trevor Ardley	Nancy Baillie
Sandra Woods	Jackie Perrin	Stephanie Butland
Rob Woods	Sean Lane	Phil Maher
Tammy Forsyth	Christine Welch	Diane Mariash
Dean Connie	GUEST: Maureen Carr	

Agenda Item	Discussion
1. Welcome & Check In	The pot-luck dinner started at 6:00 pm with delicious items of great variety and creativity. Thank you all for contributing! The general meeting started at 6:35 pm.
2. Introduction of the 2026 Board	Mel introduced the current Board. Tracey Gibson has resigned from the Board as she is uncertain if she will be able to paddle this year.
3. Approval of Agenda	Motion by Peg to approve, 2 nd by Val, all in favour.
4. Approval of Minutes	Minutes from April 2, 2025 – Phil motion to approve, 2 nd by Jen, all in favour.
5. Treasurer's Report	March 31, 2026, financial statement and budget reviewed.
6. On-The-Rocks Pub Night	Maureen Carr provided information on the fundraiser scheduled on May 31, 2025, at On-The-Rocks pub. There will be 150 tickets available, \$30 per ticket, Butter Chicken, Vegetable Penne, & Steak will be the meal options. Basket will be made up prior to the event, and toonie toss will take place again. Christine, Steph & Wendy will put the fundraiser on our social media, Web, FaceBook. Marlene will send Maureen the KIDS logo for advertising purposes. Thankyou Maureen for attending and working with Jackie to arrange this fun fundraiser.
7. Introduction of 2026 Coaches & Steers	Coaches: Jen introduced the coaching team for 2026 which included: Jen, Mel, Trudy, Val, Wendy, Marlene & Heather. Jen (a) reviewed the goals of

	<p>the lesson and seating plan, (b) emphasizing the importance of members to provide accuracy on their attendance on TeamSnap and to contact the coach by phone if their attendance changes with less than 24 hours before practise. (c) encouraged members to be active not only by paddling but to include in daily lifestyle during the season and off season.</p> <p>Steers: Phil introduced the 5 members who will be steering this year: Phil, Tammy, Trevor, Wes, and Earl. He discussed (a) the new boat and challenges of loading due to the center beam, (b) the importance of limiting talking and listening to the steers commands, (c) Tammy & Phil brought up the use of “command language” that will be utilized during practises. (d) Steers will have control of the boat for 10 minutes at each practise to provide training.</p>
8. Safety Protocol	<p>Phil & Jen provided support to our Safety Protocol procedures posted on our Web page. (a) All members are to review this document. It will be available in our shed for further review. (b). Steers will have control of the boat for 10 minutes at each practise to review language, commands, and 1 safety procedure. (c) Tammy is working on a glossary of terms used to ensure consistency. It will be posted on the web when completed. (d) Coaches & Steers in the boat paddling will assist by relaying to those who are not paying attention and talking when being instructed.</p>
9. Practise Days & Times	<p>Practises will remain at: Tues. & Thurs. 5:15 pm, 60-75 minutes; Saturday 8 am, up to 90 minutes. By May the practises will be the full time length.</p>
10. Fees & Registrations	<p>Fees remain at \$250 per year. Members are encouraged to register asap with payment being sent to kamloopsinteriordragons2@gmail.com.</p>
11. Due dates & refunds	<p>Fees are due on or before May 31, 2026 (or after 3 practises). Refunds are available up to May 31, 2026, and all refunds are subject to a \$50 administration fee. No refunds will be made due to cancellation of any practises</p>
12. Boat Flipping	<p>Scheduled for April 11 @ 11 am. KIDS will help flip, clean and prepare the boats for this season. In addition, we will put out our furniture and organize the shed. There will be a potluck brunch following the work bee.</p>
13. Start Up Date 2026	<p>KIDS first paddle will be Tuesday, April 14 at 5:15 pm. At this time there could be enough paddlers for 2 boats. Members are encouraged to wear neoprene socks and gloves if they have them.</p>
14. TeamSnap	<p>The importance of utilizing TeamSnap was emphasized as being essential as it is the main source of communication for practises and events. Members are encouraged to update their profile by adding their preferred paddling side by their name with a R – right, L – left, E - either. Tracey Scott has volunteered to assist with TeamSnap entries.</p>
15. New Boat	<p>The new dragon boat was ordered on Dec. 30, 2025, with a down payment of \$13,284.80. As of March 1, the haul was complete with the hope of the boat being finished by the end of April, delivery at the beginning of May. Mel will continue to connect with the supplier for updates.</p>
16. Sports Legacy Grant	<p>KIDS received \$13,284.80 of the \$15,000 grant from Sports Legacy grant. This covered the receipt for the down payment to Fairway Gorge Paddling Club for our boat order. The remaining \$1,715.20 grant money will be received from Sports Council when we have the receipts for the sawhorses and chinks. To recognize the Sports Council for their sponsorship, we intend to put Sports Legacy name on the boat; invite sports council members to either, the boats</p>

	arrival date or christening date; post on our website, FaceBook, Instagram, and the Chronicle; give a team hat to Bob Smiley.
17. Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grants/Sponsors – the committee advised no further interest from sponsors has been received. They ask for further suggestions who to approach. b. Express/Go – to date from Nov. 2024, \$2,014.46 has been raised. We have 25 tickets (which is the max) for the \$10,000 draw in Sept and monthly \$1,000 draws. We have earned points cashing them in for 8 - Express-Go characters that we utilized for door prizes tonight. This has been a great fundraiser. The members were thanked for their contributions; this fundraiser is ongoing. c. Sports Council Paid Volunteer Opportunities: Trudy will relay opportunities as they become available. Brewloops was a fun volunteer experience and we were treated with pizza and t-shirts. She would like to get us in for the Xmas Market.
18. PR	Heather Bepple provided a report of advertising in place in the Kamloops activity guide for team members and GIAT. Team posters were distributed to members to be put up. Media may be at the boat flipping and will be invited when we christen our new boat. The “Chronical” paper will be asked to do an article for the paper. Heather has stepped down as PR volunteer; Terry Pratt will take over PR volunteer position.
19. Giv-It-A-Try	4 sessions of GIAT are scheduled with each session room for 13 participants. On, April 28 (14 registered, 1 session nearly full) & on May 2 (15 registered, 1 session full). Testing the Waters has had a name change to Give-It-A-Try and will take place in Sept.
20. Volunteer List	Sandra provided updates: Terry Pratt replacing Heather B. for PR; Terry Scott added to TeamSnap; Kamloops Festival Liaison required- filled by Phil; Mel stepped down from merchandise, Tammy to fill it; Okanogan Sprints with KDBC, Steph will be the liaison; greeters are required, Dean filled 1 position; an additional Festival Co-ordinator is still required to assist Diane.
21. Festivals	<p>Festivals were put up on TeamSnap for members to show how many would attend.</p> <p>June 13 – Penticton: 8y, 7n, 16 no response. Board to determine.</p> <p>June 20 – Salmon Arm: 18 yes</p> <p>July 11 – Kelowna: 18 yes – rooms have been booked</p> <p>July 18 – Vernon: 17 yes – to look before cut-off and payment date</p> <p>July 25 – Nanaimo: no interest</p> <p>Aug. 8 – Kamloops: 28 yes, will review closer for possibly 2 boats</p> <p>Sept. 12 & 13 – Penticton: 13y, will review closer to cut off date.</p>
22. Lease With City	Mel has been working with the 5 teams at Pioneer Park reviewing the proposed lease. Rather than working with Sports Council on the lease, the 5 teams have formed “Kamloops Paddling Partnership Association (KPPA)”. Through this association we will jointly lease the property from the City of Kamloops. The City of Kamloops is giving the association a reduced rate for 2026. KIDS cost will be \$555, including water for 2026. It has been agreed with the city the old TRIPS compound near the boat launch can be extended 10’ to hold the excess dragon boats, allowing more room in the dragon boat compound. Should the water come up and flood this area the boats will need

	to be moved for a couple of weeks. The materials and volunteer labour for the expansion will be from the 5 clubs. With the recycling of materials, costs are to be minimal. Thank you to Phil for working with the association to come up with a plan.
23. Joint Dragon Boat Meetings	Joint meetings with KDBC, Spirit Warriors & KIDS take place about every 4 months. The latest discussions were on festivals attending, compound space. KDBC has agreed KIDS will use the platform by KDBC shed. We will share furniture and space. Saturday will be the only day when both teams are paddling and will share the space. KIDS have proposed to KDBC a rate for renting boats, paddles, & PFD based on when our new boat comes in and the rental of 1 boat, PFD, paddles for the remaining period. This should be approx. \$1080 if the boat arrives in May. KDBC said it looked like a fair deal but has not provided written notice at this time.
24. Merchandise	<p>Marlene will be placing an order for paddles, cushions, blade tips and bags if members are interested. She has a used, in great condition 47" paddle, bag, and tip for sale for \$200 if anyone is interested. There are 4 seat cushions available for \$47.50 each and 1 red tip for \$13.</p> <p>Mel has ordered a supply of t-shirts from OddBall in preparation for the new season and has 1 jacket available.</p> <p>Mel has stepped down from volunteering for merchandise. Tammy F. will now be the volunteer for clothing merchandise.</p>
25. Clean the Beach 2026	The City of Kamloops is holding "3 rd Annual Clean the Beach 2026" on Sunday, April 19, 2026 @ 11 am. – 2 pm. KIDS have participated since 2024 and those interested can help out this year. This is not a KIDS event. Meet at the Sandman Centre to sign city waivers and instructions. Following registration we will meet at Pioneer Park area for clean up. Please wear team shirts, coats.
26. Review Group Breakout Notes	Marlene reviewed the breakout notes from 2025 AGM. She advised that in response to the notes the Board has worked with KDBC to share the compound more equitably; stretching after practise will take place once all of the boats and equipment have been put away; enhanced safety discussions and teaching will be ongoing; coaches are prepared for consistent start times; mentoring will continue; good things like kindness, social aspect, potlucks, teamwork, group support, laughter, warmups, different coaching styles, competitiveness and recreation will goals will be maintained as requested.
27. Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trudy has received an email from TeeKee Shores in Penticton offering a discount on rooms. She will forward this to Diane. - Steph mentioned the appreciation of volunteers within the team that help make our team strong. She also recognized that some members may have circumstances in their life that does not permit extra volunteering. - Wendy advised due to problems with the current FaceBook, she is starting a new FaceBook page that the Board will own. She will advise us when it is up. The page will connect with Instagram. The old page will direct to the new page. - Mel thanked everyone for attending and getting through the long agenda. Dinner was delicious and looking forward to this year of paddling.

	- A variety of door prizes, donated by members were drawn for. Thank you everyone.
28. Adjourned	8:45 pm