

## **Friends of UW Men's Crew, Inc.**

In December of 2004, "Friends of UW Men's Crew, Inc." was formed by a group of UW rowing alumni and supporters. The board members (officers) of the corporation are: Fred Robertson – '76 (President), Pete Giese – '03 (Vice President), Don Tipple – '80 (Treasurer); Brad Taylor – '68 (Secretary) and Dan Chin (Director) – '02.

Tax-exempt 501( c)(3) status was granted by the IRS in November of 2005 (for all donations dating from December 2004), so gifts to Friends are tax-deductible.

The object of "Friends" is to build and coordinate alumni support for men's crew at UW and to contribute to program needs which are complimentary to the regular Athletic Department budgeting process.

Unlike an official "booster club," Friends is able to maintain our own checkbook. To remain distinct from booster club status, Friends will have NO involvement in benefits for or activities with eligible student-athletes nor in any activities related to the crew coaches' compensation or other such benefits. As a result, Friends will not support banquets, awards, meals or travel or any other activities related to eligible student-athletes. All NCAA compliance rules are strictly followed.

Over the year 2005, Friends has made several gifts to the program, including:

- three electronic megaphones for coaching from the launches;
- contributions for a UW alum to travel to the 2004 World rowing championships;
- purchase a racing pair and an eight (from a generous anonymous donor);
- a color computer printer;
- a video-editing laptop computer;
- a DVD mini-cam to enhance training in Austin and at home;
- TV screens and computer 'hubs' to allow real time TV-monitored erg racing competition; and
- a plaque in memory of UW's oldest alum (who passed away last fall).

Other continuing goals include:

- a flat screen TV and tape/DVD player for Coach Clark's office;
- a wireless video camera to project live races back to a boathouse screen and to the internet;
- Kohl Center-like championship pennants and historic photos hung in the boathouse; and
- continued development of a UW crew history website (already under construction), on which stories from alums will be eventually be sought.

Also, the "Friends" entity itself has recurring financial needs to address the usual administrative costs such as bookkeeping software, tax filings, postage, printing and envelopes, etc.

To support the program in the manner described above, Friends is asking parents, alums and supporters of UW men's crew to consider making regular, annual donations. Checks in ANY amount would be helpful and appreciated. Payment details are on the detachable form below. Donors with a desire or special capacity (such as working at a

supplier of a desired item) to gift directly anything on the coaches “wish list” of items, either now or in the future, are encouraged to do so. Friends can also assist alumni in their consideration of creating boat funds, estate bequests or other major gifts.

Please watch the “Merchandise” link on the “WiscoRowing.org ” website. Several rowing and UW sports books and some merchandise are already listed for sale on the website. Other items are expected to be added to the merchandise link over time.

Anyone with further questions or ideas is encouraged to e-mail the Secretary ([bradleyftaylor@hotmail.com](mailto:bradleyftaylor@hotmail.com) ) with your thoughts, which will then be circulated to the Board.

Note: Friends is not legally or administratively affiliated with the University of Wisconsin, though most of their efforts are in direct support of the Badger men’s crew and UW’s alumni rowers.

Hope you can help.

Chris Clark  
Head Coach  
UW Men’s Crew

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**Make a gift to Friends**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to: **Friends of UW Men’s Crew**

Mail your check mail to:

Friends of UW Men’s Crew, Inc.  
c/o Secretary  
3014 Woods Edge Way  
Madison, WI 53711-5153

February 24, 2006

See “WiscoRowing.org” for merchandise and history.