



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Great Miami Rowing Center
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**GREAT MIAMI ROWING CENTER (GMRC) ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD COACH MARC ORIA TO
LEAD GREAT MIAMI CREW YOUTH COMPETITIVE TEAM**

JANUARY 21, 2021, HAMILTON, OH – The Great Miami Rowing Center (GMRC) has announced Marc Oria has been hired as head coach for the Great Miami Crew youth race team. Oria is originally from Barcelona, Spain, where he grew up rowing with the Reial Club Maritim de Barcelona club, earning positions on the Catalunya and Spanish National Teams as a rower, and later coaching athletes to compete on those teams and beyond, including finalists at the Olympic Games in Brazil.

Oria also just received USRowing Level 3 coaching certification, which was developed to create knowledgeable, independent-thinking coaches who are equipped with the vision to lead programs at every level from youth to the national team, as well as to run multipurpose programs that include outreach, adaptive, youth and masters athletes. According to USRowing, the course produces coaches with a wide range of knowledge, curiosity and intellect who will become future mentors and coaching educators.

“We could not be happier with Marc’s energy and enthusiasm and his level of expertise for spearheading our program and helping us grow to our full potential,” said Kristen Riekert, co-president of GMRC. “We have nine high schools with roughly 15,000 students within a 12-mile radius of Hamilton, so we know we have tremendous opportunity.”

“The team, parents, and board have all been very welcoming of me,” said Oria. “I’m really looking forward to getting to know the athletes and to understand their goals as both a team and individuals so we can build a successful program.”

The Great Miami Rowing Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit founded in 2008 to offer on-water rowing programming for fitness, recreation and competition, including both youth and adult levels. During the pandemic, the team adopted safety protocols that follow both USRowing and State of Ohio guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It is anticipated that the team will participate in competitive regattas and/or scrimmages this spring as opportunity allows.

Despite some setbacks from the pandemic and a recent theft of a johnboat from its fenced in boatyard in Hamilton, the team continues to have positive outlook and tremendous community support. “We are so grateful for the Hamilton residents and businesses who continue to support our club,” said co-president Melissa Sancrant. “When we posted on social media about our stolen boat, the community came together and donated money to help us repair the fence and replace the boat. Now with Marc coming on board, we feel some strong momentum heading into the spring competitive season.”

Spring registration is now open with programming available for youth and adult athletes. [anything else here? Fundraisers?] To register for rowing programming or learn more, go to www.GreatMiamiRowing.com.

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About Great Miami Rowing Center

The Great Miami Rowing Center (GMRC) is a 501(c)3 devoted to supporting recreational use of the Great Miami River in Hamilton through high quality rowing programming, infrastructure development and scholarship funding. By using the sport of rowing as a cornerstone, GMRC encourages use of the river for daily sport, yearly events and all types of recreation. GMRC and its youth and masters race teams – Great Miami Crew – are a collaborative community devoted to the growth and development of athletes of all ages and abilities, who want to safely use the river for competition, fitness, and recreation. More information is available at www.GreatMiamiRowing.com or on social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.