

ARGONAUT ROWING CLUB

Martha Coffey Junior Development Fund (MCJDF)

What is the purpose of the MCJDF?

The fund, a tribute to the late Martha Coffey, exists to provide financial support to junior members for whom membership and other fees are a barrier to participation.

Specifically, the MCJDF will subsidize one or more junior member's ARC fees, regatta fees and/or regatta travel expenses where a need has been identified and confirmed by the ARC Membership Director.

Who was Martha Coffey?

Martha was a beloved long-time member of the Argonaut Rowing Club who was welcoming and inspiring to all who knew her. She was particularly supportive of Argo's junior athletes and interested in equitable access for youth facing financial barriers to participation.

Her family started the MCJDF in her memory.

How can I donate to the MCJDF?

Tax-deductible donations are made via the National Sport Trust Fund administered by the Ontario Sport Network. To ensure your donation is earmarked for the MCJDF send an email to fundraising@argonautrowingclub.com before or after making your donation to make us aware you intend it to be used by the MCJDF.

Why are donations to the MCJDF made via the National Sport Trust Fund / Ontario Sport Network, rather than directly to the MCJDF?

The NSTF is the only means by which donors to the MCJDF (or to ARC for other purposes) can be issued a charitable receipt for tax purposes. ARC cannot itself issue tax receipts. Making the MCJDF part of ARC's fundraising initiatives is the most efficient way for the club to administer the MCJDF while enabling the issuing of tax receipts for donations to the fund.

How can I be sure that my donation is going to be used by the MCJDF?

By sending an email to fundraising@argonautrowingclub.com specifying how you wish your donation to be used. The club keeps MCJDF donations separate from others once withdrawn from the NSTF.

Who can apply for support from the MCJDF?

The MCJDF will subsidize one or more junior member's ARC membership fees, regatta fees and/or regatta travel expenses each year where a need has been identified and confirmed by the ARC Membership Director. The club is working on growing the fund to be able to cover fees for more participants in future.

To apply for support follow these steps that are also listed on the ARC website:

1. Contact the Membership Director (membership@argonautrowingclub.com) to initiate the process.
2. Apply to any of these organizations to access financial assistance:
 - Canadian Tire Jumpstart or
 - KidSport, or
 - ParticipACTION, or
 - RBC Learn to Play
3. Provide proof of application to the above.
4. MCJDF pays the remainder of your fees, up to 100% of the cost of an annual membership.
5. MCJDF can also help to offset the cost of regatta entries, trailering, and training camp participation.

Source: [Jr Financial Assistance RR \(argonautrowingclub.com\)](#)

This process of using third parties to determine eligibility keeps the applicant's financial information private.

Is the privacy of recipients protected?

The identities of the recipients are not publicly shared, but statistics on disbursement and impact of the funds are shared with donors and used internally. The club appreciates receiving impact statements from recipients, which will be kept anonymous.

Can I direct my donation to a specific junior athlete?

It is not possible to specify who you wish to receive a subsidy because Canada Revenue Agency rules for charitable donations require that donations not benefit anyone with a direct connection to the donor.