

## Exhibit i5: 10K and Foil Hats 2024

### Inside Two SERC Email Threads: Membership Rules, Moderation, and a “Foil Hats” Flashpoint

By Micah Blumberg — SVGN.io

*Dateline: San Francisco — May 18–26, 2024 (email threads)*

**Summary:** Two long community email threads involving members of the South End Rowing Club (SERC) reveal disputes over membership rules, selective enforcement, and list moderation. One thread begins with an allegation that SERC previously paid **\$10,000** to a member who sued after being “wrongly removed.” The second thread spirals from a satirical “foil hats” post into a debate about bullying, mental-health stigma, and whether the list is being selectively moderated.

**Editor’s note:** These messages were posted on an **unofficial** community Google Group for SERC. The footer on many messages states the views expressed are **not** official club positions. What follows summarizes the emails as written; claims are presented as the speakers’ statements, not established facts.

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#### Thread 1 — “I’m told ... a member ... won \$10,000” (SERC 75421)

##### What kicked it off:

I (Micah Blumberg) wrote that I’d been told a previously expelled SERC member sued and won **\$10,000**, and alleged the current board was targeting me after I criticized an April board meeting. I argued I qualify as an **out-of-town member (OOTM)** and that the club’s **Membership Committee** was applying special, unwritten rules to force me to pay more.

### Key club communications cited in the thread:

- **Catherine Lovazzano** (Membership Commissioner) asked OOTM members for **ID + two current bills** to verify residence, and—citing frequent keycard swipes—asked me to switch to **in-town** membership and pay **\$373** more.
- **Erika Gliebe** (2024 Secretary) said OOTM is intended for occasional use by members who have moved away, denied my **financial assistance** request, and reiterated the dues upcharge.

### How members reacted (highlights):

- **Support / questions about criteria:**

**Johnny Diesel** asked basic OOTM rules (“live outside the 9 Bay Area counties?”). When I confirmed I do, he said the situation was “interesting... or troubling,” and later noted some of his own posts were being **blocked**.
- **Calls to cool down / keep it offline:**

**Lee Bender** offered a reflective note about not being a “lightning rod” and later invited me to **swim together**; **Kristin Ingeman** urged fewer mass emails; **Greg Kerr** suggested moving the heated **VR** discussion offline and said he didn’t know anyone was currently using VR at the club when he started that thread.
- **Pushback on airing grievances publicly:**

**George Lazaneo** posted an image of “dirty laundry” and urged dealing with issues **directly** rather than “putting club leadership on blast.”

**Denise (dlillian@sonic.net)** asked why someone would stay a member of a club they “didn’t like,” while affirming her love for SERC.

- **Strong reactions and coarse language:**

**Sibylle Scholz** wrote a pointed note about “monkeys ... on your back,” ending with profanity toward me.

**Tom Bollinger** asked what counts as **bullying**, sharing his own experiences and advocating a thicker skin.

#### **My position in this thread (in brief):**

- I alleged **selective enforcement**: being singled out to prove OOTM status and to pay higher dues when others weren’t asked the same.
  - I argued any change in OOTM criteria (e.g., usage frequency) must be **adopted for all members** through proper **By-Laws** process, not created ad hoc for one person.
  - I also alleged I was **blocked** from posting on the unofficial group and that my **laptop** had been prevented from connecting to the club’s Wi-Fi (claims I raised in the thread).
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#### **Thread 2 – “2024 Foil Hats” (SERC 75467)**

##### **What kicked it off:**

**Kevin Buckholtz** posted a satirical “foil hat” image and blurb. The joke triggered a broader argument about **bullying**, **mental-health stigma**, and **moderation**.

##### **How members reacted (highlights):**

- **Playing along:**

**Randy Brown** jokingly ordered **three** hats; later defended the gag as “pure fun,” sharing an

old-school perspective on teasing and resilience.

**Dave Maloney** chimed in: "I'm ordering 100."

- **Stigma concerns / "not funny":**

**Alison Saylor** cautioned that mental illness is **heavily stigmatized** and satire can hurt.

**Jeanine Dubois** said making fun of people who are **bullied** "needs to stop."

- **Moderation / blocked posts:**

**Jim Alexander** said he and "Dylan" were testing whether a **locked thread** blocked posts.

**Johnny Diesel** wrote "My postings have been blocked ... Magic. Pirate electrons," suggesting moderation was getting in the way.

**Tom Linthicum** and **Lee Bender** both said, in effect, "Don't block Johnny."

- **My note in this thread:**

I thanked Jeanine for speaking up and repeated that **Kevin** had blocked my posts (pending approval) and that my laptop had been blocked on the SERC Wi-Fi. I wrote that my goal wasn't to take **\$10,000** from the club via courts like "the last guy," but to **stay** and help the club avoid legal trouble.

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## Themes that cut across both threads

1. **Process vs. People:**

Some members want procedural clarity—clear, written rules applied uniformly. Others stress keeping disputes **off the list** and handling things one-to-one at the club.

## 2. **Moderation & Transparency:**

Multiple posters (not just me) reported **blocked posts** or **locked threads**, questioning who moderates and how decisions get made.

## 3. **Fairness & Policy:**

The OOTM dispute spilled into broader questions: Can dues or categories be changed **mid-stream** for one member? What counts as **official** communication? When is satire **fun** vs. **hurtful**?

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### **“Who’s in the chain?” – People & what they said (Thread 1: Lawsuit / OOTM)**

- **Micah Blumberg** – Raises prior **\$10k lawsuit** story; alleges **retaliation** after April board-meeting criticism; argues OOTM status; claims selective enforcement; says financial-assistance denial was unfair; says he was blocked from posting/Wi-Fi.
- **Catherine Lovazzano** (Membership Commissioner) – Requests **ID + two bills** for OOTM spot-check; cites **keycard** use; asks for **in-town** dues difference; later says I’m one of **three** high-usage OOTM members contacted.
- **Erika Gliebe** (2024 Secretary) – Says OOTM is for **occasional** use by people who moved away; **denies** financial assistance; reiterates dues upcharge.
- **Johnny Diesel** – Asks straightforward OOTM criteria; expresses concern about **blocked** postings; uses light humor.

- **Lee Bender** — Reflects on being a “lightning rod”; invites me to **swim**; later supports not blocking Johnny.
- **Kristin Ingeman** — Says Lee faced bigger issues historically; urges me to **slow down**/send fewer group emails.
- **George Lazaneo** — Posts “dirty laundry” image; urges handling issues **directly** vs. public blasts.
- **Sibylle Scholz** — Offers an intense, coarse note about “monkeys on your back.”
- **Denise (dlillian@sonic.net)** — Asks why stay if I “don’t like” the club; praises SERC.
- **Greg Kerr** — Clarifies he didn’t know someone was using **VR** when he started that thread; recommends moving discussion **offline**.
- **Tom Bollinger** — Questions definition of **bullying**; advocates resilience.
- **Tom Linthicum** — “Don’t block Johnny Diesel.”
- **Jim Alexander** — Tests whether the thread is **locked** with Dylan.
- **Randy Brown** — Lightens tone in multiple places; “Aloha” voice; orders hat in Thread 2.
- **Alan Lapp** — Brief supportive aside (truncated in the archive).
- **Jeanine Dubois** — “Not funny”—stop making fun of bullied people.

- **Dave Maloney** — Plays along with the “foil hat” joke in Thread 2.
  - **Kevin Buckholtz** — (Referenced in Thread 1 as moderator; leads Thread 2 with “foil hats.”)
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#### “Who’s in the chain?” — People & what they said (Thread 2: “2024 Foil Hats”)

- **Kevin Buckholtz** — Posts satirical **foil-hat** graphic/copy; becomes lightning rod for moderation talk.
- **Randy Brown** — Orders three hats; later defends the gag as harmless **fun**.
- **Alison Saylor** — Warns about **mental-health stigma** and harm.
- **Alan Lapp** — Brief aside (“Doubly so here...”).
- **Jeanine Dubois** — Says mocking bullied people is **not funny**; urges it to **stop**.
- **Micah Blumberg** — Thanks Jeanine; says I’m **blocked** on the list and club **Wi-Fi**; reiterates I want to **protect** the club from legal costs.
- **Tom Bollinger** — Asks what counts as **bullying**; shares personal experience; says don’t be too sensitive.
- **Jim Alexander** — Says he and **Dylan** tested a **locked** thread.

- **Johnny Diesel** — Says his posts have been **blocked**; humorously blames “pirate electrons.”
  - **Tom Linthicum** — “No please don’t block Johnny Diesel!”
  - **Lee Bender** — “Amen” to Tom’s point; don’t block Johnny.
  - **Dave Maloney** — “Ordering 100” hats.
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**Context: What I’m alleging—and what I’m asking for**

- I allege **unequal enforcement** of OOTM rules and an attempt to **retrofit new criteria** (usage frequency) without a club-wide, by-laws-compliant process.
- I allege that messages on the unofficial list—and possibly club **Wi-Fi**—were used to **silence** criticism.
- I argue the club should adopt **clear, written rules** prospectively, apply them **equally**, and avoid ad hoc discipline that invites **legal** and **reputational** risk.

**Right-of-reply:** SVGN.io will publish responses from SERC officers or members who believe this summary misstates the record. Send statements to **editor@svgn.io**.



[SERC 75421:] I'm told that in the past a member who was wrongly removed from the club filed a lawsuit and won \$10,000



Sat, May 18, 2024,  
6:07 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>  
[Unsubscribe](#)

to South

I'm told that in the past a member who was wrongly removed from the club filed a lawsuit and won \$10,000

He became the unlawful target of personal retaliation by the board, and this year the board has elected to pick a new target of discrimination and retaliation because of what I said about the board meeting in April.

I will gradually detail what the membership committee is doing so that you can know about it. Perhaps you can talk some sense into them.

--

Members of the South End Rowing Club and other people in the athletic community freely express their personal and political views in this group. These strictly personal expressions do not represent the official views of the South End Rowing Club.

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "South End Rowing Club" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to [southendrowingclub+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com).

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/d38f5298-5a2c-4781-ba0e-df3583696den%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

6:18 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South

Although I'm able to travel to San Francisco several times a week for business, business has been hard, I'm barely breaking even each month, my savings are not growing. However I have no apartment inside San Francisco and no house inside San Francisco. In fact I qualify as an out of town member. This year following what I said about the board in an April post to this unofficial chat, the board elected to single me out for a

spot check on my out of town membership. They tried to change the requirements for out of town membership just for me.

First they said that in addition to needing to show a valid ID this year, to prove that I haven't moved, I also have to prove that I'm still paying bills, or insurance, at my residence.

But they did not ask the same question to all out of town members. They singled me out because I spoke out. This is already a violation of the laws & rules, you can't create special qualifications for some members. All members have to be subject to the same qualifications.

It would be like as if the only person they asked to prove their address with two bills, in addition to ID, was a Black American person.

Dear Out-of-Town Member,

We see that you currently have an out-of-town membership with the South End. Per the Club's By-Laws, "Out-of-town members are those who have been continuous Active members for at least one year, are in good standing and who provide evidence of primary residence outside the nine Bay Area counties (the Counties of San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo)."

As part of a spot check of out-of-town members, we ask that you please provide the following proof of address:

1. Current Drivers License or other form of government ID.
2. Two current (2024) bills, such as utility or insurance bills, or a lease agreement.

If you have moved and no longer qualify for out-of-town membership, please notify me and pay outstanding 2024 Club dues in the amount of \$373 by check or cash to SERC.

Please provide the requested information to me via email by Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The information you provide will of course be treated confidentially.

Sincerely,

Catherine Lovazzano

Membership Commissioner

South End Rowing Club

On Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 6:07:53 PM UTC-7 Micah Blumberg wrote:

I'm told that in the past a member who was wrongly removed from the club filed a lawsuit and won \$10,000

He became the unlawful target of personal retaliation by the board, and this year the board has elected to pick a new target of discrimination and retaliation because of what I said about the board meeting in April.

I will gradually detail what the membership committee is doing so that you can know about it. Perhaps you can talk some sense into them.

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To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/58d97d32-79db-4a39-ad7d-ae0714d46d80n%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

6:23 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South

So then I proved that I was a legitimate out of town member, showing them two bills, in addition to my valid California ID, and that's when they invented another new rule, just for me.

**Catherine Lovazzano**

Tue, May 14, 1:01 PM (4 days ago)



to me 

Dear Micah,

Thank you for providing documentation of your residence in Cypress, CA.

Based on our keycard swipes at the door, you have been at the club 5 to 7 days per week for the last two months. It is our expectation that out of town members use the club occasionally, rather than daily. That is the basis on which our significantly discounted out of town membership rate is premised.

We therefore request that you become an in-town member, and remit the \$373 difference between the out of town payment you made in February and full membership dues of \$450 for 2024.

Please provide a check by June 1st. If you prefer another method of payment, please let us know.

Best,

Membership Committee

Notice that NO other member this year paid \$450 for renewal. That only applied to members who joined this year for the first time.

So I wrote back and I said:

I'm sorry but I am legitimately an out of town member, I travel to San Francisco for business, but I live outside the Bay Area, and you have to apply the same rules to all club members equally. If you want to charge members fees based on how often they visit the club, you have to apply the same rule to everyone, you cannot create rules that only apply to one person. You can make a motion to change the rules for all members at the next board meeting, but according to the bylaws this change has to be ratified by all members at that club meeting, so all members can approve your motion to require members to pay according to club usage. Otherwise I will accept that you have dropped your request and decided to treat me fairly which means the same as you treat everyone else.

I said

Hi Catherine, was I singled out for a spot check because someone didn't like what I said about the board meeting in April?

"As part of a spot check of out-of-town members, we ask that you please provide the following proof of address:

1. Current Drivers License or other form of government ID.
2. Two current (2024) bills, such as utility or insurance bills, or a lease agreement."

Did you ask every out of town member for a driver's license plus two current bills, or only me?

I feel that no person should be treated differently or singled out to run through extra hoops just because they were in disagreement with the board's decision to cap membership.

I expect that if I wrote an email asking every club member, who lives out of town, if they got an identical spot check from you to prove that they hadn't moved and were still an out of town member that they would say yes.

I expect that you are not treating me any differently from how you are treating anyone else. Every club member deserves the same respect under the rules.

Can we consider your request that I change my membership type to be a closed matter? After all, it is unfair for me to have to pay for a full membership given that I live out of town, and it's unfair for me to be singled out and treated differently from the other members, with special spot checks, and special rules that only apply to me and not other members fairly.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/820168d9-f61e-4075-a903-c8932d249c07n%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

6:27 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>



to South

I also told them that I was not making money this year, paying additional money in dues was a financial hardship, and that I qualified for the low income membership option which I heard about in the April club meeting, but this isn't posted on the club website, but if they don't want to allow me to have membership for people who need financial assistance then I must lawfully elect to remain as an out of town member, which I legitimately qualify for, by the same rules that apply to everyone else.

**Erika Gliebe** <[erika.gliebe@serc.com](mailto:erika.gliebe@serc.com)>

3:56 PM (2 hours ago)



to me 

Dear Micah,

The purpose of the Club's out of town membership is to offer members who move away the option of occasionally returning and using the Club without paying the day use fee. It is the mandate of the Membership Committee to ensure, as a matter of fairness to all our members, that members are categorized correctly and it is our conclusion that at this time you do not qualify as an out of town member. The same standard applies to any member who continually utilizes the Club on more than an occasional basis; such members do not qualify as out of town members.

We reviewed your request for financial assistance and have elected not to honor that request. We have not changed our stance on your need to become an in-town member, and request you remit the \$373 difference between the out of town payment you made in February and full membership dues of \$450 for 2024.

Please provide a check by June 1st. If you prefer another method of payment, please let us know.

Best,

Membership Committee

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**Erika Gliebe**

2024 Secretary

South End Rowing Club

**I replied:**

Every club member who renewed this year paid the price of the dues before the dues were raised. No one who renewed paid the full \$450 this year.

As I said I qualify for financial assistance, and also I qualify as an out of town member by the same standards that everyone else who qualifies as an out of town member qualifies.

You cannot change the club rules for just one person, you have to make a motion to change the club rules for all club members, and according to the bylaws a change in membership rules requires club members to ratify that change.

I read the bylaws and the club rules. If I elect to remain as a qualified out of town member that is my choice. If you want to change the requirements for out of town membership, to how many days people attend the club per week, this change must apply to all club members equally.

I'm going to start forwarding these email messages from the membership to past & present club members, to everyone I know, including to the many lawyers, so that a lot more people can confirm that what you are doing, in singling me out with special made up rules, is a violation of our club's charter and our clubs spirit.

I'm aware that a member the club wrongly removed from the club won \$10,000 dollars from the club in a legal judgement. The same could happen again if you don't follow the club rules, and decide that you are going to pursue a path of retaliation against me because you didn't like what I said about the club meeting.

I suggest that the membership committee returns to lawful behavior immediately, so that this matter is settled immediately without further escalation which will expose everything you are doing to all of the club members and the general public.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/09620007-0223-4674-a331-051a47de9eben%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

6:36 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>

to South

Essentially I believe that the South End Rowing Club's membership committee, consisting of members of the board, who are angry with me about what I said in this google group in April about the board meeting are choosing to retaliate against me personally by inventing special rules that apply to me personally and not to everyone else in the club equally.

The board is (illegally I might add) attempting to charge membership dues for just one person, based on club usage, or based on how many days a week that person attends the club.

Whereas everyone else with an out of town membership only has to show ID one time to prove out of town membership and they are not subject to being forced to change their membership dues based on how frequently or infrequently they visit the club.

The board in April already talked about moving towards charging members more if they visit the club more, and charging club members less if they visit the club less. In actuality they are using their tracking sensors, that track every time each of us enters the front door with our card, to retaliate against individual members of the club, who are the subject of their ire, poor you should you decide to speak up against this authoritarian group that governs the board, because they

will start tracking your club activity, a violation of your privacy, to ask you to pay more if you use the club more.

What I am asking the membership committee, and the board to do, is to pass a rule, saying that all out of town members need to show an ID plus two bills every year to verify their out of town membership status, because they did that to me, it should apply equally to all members. I'm also asking the membership committee to either halt their request for me to change my membership to a full membership from an out of town membership, or to pass a rule requiring all out of town members to play by the same rules, which means the board will have to pass a new bylaw, changing membership, so that all out of town members who visit the club more than 5 times in one week must upgrade their membership to a full membership.

Lawful club behavior requires that all members be treated the same under the rules, under the club laws, they cannot create special laws that only apply to you or me, the membership committee and the board must change the bylaws, and these bylaws must be ratified by the membership, in order to change the requirements for out of town membership for everyone!

On Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 6:27:32 PM UTC-7 Micah Blumberg wrote:

I also told them that I was not making money this year, paying additional money in dues was a financial hardship, and that I qualified for the low income membership option which I heard about in the April club meeting, but this isn't posted on the club website, but if they don't want to allow me to have membership for people who need financial assistance then I must lawfully elect to remain as an out of town member, which I legitimately qualify for, by the same rules that apply to everyone else.

**Erika Gliebe** <erika....@serc.com>

to me

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/9762add0-d930-4b21-9739-0e4c5da942b5n%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

6:38 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South

Club members can reach out to me by email privately if they have direct questions:

[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/4425057e-053e-4c57-b692-2a2535dc896cn%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

7:07 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>

to South

This is what they were upset about that started all this:

On April 10th I wrote this about the board meeting:

Micah Blumberg

Apr 10

to South End Rowing Club

Tonight the board meeting was all about capacity, it was sort of debate about whether to limit capacity. Several people said that limited capacity would manifest as an exclusionary policy, limiting the growth of diversity in the club. Someone asked whether the Dolphin Club's fear that led them to cap membership & create a waitlist was similar to the right wing fear of allowing new immigrants to enter the country.

Several times the issue of safety was brought up, in the context that if a swimmer gets out of the water, from a big swim, and they can't immediately get into the sauna or shower that could be a safety issue.

I sat in on the board meeting as a regular member and my observation that I wasn't able to share in the meeting was that a huge pinch point that might be driving the discussion to limit capacity is about the lack of space in the Women's shower and the Women's sauna. Could we help alleviate this part of the issue by building a large outdoor solar sauna on the beach to help as many swimmers as possible warm up at once.

I felt that among the board members many more of the women on the board seemed to be more concerned about not being able to get into the shower or sauna after a big swim. While the men on the board did not seem to have concerns about capacity in the men's sauna and the men's shower.

This led me to think the capacity isn't about club capacity it's about sauna & shower capacity for the women's locker room, and if we can address that by adding outdoor hot showers & outdoor sauna's the pressure to limit club capacity might not feel so urgent to the women board members.

The board decided to limit the amount of people who can purchase a new membership to 20 per month, effective for the next 12 months. Last month we had 75 people joining, this means that May 1st everyone who wants to join goes on a waitlist.

There will be exemptions for new members who belong to certain organizations that are preferred by members of the board, the details on the website



It's my opinion that board did not properly study the issue for a sufficient amount of time to consider whether the impulse to cap membership. The board also refused to allow board members who could not make it to the evening tonight.

I think a board member should, at the time of the next vote, circulate a list of the all the board members who voted for creating a monthly limit on how many new members can join the club each month so that the club can vote these board members off the board in the next club election.

I think this is an issue where the majority of club members will be against the board's rash, urgent, and inconsiderate decision to rush to cap the club membership.

Finally the idea of a trial membership and of membership classes, where members costs are based on evaluations of their usage just goes completely against what the South End Rowing Club is, that's the sort of thing we might expect at the Dolphin Club. Someone floated the idea of new club rules, because of people leaving their stuff lying around in the gym, and again I think the people who are proposing collecting data on members, membership evaluation periods, and a host of new rules & restrictions should go join the Dolphin Club because this sort of thing is not the South End Rowing Club culture.

I think we need a big board change to clear out the majority of people who are on the board and bring in an entirely different board.

There were a lot more dissenting views that we heard during this meeting that I haven't reported by I hope that club members will talk about.

I hope that when the board meets again they heavily consider the issue of adding capacity to the women's sauna & shower, perhaps with a big outdoor sauna & shower, or expanded capacity via some other plan.

On Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 6:38:18 PM UTC-7 Micah Blumberg wrote:

Club members can reach out to me by email privately if they have direct questions:  
mic...@gmail.com

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/e74e0f9a-853f-49be-9d80-0ff553d017f5n%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,  
7:13 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>

to South

I have read the by-laws, I made some sort of suggestion as to how Josh could propose to change membership dues for new members to the President Josh before April's meeting about changing, I forget what I said exactly, but Josh replied saying something to the effect that it would require a change to the by-laws and was no easy feat. Something like that.

Last month the board essentially changed how membership works by putting a cap on how many people can join per month, now its only twenty new members per month, if a new member tries to join today they will be put on a waiting list until August or September, people trying to join in August or September may have to wait years to join the club as the waiting list will continue to grow by 40-60 people each month.

This is essentially a change to the by-laws without changing the by-laws but the board did not follow the by-laws in allowing all members present at the meeting to ratify the boards motion.

The meeting minutes for the April board meeting have just been published on the SERC website, you can read over them, and previous meeting minutes to see if the board has brought up editing By-Laws.

**I believe this board violated Article V Section 4 of the Club By Laws when they changed the rules for membership in April.**

**The club members were not asked to ratify the boards change to membership, only the board members who were present were asked to ratify it.**

My guess is that the Club President, Josh, will argue, and may have argued, that putting a limit on how many members can join per month is not a change to the By-Laws, but instead falls under the boards jurisdiction to change membership Capacity in Article II: Section 1

Section 1 - CAPACITY. The membership of the Club shall be limited to the capacity of the Club's facilities. From time- to-time, the Board shall determine the Club's capacity.

However the change the board made was not a change to limit club capacity, but instead to change the rate for how many club members can join per month and rate limiting new memberships is a fundamentally separate consideration from overall club capacity, enough to argue that rate limiting new memberships does not fall under the boards authority as outlined in

Article II: Section 1 and needs to be added to the By-Laws in the Membership Section in order to be in effect.

Rate limiting new memberships effects a great number of people and should not be whimsically added or changed by a small number of people depending on who was elected to the board this year or that year.

In theory next years board could be a completely different group of people (If we all decide to run for the board) but will you decide to cap new membership next year? What would you do as a board member?

The board's change to "the rate of new memberships" is not clearly a power given to them under the club's bylaws. Nor is it lawful for them to create special membership requirements that only apply to some members and not all members equally. Therefore we should consider the boards recent changes to be illegal according to club laws, and require the board to either reverse the rule change capping the rate of membership, or to change the bylaws with the ratification of all members present at the board meeting as is required by the club bylaws.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/a3ae8160-f276-4650-b4dd-1c4404ce56een%40googlegroups.com>.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

7:45 PM

**Johnny Diesel** <johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net>

to South, me

Micah -

I'm no lawyer, er, attorney, but apparently rule states, for OOTM (out-of-town-membership), you have to live outside the 9 Bay Area counties (BAC).

Do you live outside the 9 BAC?

If you do, you qualify for OOTM.

If you don't? You don't.

I wouldn't worry about the other stuff. Not worth it.

Not my place to suggest, but living outside the 9 BAC, it may be cheaper to rent.

(Another benefit of OOTM?!)

And then, you work virtually.

You seem like a fine chap, and, like many of us, maybe down on our \$ luck.

Maybe see SERC OOTM rules as helping you, helping you find your way!

Yeah, I can't live in The City.

Too expensive!

Be well.

Johnny Diesel

Trout Meadow Farm Ltd.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

8:19 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>

to Johnny

"I'm no lawyer, er, attorney, but apparently rule states, for OOTM (out-of-town-membership), you have to live outside the 9 Bay Area counties (BAC).

Do you live outside the 9 BAC?

If you do, you qualify for OOTM.

If you don't? You don't."

Yes I do live outside the 9 Bay area counties. Yes I am qualified for Out of Town Membership. The problem is the people elected to the board & membership committee are illegally trying to apply special rules that apply to me alone and not to all club members equally.



Sat, May 18, 2024,

8:22 PM

**Johnny Diesel** <johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net>

to South, me

Well, that's interesting.

Or, troubling.

What's going on, folks?

Johnny Diesel

Trout Meadow Farm Ltd.



Sun, May 19, 2024,  
10:22 AM

**LeeBender** <lee@leebender.com>

to me, South

Following this conversation with some interest because for much of my own life I WAS that person who always seem to be a lightning rod for controversy! It was tough for me and everyone around me. Today, “ in the twilight of my career,” as Farnsworth would say, I like to think I’ve progressed spiritually—I strive on a daily basis to be a member among members— no longer needing to be special.



Hope that might possibly be helpful to someone 🙏

Lee Bender, South Ender

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

[lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com)

415-793-6698



On May 18, 2024, at 7:12 PM, Micah Blumberg <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)> wrote:



Sun, May 19, 2024,  
11:49 AM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South



Why are Johnny

Diesel's comments missing?

On Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 10:22:22 AM UTC-7 LeeBender wrote:

Following this conversation with some interest because for much of my own life I WAS that person who always seem to be a lightning rod for controversy! It was tough for me and everyone around me. Today, “ in the twilight of my career,” as Farnsworth would say, I like to think I’ve progressed spiritually—I strive on a daily basis to be a member among members—no longer needing to be special.

Hope that might possibly be helpful to someone 🙏

Lee Bender, South Ender

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

l...@leebender.com

415-793-6698



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--

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---

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Sun, May 19, 2024,

11:59 AM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South

LeeBender's is by his words siding with the board's unlawful decision to apply a new set of club rules to me that don't apply to anyone else.

Then he gas lights my position while promoting his spiritual evolution, his achieved spirituality, talking about how he has improved himself and become better than needing to be special.

How ironic, that through LeeBender's false idea of spirituality he has made himself special today, less of a lightning rod, so from his high place he could be an example to someone, obviously to me.

Thanks LeeBender, get off your fake high horse of "no longer needing to be special" haha.


Here are Diesel's missing comments and my missing reply to him (which I did not delete). Note to the people running this group, if this thread vanishes I am a journalist with the power to reach millions of people, and I will escalate this news story to millions of people if you do any further edits, or try to hide the truth from the other South End Club Members. I can reach millions of people with this story so don't try to suppress it, and I won't try to escalate it further.



**Johnny Diesel**

Sat, May 18, 7:45 PM (16 hours ago)



to South, me 

Micah -

I'm no lawyer, er, attorney, but apparently rule states, for OOTM (out-of-town-membership), you have to live outside the 9 Bay Area counties (BAC).

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And then, you work virtually.

You seem like a fine chap, and, like many of us, maybe down on our \$ luck.

SERC

Yeah, I can't live in The City.

Too expensive!

Be well.

Johnny Diesel

Trout Meadow Farm Ltd.



**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

Sat, May 18, 8:19 PM (15 hours ago)





to Johnny 

"I'm no lawyer, er, attorney, but apparently rule states, for OOTM (out-of-town-membership), you have to live outside the 9 Bay Area counties (BAC).

Do you live outside the 9 BAC?

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**Johnny Diesel**

Sat, May 18, 8:22 PM (15 hours ago)



to me, South 

Well, that's interesting.

Or, troubling.

What's going on, folks?

Johnny Diesel

Trout Meadow Farm Ltd.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/279ec85f-7947-45d5-b32c-cdeaa5aea0e1n%40googlegroups.com>.



Sun, May 19, 2024,

12:24 PM

**Kristin Ingeman**

<norcalkrissyswims@gmail.com>

to me 

Lee Bender is a woman and one of the longest members of SERC. I highly doubt she is gaslighting and more likely trying to pass on some words of wisdom in this situation. Possibly in hopes that we don't all continue to receive 18 emails from you on the weekend? She faced what I consider to be much bigger issues of exclusion in her day than what you are forcing all of us to be a part of.

Kristin~

On May 19, 2024, at 11:59 AM, Micah Blumberg <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)> wrote:

LeeBender's is by his words siding with the board's unlawful decision to apply a new set of club rules to me that don't apply to anyone else.



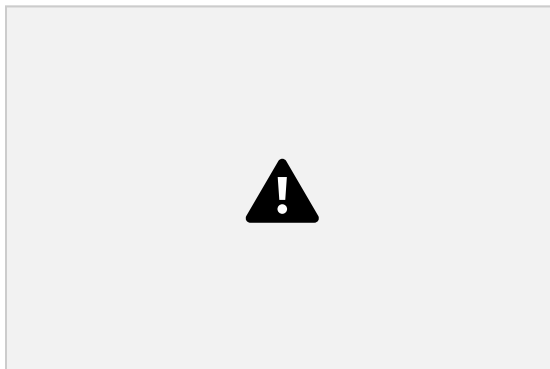
Sun, May 19, 2024,

12:45 PM

**George Lazaneo**

<george.lazaneo@gmail.com>

to South 



**Micah Blumberg** <mic...@gmail.com>

to Johnny

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/903b0353-fe71-4ac3-87ab-d8916da74e43n%40googlegroups.com>.



Sun, May 19, 2024,

2:25 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South

I'm sorry to Lee Bender for rushing to reply without having first a full understanding of who you were and where you are coming from, being someone whom the boards at SERC, Dolphin Club, and Arial club discriminated against in the past

A friend sent me this

<https://www.sfartistsalumni.org/post/1981-joan-brown-triathlete>

Lee Bender was one of 7 women, including Joan Brown, who were admitted into both clubs in 1974 following the lawsuit. 4 in SERC, 3 in DC.

Inhindsight your comment about who could benefit from your wisdom of being less of a lightning rod for attention could also apply to the current board members who are being accused by other SERC members of misappropriating funds and hiding their trail by refusing to openly publish

how money is being spent by the club so they can continue to plunder the clubs treasure without being held accountable. The same SERC club member who told me this story that the dame clique the same group of people has managed to maintain control of the club for the past few years and that several of the clubs old timers are unhappy with this group of occupiers.

It was pointed out in email that maybe Lee Bender was not gaslighting my call for lawfulness: meaning the same rules are apply to all out of town members and members equality, fairly, across the board, so individuals and small groups are not unfairly singled out for alternative treatment, which is what was happening when women were excluded from these three clubs (now two clubs).

Kristin Ingeman wrote:

Lee Bender is a woman and one of the longest members of SERC. I highly doubt she is gaslighting and more likely trying to pass on some words of wisdom in this situation. Possibly in hopes that we don't all continue to receive 18 emails from you on the weekend? She faced what I consider to be much bigger issues of exclusion in her day than what you are forcing all of us to be a part of.

Kristin~

My reply: I'm sorry if you feel that its unfair for you to hear that Catherine and Erika from the membership committee are unfairly creating new rules for some club members that are unlawfully not being applied to all members equally, and doing so without following Club Bylaws on how to change the rules of membership. This is a club wide security issue when members of the board are misbehaving in lawless ways to discriminate and retaliate against anyone they choose at any time. How courageous will you and others feel about speaking up about corruption that you might witness from our board in the future knowing that they could unlawfully retaliate against you for speaking out about them?

No, I think bringing this (dirty laundry?) issue to light is the best disinfectant for exposing the SERC boards wrong doing so that we can all benefit from a more lawful & transparent board. One that is also financially transparent and held accountable to all the club members, not on their own unilaterally making up rules and laws as they go without oversight, proper procedures, or checks & balances.

I did not consider the possibility that Lee Bender's wisdom might also be interpreted as siding with my call for lawfulness, and encouraging the lightning rods in the Club Membership committee (Erika and Catherine) to grow spiritually. That is an equally valid interpretation as well.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/ff648060-07a4-4187-88a0-dc4fe925a74dn%40googlegroups.com>.



Sun, May 19, 2024,  
2:32 PM

**LeeBender** <lee@leebender.com>

to me, South 

It's OK Micah, I know what it's like to feel "on the outside."

Let's have a swim together one of these days 🙏

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

[lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com)

415-793-6698



On May 19, 2024, at 2:25 PM, Micah Blumberg <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)> wrote:

I'm sorry to Lee Bender for rushing to reply without having first a full understanding of who you were and where you are coming from, being someone whom the boards at SERC, Dolphin Club, and Arial club discriminated against in the past



Sun, May 19, 2024,

2:32 PM

**Kristin Ingeman**

<[norcalkrissyswims@gmail.com](mailto:norcalkrissyswims@gmail.com)>



to me 

Your reply to me is just proof that you're reacting too quickly. I am not Lee Bender. I just wanted you to know who she was. If ever I've seen a situation when someone should step away from their email it is your situation.

Kristin~

On May 19, 2024, at 2:25 PM, Micah Blumberg <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)> wrote:

I'm sorry to Lee Bender for rushing to reply without having first a full understanding of who you were and where you are coming from, being someone whom the boards at SERC, Dolphin Club, and Arial club discriminated against in the past



Sun, May 19, 2024,

3:35 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South 

Update:

C

**Catherine Lovazzano**

2:52 PM (42 minutes ago)



to me 

Hi Micah,

We look at keycard swipes, as well as event participation to see who is utilizing the club.

You are among 3 out of town members with extremely high usage. They were also contacted with the same request.

This has nothing to do with your presence or comments on board meetings.

Catherine



**Micah Blumberg**

3:34 PM (0 minutes ago)



to Catherine 

Thank you for the explanation. I am happy to pay the full membership price AFTER the board updates the bylaws changing out of town membership requirements so that if ANY future out of town members with extremely high usage, of 5 or more visits to the club per week, are automatically required to become full time club members. The same rules should apply to all members equally, and that is the noble & principled stance that I take.

Sincerely,

Micah Blumberg,

My Code + My Notes: [v5ma on github](#)

My News Blog/Writing <http://svgn.io>

On Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 2:32:21 PM UTC-7 LeeBender wrote:

It's OK Micah, I know what it's like to feel "on the outside."

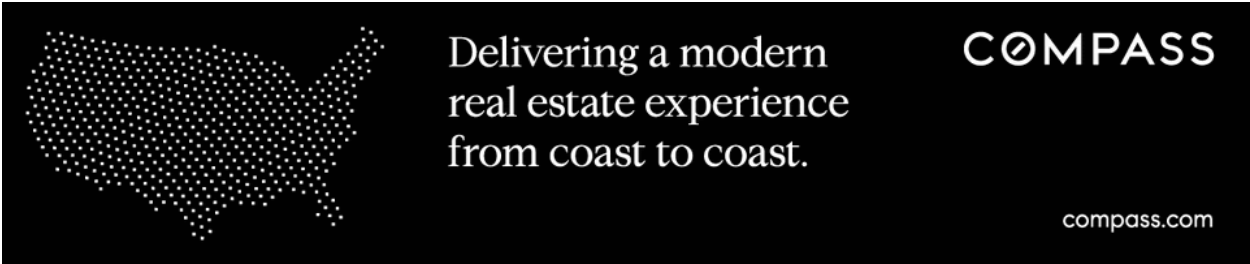
Let's have a swim together one of these days 🙏

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

**[I...@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com)**

**[415-793-6698](tel:415-793-6698)**



...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)



Sun, May 19, 2024,  
3:52 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South 



**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

3:46 PM (4 minutes ago)



to Erika, Catherine 

I have a new complaint about the membership committee that they are angrily and unjustly denying my request for the financial assistance low income membership based on a desire for revenge for my comments about the board meeting, and my insistence in email conversations that the board is required to pass new rules for everyone and not invent new rules that only apply to some members. I've said that I'm struggling to make ends meet, struggling to pay for food, if anyone deserves a low income membership it's me. The denial to allow me to have a low income membership feels like someone striking me with anger. I am really a poor person, I didn't know the club had this, but I am the person this low-income membership was meant for. How dare you discriminate against someone who care barely afford food?

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)



Sun, May 19, 2024,

4:04 PM

**George Lazaneo**

<george.lazaneo@gmail.com>

to South 

Micah,

The picture of dirty laundry is a reference for how you choose to air your grievances and problem-solve. The South End Way is to deal with people directly, not to put club leadership and members that you don't know on blast. I suggest that you try to out of your own head, have more *direct* conversations with people, and connect with your fellow members 1:1. These posts are not a good look for you, the club itself and is ultimately a distraction for the people who use the club for sport and this forum for SERC activities.

Hoping you can work this out with everybody,

George

On Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 2:32:21 PM UTC-7 LeeBender wrote:

It's OK Micah, I know what it's like to feel "on the outside."

Let's have a swim together one of these days 🙏

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

l...@leebender.com

415-793-6698



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<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/ff648060-07a4-4187-88a0-dc4fe925a74dn%40googlegroups.com>.

--

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Sun, May 19, 2024,  
7:06 PM



**Sibylle Scholz** <sibyllescholz@gmail.com>

to me 

Micah, as a Zen practitioner, I see the monkeys dancing on your back. I certainly have my monkeys dancing as well. No matter how hard I try, there they are.

Its like two clowns are fucking and one of them says, hay, this isn't funny.

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)



Sun, May 19, 2024,

8:14 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>

to LeeBender 

I would be honored to swim with you one of these Lee Bender. What is a good day and time for you this summer?



Sun, May 19, 2024,  
8:19 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <micah3@gmail.com>

to sibyllescholz 

I have monkeys on my back only in the sense that the club is trying to squeeze me for money I didn't have and didn't budget for, and it is critical for me to be able to continue my club membership. So yes its like I'm in a bit of a panic mode to save my membership without having to pay more money, and why isn't everyone else being squeezes to pay more because they use the club more?



Sun, May 19, 2024,  
8:26 PM

**LeeBender** <lee@leebender.com>

to me 

Great! I'm a lousy swimmer but always proud if I can manage to actually get my carcass IN the water! Most any weekday is good for me, Micah, and mornings definitely best as long as not too early 😊

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

[lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com)

415-793-6698



On May 19, 2024, at 8:14 PM, Micah Blumberg <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)> wrote:

S

Sun, May 19, 2024,  
8:51 PM

**Sibylle Scholz** <[sibyllescholz@gmail.com](mailto:sibyllescholz@gmail.com)>

to me

Yeah, I see it. Fucking bitch.



Mon, May 20, 2024,

11:42 AM

**dlillian@sonic.net dlillian@sonic.net via  
googlegroups.com**

to South

Thanks for that, Lee.

My thoughts upon looking at this latest complaint in what appears to be a chronic saga is - why would someone want to be a member of a club that they didn't like in the first place?

I love the South End. And appreciate all the hard work that goes into making it The Greatest Club on Earth.

~Denise

On Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 10:22:22 AM UTC-7 LeeBender wrote:

Following this conversation with some interest because for much of my own life I WAS that person who always seem to be a lightning rod for controversy! It was tough for me and everyone around me. Today, “ in the twilight of my career,” as Farnsworth would say, I like to think I’ve progressed spiritually—I strive on a daily basis to be a member among members—no longer needing to be special.

Hope that might possibly be helpful to someone 🙏

Lee Bender, South Ender

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

[l...@leebender.com](mailto:l...@leebender.com)

[415-793-6698](tel:415-793-6698)



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Mon, May 20, 2024,

12:10 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South 

I love the South End Rowing Club too Denise.

The bottom line for the board, I believe, is they are trying to look for unlawful ways to squeeze the members for more money, that the board will then spend without transparency or accountability which helps explain why they are in such a hurt for more money.

I have been loud about it because I love this club so much that it is existential for me, I wasn't prepared to fork out another \$373 dollars in June, when I already qualify for OOT membership. I didn't budget for this, I didn't plan for this expenditure, an

I wasn't expecting to be singled out for retaliation with a VR ban thread, that ultimately targeted me because I'm the only one I know who has brought a VR headset to this club, in addition to all this.

Obviously I love the club because I've been visiting often, but being an OOT members means that I might always not be around for 3 months or more, depending on whether a business contract takes me somewhere else in the world.

So for one or two weeks I might be here for five days in a row, but it doesn't mean that over the course of a year I'm actually using the club more often than anyone else. Not only that

I realized when they insisted that I pay \$450, and not the \$400 that every other member was paid to renew their dues this year that they had punishment on their minds when they targeted me. NO OTHER CLUB MEMBER PAID \$450 in renewal dues this year. ONLY NEW MEMBERS paid \$450 for club membership this year. I've been a member here for 8 years, that should not be the price of a renewal for me this year in 2024.

Next year every member of the club will have to pay \$450 for renewal. Not every member has been given only two weeks to comply when the CLUB RULES state that members are to be given 30 days notification in situations like this.

The club has no published information on the low income membership. There is no information you can read about it on the website. They have no published criteria for who is accepted and who isn't. It seems to be the whim or dictate of the membership committee, and that is unlawful in that it allows them to discriminate who gets that membership based on any criteria, even illegal criteria. There is no established written way to prove that you merit inclusion.

Don't read my words as some sort of general dislike for the club in general. I love this club, but I don't love it when club members are treated unfairly, or when board members do not apply the same rules to everyone equally. What I'm standing up for is not just my rights, but also your rights, and everyone's rights to not be given special rules when the board is looking for someone new to focus on and try to squeeze for money.

My post has nothing to do with hypodermic needles (meanly implying heroin/drug use comes with poor people) as some benevolent high in the sky above us all dictator meanly suggested as he lorded over the conversations here and also imposed his opinion which also had nothing to do with swimming or club sports. I agree you don't have to read the posts on the Google groups, it's completely optional.

I'm writing about fairness!

I'm writing about lawfulness!

I'm writing about the membership committee which is in charge of all of our South End Club Memberships, and I'm asking them to be fair and lawful not just with me, but with all members.

If I was the club President I would expose all the membership types, put all the information on the club website, make all the club's financial transactions public on an open ledger, there would be full transparency of club finances and club communications, and the board meeting would be videotaped and put on youtube on a channel that all club members with the link can see.



If I was club President the SOUTH END ROWING CLUB would truly be accountable to you, because I love the SERC more than you do Denise, I'm willing to fight for a better version of this club, and unlike some other people I am not siding with the people who are blocking a better version of this club.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/52904f13-2c2e-40a9-9d29-cff30e506bc1n%40googlegroups.com>.



Mon, May 20, 2024,  
12:26 PM

**Greg Kerr** <kerrgi@gmail.com>

to South

Hi Micah,

Just wanted to follow up on the VR Ban Thread. For clarification, when I started the discussion, I wasn't aware anyone was actively using VR in the club, including yourself, so the words targeting and retaliation don't seem appropriate here.

The conversation seems to be getting a bit heated, so I think it might be best to move the discussion offline.

Best,

Greg Kerr

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/e3fd5f8a-bab6-4537-a2ba-575c7b4be685n%40googlegroups.com>.



Mon, May 20,  
2024, 1:02 PM

**LeeBender** [lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com) via  
**googlegroups.com**

to dlillian, South

And what I love about YOU is your relentlessly positive, energetics, and kind spirit, Denise ❤️

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

[lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com)

415-793-6698



On May 20, 2024, at 11:42 AM, [dlillian@sonic.net](mailto:dlillian@sonic.net) wrote:

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/5FBF7ACB-CCC9-4C73-9076-01A8D16B9A39%40leebender.com>.



**Craig Coombs** <[craigjcoombs@gmail.com](mailto:craigjcoombs@gmail.com)>

Mon, May 20,  
2024, 1:02 PM

to me, South

Micah:

Read the room.

STFU

1. Current Drivers License or other form of government ID.
2. Two current (2024) bills, such as utility or insurance bills, or a lease agreement."

Did you ask every out of town member for a driver's license plus two current bills, or only me?

I feel that no person should be treated differently or singled out to run through extra hoops just because they were in disagreement with the board's decision to cap membership.

I expect that if I wrote an email asking every club member, who lives out of town, if they got an identical spot check from you to prove that they hadn't moved and were still an out of town member that they would say yes.

I expect that you are not treating me any differently from how you are treating anyone else. Every club member deserves the same respect under the rules.

Can we consider your request that I change my membership type to be a closed matter? After all, it is unfair for me to have to pay for a full membership given that I live out of town, and it's unfair for me to be singled out and treated differently from the other members, with special spot checks, and special rules that only apply to me and not other members fairly.

On Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 6:18:38 PM UTC-7 Micah Blumberg wrote:

Although I'm able to travel to San Francisco several times a week for business, business has been hard, I'm barely breaking even each month, my savings are not growing. However I have no apartment inside San Francisco and no house inside San Francisco. In fact I qualify as an out of town member. This year following what I said about the board in an April post to this unofficial chat, the board elected to single me out for a spot check on my out of town membership. They tried to change the requirements for out of town membership just for me.

First they said that in addition to needing to show a valid ID this year, to prove that I haven't moved, I also have to prove that I'm still paying bills, or insurance, at my residence.

But they did not ask the same question to all out of town members. They singled me out because I spoke out. This is already a violation of the laws & rules, you can't create special qualifications for some members. All members have to be subject to the same qualifications.

It would be like as if the only person they asked to prove their address with two bills, in addition to ID, was a Black American

person.

Dear Out-of-Town Member,

We see that you currently have an out-of-town membership with the South End. Per the Club's By-Laws, "Out-of-town members are those who have been continuous Active members for at least one year, are in good standing and who provide evidence of primary residence outside the nine Bay Area counties (the Counties of San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, and San Mateo)."

As part of a spot check of out-of-town members, we ask that you please provide the following proof of address:

1. Current Drivers License or other form of government ID.
2. Two current (2024) bills, such as utility or insurance bills, or a lease agreement.

If you have moved and no longer qualify for out-of-town membership, please notify me and pay outstanding 2024 Club dues in the amount of \$373 by check or cash to SERC.

Please provide the requested information to me via email by Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The information you provide will of course treated confidentially.

Sincerely,

Catherine Lovazzano

Membership Commissioner

South End Rowing Club

On Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 6:07:53 PM UTC-7 Micah Blumberg wrote:

I'm told that in the past a member who was wrongly removed from the club filed a lawsuit and won \$10,000

He became the unlawful target of personal retaliation by the board, and this year the board has elected to pick a new target of discrimination and retaliation because of what I said about the board meeting in April.

I will gradually detail what the membership committee is doing so that you can know about it. Perhaps you can talk some sense into them.

--

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To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to [southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com).

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/a3ae8160-f276-4650-b4dd-1c4404ce56een%40googlegroups.com>.



Mon, May 20,  
2024, 6:51 PM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to South

There is talk of folks making a movie about this, and I think you will all read the book eventually. Including the part about a board member (I think it was Cathy, she's the only board member I've seen in the office) blocking my laptop from reaching the internet. Even though the club internet is for all club members (the password is sw1mrnr0w) and I haven't broken any club rules. (I unblocked my laptop, because I'm versed in basic Cybersecurity aka Infosec (hacking).) After



running tools on my computer to determine that someone tried to prevent my laptop in particular from accessing the club internet. Now I'm seeing that my messages to the club's unofficial google group are being blocked (pending approval) by the benevolent dictator Kevin Buckholz, and this means that for sure this story is going to become a movie, and a book, and there is so much more to say than has been said already. The stories I am hearing from club members past and present amount to a lot.

Sincerely,

Micah Blumberg,

My Code + My Notes: [v5ma on github](#)

My News Blog/Writing <http://svgn.io>

[SERC 75467:] 2024 Foil Hats

Inbox



Mon, May 20, 2024, 10:59 PM

**Kevin Buckholtz**

**<kevin.buckholtz@gmail.com>**

to South

100% Reynolds Wrap ® Aluminum Foil Anti-persecution cap by Boomersarefools Technologies.  
Red. One size.



You like us for our fossilized skills manipulating the internet. You'll love us for our anti-surveillance wearables. Come on, try one for size. You have only your mind have to lose, and it's not like you were using it anyway.

Designed by the Trilateral Commission, 2024. All rights reserved.

--

Kevin J. Buckholtz

PO Box 52

Ross, CA 94957-0052

415-420-1176

Photos at: <https://buckholtz.smugmug.com>

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[https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CAP8\\_Gj\\_2b8iHHCgzXg7ZYJdM35t%2BzsNDsC7Dw%2BXT8C4ROH-BYQ%40mail.gmail.com](https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CAP8_Gj_2b8iHHCgzXg7ZYJdM35t%2BzsNDsC7Dw%2BXT8C4ROH-BYQ%40mail.gmail.com).



Tue, May 21, 2024, 8:38 AM

**randy brown** [randyb11@att.net](mailto:randyb11@att.net) **via**  
**googlegroups.com**

to South, Kevin

Mahalo Kevin! Since I lose things can I order 3 hats? Let's spread the aloha spirit throughout the cub!

Aloha nui loa,

Randy Brown

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/644819732.2518159.1716305878945%40mail.yahoo.com>.



Tue, May 21, 2024, 9:01 AM

**Alison Saylor** <[alison.saylor@gmail.com](mailto:alison.saylor@gmail.com)>

to randyb11, South, Kevin

Hey Guys, I get it. It's funny. And also, having a mental illness is something that is heavily stigmatized, adding another layer of pain to an already painful disease and keeping people from seeking help, leaving them isolated and all too often ending in suicide. And mental illness not a binary thing, you're crazy or you're sane, it's a spectrum that we are all on somewhere.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CADDz2nqyNvh88A0O7%3Dd55qNjJkk2YO7di4jWThM2it4r8qwzOQ%40mail.gmail.com>.



Tue, May 21, 2024, 10:55 AM

**Alan Lapp** <[alanbataar@gmail.com](mailto:alanbataar@gmail.com)>

to Alison, Randy, South, Kevin

Doubly so here at the South End.

a

On May 21, 2024, at 9:01 AM, Alison Saylor <[alison.saylor@gmail.com](mailto:alison.saylor@gmail.com)> wrote:

you're crazy or you're sane, it's a spectrum that we are all on somewhere.

--

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To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/1BCF5FAC-D86E-4759-98E2-E2F2BF15A17E%40gmail.com>.



Tue, May 21, 2024, 11:02 AM

**'jeanine dubois' via South End Rowing Club**  
**<[southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com)>**

to alanbataar, Alison, Randy, South, Kevin

Now we are making fun of people who are bullied?

This needs to stop.

Not funny.

Jeanine

Sent from my iPhone

On May 21, 2024, at 10:55 AM, Alan Lapp <[alanbataar@gmail.com](mailto:alanbataar@gmail.com)> wrote:

Doubly so here at the South End.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/B3667F1C-6F9A-45A0-B406-B751F2080B85%40yahoo.com>.



Tue, May 21, 2024, 11:27 AM

**Micah Blumberg** <[micah3@gmail.com](mailto:micah3@gmail.com)>

to j9db10

Thanks for speaking up Jeanine Dubois!

Kevin has blocked me from replying or commenting on the Google Groups directly. If I try to post there it says "your post is pending approval" and Kevin is refusing to approve anything I say. They also blocked my laptop from connecting to the South End Wifi, even though I haven't broken any rules and the wifi is for all members. There is a strategy of gas lighting, making fun of people, secretive personal revenge, and unlawful behavior. I don't want to take 10,000 dollars from the club via the courts and go somewhere else like the last guy they picked on and threw

out, I want to stay in the club and support the club, especially so the club can keep its 10,000 dollars.

Not that it will matter in the long term, people are already talking about making a book and a movie about this, and there is much more to say. The story of what is happening goes much deeper than what has been covered in the Google groups so far.

Sincerely,

Micah Blumberg,

My Code + My Notes: [v5ma on github](#)

My News Blog/Writing <http://svgm.io>



Wed, May 22, 2024, 5:08 AM

**Tom Bollinger** <firetom34@gmail.com>

to Alison, Kevin, Randy, South, alanbataar, j9db10

What encompasses being bullied? I've been a member since 2008 and I've never experienced it, a little joking yes. When I wore a 2 mil top for comfort and a recent cardiac issue I got some ribbing and the stink eye. I said why a I wear it and no problems. Now it's warmed up, no more. I survived 22 years as a carpenter and 20 in the SFFD with a thick skin and not

being so sensitive. I responded to a fellow member who's behind this complaint in a non hostile manner and they told me to F\_ \_k O\_f. I couldn't believe a response of this nature. Hot headed, jump in some cold water for stay home.

Tom Bollinger, "always cold."

On Tue, May 21, 2024 at 11:02 AM 'jeanine dubois' via South End Rowing Club

<[southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com)> wrote:

To view this discussion on the web visit

[https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CAFFPfowG8-miOpFZQ6ggEE1bFv5RGP%3Dtn%3DN7\\_ALjGW26%2BAV6vw%40mail.gmail.com](https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CAFFPfowG8-miOpFZQ6ggEE1bFv5RGP%3Dtn%3DN7_ALjGW26%2BAV6vw%40mail.gmail.com).



Wed, May 22, 2024, 11:13 AM

**randy brown** [randyb11@att.net](mailto:randyb11@att.net) **via**  
**googlegroups.com**

to firetom34, j9db10, Alison, Kevin, South, alanbataar

Aloha all,

I usually reply directly to the person and not the group however, I feel compelled to share a lesson an old-timer taught me a long time ago. "If somebody doesn't wanna be happy, you will never make them happy." One more "life's mysterious don't take it so serious. "I have enjoyed many, many wonderful years and gratefully made a plethora of great friends at South End Rowing Club.



Because I have a propensity to lose things I emailed Kevin directly to place an order for three of those aluminum hats because I see them as nothing but pure fun. I went to a boys boarding school, Hawaii Preparatory Academy, on the big island of Hawaii. Believe me I know what bullying is however, by the time we were seniors in 1966, there was very little of it.

Aloha nui loa,

Randy Brown

Sent from my iPhone

On May 22, 2024, at 5:08 AM, Tom Bollinger <[firetom34@gmail.com](mailto:firetom34@gmail.com)> wrote:

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/E2FCB8B7-0330-40D9-B1DD-A6C8428FDEFD%40att.net>.



Wed, May 22, 2024, 5:14 PM

**Jim Alexander** <[recafn8@gmail.com](mailto:recafn8@gmail.com)>

to South

Dylan and I are testing to see if I receive a notice that my post has been blocked by a "locked" thread.

--

~~~

Jim Alexander

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[https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CAFnC\\_0o04oWZT4Dsf1R7LW4kL0XdVqOb6CjD9Dj9wjQvv%2Bw%3D8A%40mail.gmail.com](https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CAFnC_0o04oWZT4Dsf1R7LW4kL0XdVqOb6CjD9Dj9wjQvv%2Bw%3D8A%40mail.gmail.com).



Thu, May 23, 2024, 1:05 AM

**Johnny Diesel** [johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net) **via**  
**googlegroups.com**

to Jim, South

My postings have been blocked.

Magic.

Pirate electrons.

Johnny Diesel

Trout Meadow Farm Ltd.

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/1386492237.1799332.1716451531447%40mail.yahoo.com>.



Thu, May 23, 2024, 11:38 AM

**randy brown randyb11@att.net via  
googlegroups.com**

to johnny.diesel, Jim, South

Please do not block, sir Johnny Diesel

Sent from my iPhone

On May 23, 2024, at 1:05 AM, Johnny Diesel <[johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net)> wrote:

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/6A16CB4D-04D7-4A05-BD1A-90320207AAF7%40att.net>.



Thu, May 23, 2024, 12:57 PM

**Tom Linthicum** [tomlinthicum@hotmail.com](mailto:tomlinthicum@hotmail.com)  
**via** [googlegroups.com](https://groups.google.com)

to [randyb11@att.net](mailto:randyb11@att.net), [johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net),  
Jim, South

No please don't block Johnny Diesel!

Best Regards

Tom Linthicum

925-787-8291

---

**From:** [southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com) <[southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com)> on behalf of  
randy brown <[randyb11@att.net](mailto:randyb11@att.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 23, 2024 11:38:21 AM

**To:** [johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net) <[johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnny.diesel@sbcglobal.net)>

**Cc:** Jim Alexander <[recafn8@gmail.com](mailto:recafn8@gmail.com)>; South End Rowing Club  
<[southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com](mailto:southendrowingclub@googlegroups.com)>

**Subject:** Re: [SERC 75507:] 2024 Foil Hats

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/SA1PR22MB47235224065F59CD81003F5EDCF42%40SA1PR22MB4723.namprd22.prod.outlook.com>.



Thu, May 23, 2024, 1:00 PM

**LeeBender** [lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com) **via**  
**googlegroups.com**

to tomlinthicum, johnny.diesel, Jim, randyb11, South

Amen to Tom on Johnny Diesel, whom i LOVE muchly ❤️

--

**Lee Bender, Phd**

[lee@leebender.com](mailto:lee@leebender.com)

415-793-6698



On May 23, 2024, at 12:57 PM, Tom Linthicum <[tomlinthicum@hotmail.com](mailto:tomlinthicum@hotmail.com)> wrote:

No please don't block Johnny Diesel!

To view this discussion on the web visit

<https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/DE397C20-9B86-4E3A-B245-59FE5518E25E%40leebender.com>.



Sun, May 26, 2024, 10:11 AM

**Dave Maloney**

<[ilovewater9144444@gmail.com](mailto:ilovewater9144444@gmail.com)>

to lee, Jim, South, johnny.diesel, randyb11,

tomlinthicum

I loved the al you min ee um hat!! I'm ordering 100 of them.

To view this discussion on the web visit

[https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CA%2B2UBrihW-tLOS1J2JRJaL-44qA8hDsR0N9QE\\_0V4%2BEZaZeQiQ%40mail.gmail.com](https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/southendrowingclub/CA%2B2UBrihW-tLOS1J2JRJaL-44qA8hDsR0N9QE_0V4%2BEZaZeQiQ%40mail.gmail.com).