

2008 HEAD OF THE SOUTH REGATTA RULES

Coach and Coxswain Meeting

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT ITEM:

ALL COXSWAINS, SINGLE SCULLERS, AND BOW SCULLERS MUST ATTEND ONE OF THE TWO COACHES AND COXSWAINS MEETINGS AND SHOW WRIST BAND PROOF THAT THEY ATTENDED A MEETING BEFORE THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO LAUNCH BY THE CONTROL COMMISSION.

The main Coaches/Coxswains Meeting is on Friday, November 7th upstairs inside the Boathouse at 7:00 pm. SCRATCHES OR ADDITIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT THIS MEETING AND MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO THIS MEETING AT CHECK IN FROM 3 pm TO 7 pm. A lack of attendance at this meeting will be viewed as an acceptance of the rules of the course.

A second Coaches/Coxswains Meeting will be held at the following two locations on Saturday November 8th at 7:15 am:

- 1) Outside the Registration Office and
- 2) At the Sculling Dock Control Commission Tent (by the large warehouse)

Wrist bands will be given out by the Chief Referee or Assistant Chief Referee to all coxswains and scullers who attend a meeting. Wrist bands must be shown to the Control Commission prior to launching.

Officials Meeting: Friday, November 7th at the Boathouse, 6:15 pm.

Practice Schedule

The race course will be available for practice on Friday, November 7, from 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm. No shells will be allowed to launch after 5:00 pm and all shells must be off the water by 5:30 pm, or an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty may be assessed. Practice is not allowed in the area above the start line. Marshals will be overseeing practice to observe traffic pattern and safety. Please follow their directions and be alert to course workers. Coaches and/or launches will not be allowed on the River during practice.

Weigh-In

Weigh-In for lightweights will be held Friday, November 7th, from 4 pm to 7 pm and Saturday, November 8th, from 6:30 am to 10 am. Singles will be given preference during Saturday morning weigh-in. Shirts and shorts must be worn.

Only those not making weight Friday night may change events; those not making weight on Saturday morning will be scratched.

Crews must arrive at weigh-in at least one hour before launch time. All lightweights must weigh in by 10 am on Saturday; **Friday weigh-ins are strongly encouraged**. There will be no boat weight averaging for lightweights. Maximum weight for male rowers is 165.0 pounds. Maximum weight for female rowers is 135.0 pounds.

There will be no weigh-in for coxswains.

Eligibility

NOTE: for exact definitions of “Youth”, “Collegiate”, “Club”, “Masters”, “Novice”, “Mixed”, , and “Lightweight” see **Event Definitions**.

- a. There is no limit on the number of entries a given organization may make.
- b. Wherever relevant, the age of a contestant as of December 31, 2008, governs eligibility.
- c. Line-ups for all events must be submitted during online registration. No substitutions may be made in Singles events at any time. No substitutions may be made in any Masters events after November 1, 2008.
- d. This is a USRowing Registered Regatta. All participating organizations must be USRowing members. Individuals do not need to be USRowing members.

Event Seeding

At the entry closing date, events will be seeded with complete and correct entries based on the 2007 HOTS results.

Bow Balls, Bow Marker Clips, and Heel Safety Ties

Control commission officials will monitor all launching boats. All boats must be equipped with bow marker clips and bow balls. Any boats without a securely attached bow ball will be declared unsafe and will not be permitted to race. Each footstretcher must have an appropriate footgear quick release system with the heels tied no more than 3 inches from the board.

Bow Markers

Registrants will be furnished number plates and bow and stern rower pin-on numbers. Please return all number plates to the return dock officials. Crews not returning a number will be assessed a \$10 fee.

Penalties

15 second penalty – Incorrectly passing or "cutting" a buoy

20 second penalty – Starting out of order or interfering with the staging of the start

20 second penalty – Unsportsmanlike conduct (this includes use of foul language)

30 second penalty – Interference, which includes failing to yield the right-of-way

Passing / Right of Way

In accordance with USRA Rules: A crew is deemed to be overtaking another crew when it has moved to within one length of open water of the crew ahead. A crew being overtaken must safely yield the right of way. On straight sections of the course, a crew being overtaken shall yield to the right. In turns, the crew being overtaken shall yield to the outside of the turn and allow the overtaking crew to pass along the shorter path. Nevertheless, passing is not allowed, nor is the crew being overtaken required to yield, in cases where the overtaking crew's position clearly prevents safe passage or where there is insufficient room to yield. Failure to yield will result in a 30 second penalty.

Passing between designated bridge spans is at your own risk.

Protests

All protests must be indicated on the water immediately following the finish of a race to an Official before the crew leaves the finish area. When a crew leaves the finish area, they forfeit the right to file a protest. Each protest must be filed in writing within 30 minutes of the last boat crossing the finish line for the race in question. A fee of \$25.00 in cash must accompany each protest. Protests are to be taken to Regatta Headquarters or the Chief Referee. Each protest will be considered by a Jury of Licensed Officials.

The Course

The race is rowed downstream over a 5,000 meter course on the Savannah River. Please view the **2008 Map**. Crews must launch from the launching dock and proceed upstream along the Georgia shore approximately 3 miles to a warm up area above the starting line. You will be directed by course marshals into the starting chute along the South Carolina half of the river. The boundaries of the course will be between the course buoys and the South Carolina shore. The 2500 meter midpoint of the course and last 1000 meters will be marked with specific buoys. Racing will continue past the boathouse and launch area and finish slightly downstream of the venue. Please row 100 meters past the finish line and turn your crew toward the Georgia shore and return to the assigned take-out dock. Marshals will be stationed at key points to ensure safety and to control traffic.

Boats proceeding to the start must not impede racing, nor cross the course at any point. Violators face disqualification or exclusion. Each entrant will be responsible for arriving at the starting line at least five minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. Entrants will start at 12-15 second intervals. The start will be in sequence of bow markers. Boats arriving more than 30 seconds after the last entrant has started will not be allowed to race. No racing starts or full pressure strokes are permitted, in any direction, in the marshaling area.

Launch and Return Docks

The dock master shall control all launching of shells. 4+, 4X, and 8+ shells will launch from the dock nearest the Augusta Rowing Club boathouse. 4+, 4X, and 8+ shells will return to the dock nearest the Regatta Headquarters building. 1X, 2-, and 2X shells will launch and return from a third dock near the large warehouse building downstream (refer to map).

First Call

First call for each event is 45 minutes before the official start time of the event. The second and final call will be 30 minutes before start.

Hot Seating

Crews wishing to “hot-seat” shall notify the Dock Master on the Return Dock prior to launching. Hot-seating will normally be accomplished on the return dock only. A Hot Seat card will be issued to each crew wishing to hot seat. You may pick these cards up at Regatta Headquarters. The coxswain must alert officials on the water and the dock by holding the card over their heads.

Results and Awards

Results for each event will be posted at the Results tent after the last boat finishes in each event. Individual results placards used at the results tent can be purchased for \$5.00, but will not be available until the end of all events. Paper copies of the official individual race results will be available in the upstairs Results room of the Boathouse for \$1.00 each.

Medals will be awarded throughout the day. Medals will be awarded to all first-, second-, and third-place finishers, in all divisions, provided there are at least four entries. Awards will be given to organizations achieving the greatest total points in the regatta for Youth and Collegiate events. Points will be accumulated by event using the Modified Barnes Point System. Composite crews do not earn any points.

Concessions and Vendor Sales

Food will be available at the concession stand all day Saturday. Rowing companies and crews will be allowed to sell in the vendor area on Friday, November 7th, and Saturday, November 8th. The fee is \$175.00 (paid in advance) for a 10 by 20 foot space. For vendor information, please contact Gene Gilbert at (706) 821-2875.