



# CLEVELAND ROWING FOUNDATION

## 24<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HEAD OF THE CUYAHOGA REGATTA

September 21, 2019  
Cleveland, Ohio

4,900 Meters • 2,000 Rowers • 7 Bridges • 5 Challenging Turns

*Can you handle our curves!*



## From the Regatta Director



**Kirk Lang**  
Regatta Director,  
CRF Executive Director  
Head of the Cuyahoga

Welcome to the 24th Annual Head of the Cuyahoga Regatta (HOTC) hosted by the Cleveland Rowing Foundation (CRF). Last year's HOTC attracted 53 clubs comprising more than 2,000 rowers, and this year's event will be even bigger. We are thrilled to have so many competitors, fans and exhibitors join us for a great day of racing on the Cuyahoga River.

To Native Americans who lived here on the southern shores of Lake Erie, the word Cuyahoga meant "crooked river," and if you look at a map of the race course with its five major turns, you will realize that it more than lives up to its name. The river's winding path makes this a challenging race for even the most experienced crews and scullers. Good luck to all competitors as they navigate the river and take an early season test of their endurance and skill.

Rivergate Park is home to the Cleveland Rowing Foundation's Boathouses and is headquarters for four collegiate crew teams, the Western Reserve Rowing Association adult programs, and four scholastic crews, featured in our renovated lobby.

Since last year's HOTC, in order to meet the needs of our continually growing membership, the Cleveland Rowing Foundation has made additional updates to its lobby and renovated the second floor to provide an additional office and a larger meeting space. Starting in late September, CRF will begin offering off season classes, including yoga and nutrition. These improvements continue to help us better serve Cleveland's growing rowing community and reinforce

Rivergate Park's reputation as the premier spot for active recreation on the Cuyahoga.

We hope you not only enjoy the racing but also find time to visit our vendors and Beer Garden, located near the racing recovery dock. The Beer Garden will be open from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and will be serving Pirate Light, Hop Goblin (an IPA), and Subchaser (a Heifer Wiesen), all from the Rocky River Brewing Company.

We couldn't stage this event without the partnership and generosity of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, CRF's Platinum Sponsor of the 24th Annual Head of the Cuyahoga. Additionally, we appreciate the support of University Hospitals and the Foundry, our Gold Sponsors, the Cleveland Metroparks and the Port of Cleveland, our Silver Sponsors, and ArcelorMittal, our Bronze sponsor.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank the efforts of our 300+ volunteers who help make the Head of the Cuyahoga a success. Their selfless dedication amounting to thousands of work hours are an invaluable asset to this boathouse and to the rowing community.

I also want to extend a heartfelt thanks to you, the rowers, coaches, and spectators, who have participated in the Head of the Cuyahoga these past 24 years. We look forward to welcoming you back next year and hope you enjoy the sweeping city views as you wind your way down our beloved, crooked river.

### New for 2019

#### ON-SITE

**Concept II Oar Service / Expanded Beer Garden + Food Trucks / More Vendors**  
**SPECIAL 30th ANNIVERSARY GIVE-AWAYS FROM CRF (1989-2019)**

#### FRIDAY

Pasta Dinner Buffet at Merwin's Wharf  
Special Regatta Buffet at Sainato's

#### SATURDAY

Special Regatta Menu at Merwin's Wharf

#### SUNDAY

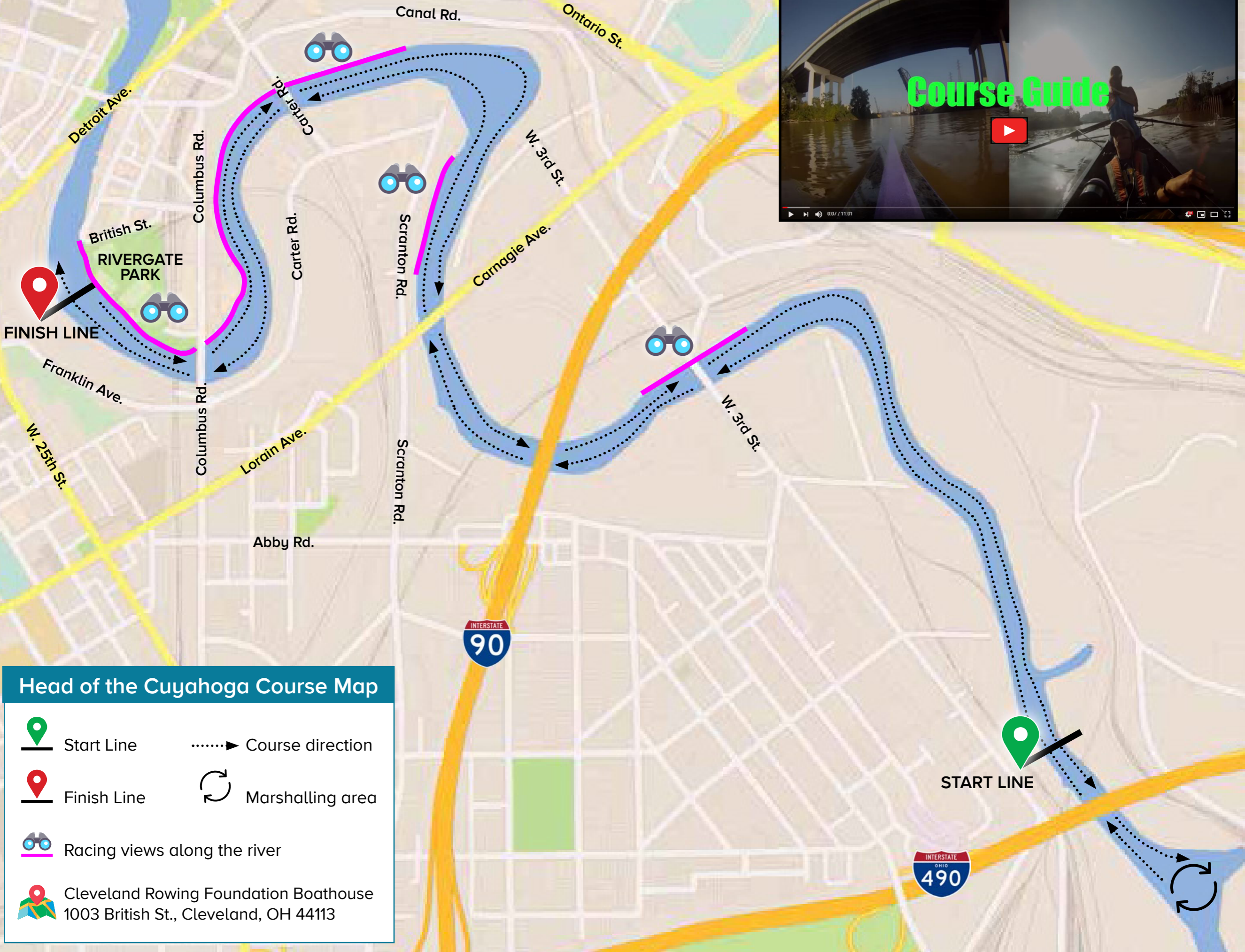
Inclusion and Advocacy Panel Session at CRF Boathouse



**#HOTC2019**



**BUY YOUR OFFICIAL HOTC SHIRT!**



### Head of the Cuyahoga Course Map

- Start Line
- Finish Line
- Racing views along the river
- Cleveland Rowing Foundation Boathouse  
1003 British St., Cleveland, OH 44113
- Course direction
- Marshalling area

## Event Schedule

6:15 AM Coach, Coxswain &amp; Scullers meeting

#	TIME	EVENT
1	8:00 AM	Womens Open 2-
2	8:00 AM	Mens Jr 1x
3	8:10 AM	Womens Jr Ltwt 8+
4	8:15 AM	Women's Rec 8+
5	8:20 AM	Womens Masters 2x
6	8:25 AM	Womens Jr 4+
7	8:35 AM	Womens Jr 2nd 4+ (HS JV also OK)
8	8:45 AM	Womens Open 2x
9	8:50 AM	Mens Masters 1x (A-C)
10	8:50 AM	Mens Masters 1x (D-F+)
11	9:00 AM	Mens Open 1x
12	9:05 AM	Mens Jr Ltwt 8+
13	9:10 AM	Womens Masters 4+
14	9:10 AM	Mens Open Novice 4+
15	9:20 AM	Mixed Rec 8+
16	9:25 AM	Womens Jr Novice 8+
17	9:40 AM	Womens Jr 1x
18	9:50 AM	Mens Masters 2x
19	9:55 AM	Womens Open Novice 4+
20	10:00 AM	Mens Jr 2x
21	10:10 AM	Womens Open 1x
22	10:20 AM	Womens Masters 1x (A-C)
23	10:20 AM	Womens Masters 1x (D-F+)
24	10:25 AM	Mens Open 8+ "Special Award Event"
25	10:35 AM	Mens Jr Novice 8+
26	10:45 AM	Mens Rec 4+
27	10:55 AM	Mens Masters 8+
28	11:00 AM	Mens Jr 4+

\*Event times, if listed, are tentative and subject to change.

#	TIME	EVENT
29	11:20 AM	Mens Jr 2nd 4+ (HS JV also OK)
30	11:30 AM	Womens Open 4+
31	11:40 AM	Womens Jr Novice 4+
32	11:55 AM	Mens Open 2x
33	12:00 PM	Womens Jr 2x
34	12:10 PM	Womens Rec 4+
35	12:20 PM	Mixed Open 8+
36	1:20 PM	Mens Open Novice 8+
37	1:20 PM	Mixed Masters 2x
38	1:25 PM	Mens Jr Novice 4+
39	1:35 PM	Mens Open 2-
40	1:45 PM	Womens Open 8+ "Special Award Event"
41	1:50 PM	Womens Open Novice 8+
42	1:50 PM	Mixed Rec 4+
43	2:00 PM	Womens Jr 8+ "Special Award Event"
44	2:10 PM	Womens Jr 2nd 8+ (HS JV also OK)
45	2:20 PM	Mens Jr 8+ "Special Award Event"
46	2:30 PM	Mens Jr 2nd 8+ (HS JV also OK)
47	2:40 PM	Womens Masters 8+
48	2:45 PM	Mens Jr Ltwt 4+
49	2:50 PM	Mens Open 4+
50	3:00 PM	Mens Masters 4+
51	3:05 PM	Womens Jr Ltwt 4+
52	3:10 PM	Mens Open 4x
53	3:15 PM	Womens Open 4x "Special Award Event"
		<i>In honor of Zita Varnelis</i>
54	3:20 PM	Mixed Open 4x
55	3:20 PM	Mixed Inclusion 4+
56	3:25 PM	Mixed Inclusion 2x

# 2019 HOTC Vendors

## Beer Garden

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Age 21 and Over

16 oz Pint - \$6.00/each



*Tips go towards CMSD-Rows!*

## On Tap

### PIRATE LIGHT

This brew is smooth, golden, and has fewer calories.

Color: Golden / Gravity: 1.040 / Alcohol: 3.7% / Bittering: 17

### SUBCHASER HEFE-WEIZEN

Hefe-weizen is brewed with wheat and pilsner malts, then fermented with a weinstephen yeast for a fruity, banana-clove character.

Color: Ruddy Orange / Alcohol: 4.3% / Bittering: 20

### HOP GOBLIN IPA

Perfect for the fall season. Caramel, and sweet oak were surrounded, engulfed, and beaten down by the hops.

Color: Light Copper, Amber / Alcohol: 7.3% / Bittering: 68

Boatworks CLE  
Breads and Beyond  
Concept2  
Kettle Corn  
N&D Sports  
Sainatos

Scenic City Rowing  
SouthBay Rowing  
Steamin' Joes  
Gourmet Beverages  
Strokeside Designs  
Vespoli USA



# Special Awards

## THE MARCOVY CUP

Introduced in 1990, the Marcovy Cup is presented to the first place winner of the Open Women's 4+. This cup is named after Tim Marcovy, first president of Western Reserve Rowing Association

2018	Mercyhurst University	18:19.72
2017	Shaker Heights High School	16:36.88
2016	Upper Arlington High School	19:33.14
2015	Upper Arlington High School	19:27.39
2014	Upper Arlington High School	19:24.79
2013	Western Reserve Rowing Association	9:30.90 **
2012	Three Rivers Rowing Association & Western Reserve Rowing Association	21:13.59
2011	Case Western Reserve University	20:20.00
2010	Three Rivers Rowing Association	16:03.00
2009	South Niagara Rowing Club	14:35.00
2008	South Niagara Rowing Club	14:55.00
2007	Case Western Reserve University	17:12.00
2006	Greater Columbus Rowing Association	16:55.60
2005	Greater Columbus Rowing Association	15:36.57
2004	Wheaton College Crew	17:56.00
2003	Carnegie Mellon University	17:35.55
2002	Carnegie Mellon University	18:32.00
2001	Michigan State University Women	15:43.00
2000	West Virginia	17:12.00
1999	John Carroll University	
1998	John Carroll University	
1997	Western Reserve Rowing Association	
1996	Western Reserve Rowing Association	
1993	Three Rivers Rowing Association	
1992	Three Rivers Rowing Association	
1991	Greater Columbus Rowing Association	
1990	Beaumont High School	

\*\* 2,500m course.

## THE IVANHOE BOAT CLUB AWARD

Introduced in 1996, the Ivanhoe Boat Club Award is presented to the best overall time of the Men's 4+ (Junior, Open, or Masters). This cup honored the 150th Anniversary of Racing the Cuyahoga.

2018	Upper Arlington High School	16:49.82
2017	Upper Arlington High School	14:08.72
2016	St. Edward High School	16:12.50
2015	St. Edward High School	16:52.82
2014	Western Reserve Rowing Association	17:45.02
2013	St. Ignatius High School	8:34.94 **
2012	Upper Arlington High School	17:46.53
2011	Miami University Rowing Club	17:32.00
2010	Miami University Rowing Club	14:01.00
2009	South Niagara Rowing Club	13:01.00
2008	Western Reserve Rowing Association	13:48.50
2007	Wildcat Rowing Club	14:30.00
2006	Carnegie Mellon University	11:30.50
2005	Wooden Boathouse Crew	13:51.71
2004	Greater Columbus Rowing Association	15:37.50
2003	St. Ignatius High School	15:26.53
2002	Carnegie Mellon University	16:32.00
2001	Michigan State University Men	15:02.00
2000	Three Rivers Rowing Association	14:54.60

Records unavailable from 1996-1999.

\*\* 2,500m course.

Photo credit: Share the River

# Special Awards

## THE CHRIS ERNST “A HERO FOR DAISY” AWARD

Introduced in 2007, the Chris Ernst Award is presented to the best overall time of the Women’s 8+ (Junior, Open, or Masters). In honor of Chris Ernst, a former Yale and Olympic rower and noted advocate of women’s sports.

2018	Mercyhurst University	17:20.23
2017	Saint Joseph Academy	17:41.61
2016	Westerville Rowing Club	17:14.87
2015	Westerville Rowing Club	18:04.88
2014	Western Reserve Rowing Association	18:46.51
2013	Upper Arlington High School	9:13.63 **
2012	Indianapolis Rowing Club	18:53.35
2011	Anthony Wayne High School	18:20.00
2010	St. Ursula Academy	15:01.00
2009	South Niagara Rowing Club	14:19.00
2008	Westerville Rowing Club	14:43.00
2007	St. Ursula Academy	15:35.00

\*\* 2,500m course.

## THE ZITA VARNELIS AWARD

This year CRF has added a trophy to the Women’s Open 4x in honor of Zita Varnelis, a long time rower who we lost in late 2018. Zita represented Western Reserve Rowing Association in countless sweep and sculling races in the US, Canada and Lithuania. Zita also donated her creative talents to design the Head of the Cuyahoga medals, t-shirts and programs.

## TEAM POINTS AWARD

Introduced in 2012, the Team Points Award is presented to the school or club winning the most points overall. Points awarded to the winning school or club in the 8+ and 4+ events.

2018	Western Reserve Rowing Association
2017	Westerville Rowing Club
2016	Westerville Rowing Club
2015	Westerville Rowing Club
2014	Western Reserve Rowing Association
2013	Three Rivers Rowing Association
2012	Western Reserve Rowing Association

Photo credit: Share the River

# 2019 HOTC Staff

## Volunteer Committees

<b>HOTC Regatta Director:</b>	<b>Kirk Lang</b>
Announcements & Music:	Erik Murdell
Athlete & Spectator Village Setup:	JCU/CSU/CWRU
Program:	Victoria Anders
Awards & Medals:	Sam Steyskal, Mary Dejak
Beer Garden:	Tim Burns, Destiny Simcic
Building & Grounds:	Rob Johnson
Cleanup:	JCU/CSU/CWRU
Dock Master: Launch Dock:	Nancy Richter
Dock Master: Recovery Dock:	Rachel Stanley
First Aid:	Kathy Whitford, University Hospitals
Launches & Driver Training:	Tim Marcovy
Parking:	JT Fraser, SIHS Parent's Association
Race Central & Results:	Cathy Gannon
Race Course Setup:	Bill Rickman, Paul Kopp, Gavin Farrell
Race Course Start/Finish Line:	SHHS Parent's Association
Referee Liaison:	Becky Osborne
Registration & Race Packets:	Cara Sieberth
Sponsorships:	Kirk Lang
Spotters & Umpires:	Pam Walker, Carla Campanella
Volunteer Administrator (Friday):	Janet Clark
Volunteer Administrator (Saturday):	Sarah Lang

## HOTC Referees

### Derek Blazo, Chief Referee

Cindy Whitehead	Michelle Reese	Mac McLaughlin
John Quinn	Beth Kennard	Ann Marie Beer
Eric Conroy	Julee Klima	Mel Shilling
Becky Kirwin	Andy Cooke	Bob Gannon
Henry Billingsley	Rudy Holliday	

**CRF would like to sincerely  
thank all the volunteers  
who have worked countless  
hours to make  
the HOTC possible!**

Photo credit: Frank Campbell

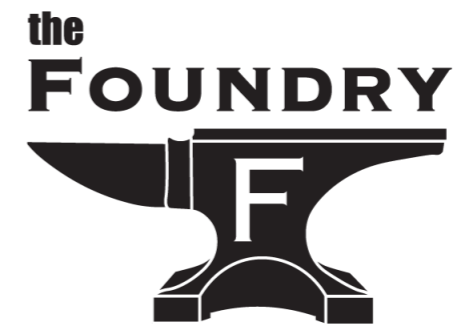


## 2019 HOTC Sponsors

**PLATINUM Sponsor:**  
Level: \$10,000+



**GOLD Sponsors:**  
Level: \$5,000



**SILVER Sponsors:**  
Level: \$2,500

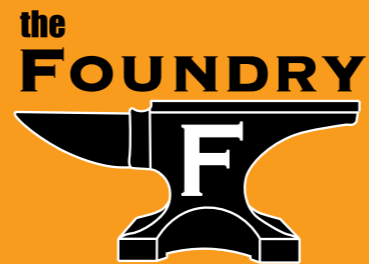


**BRONZE Sponsor:**  
Level: \$1,000+



# THE FOUNDRY IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF CLEVELAND ROWING FOUNDATION'S 24TH ANNUAL HEAD OF THE CUYAHOGA REGATTA

GO CFJ!



1831 Columbus Road  
Cleveland, OH 44113  
clevelandfoundry.org  
@FOUNDRY216

Cleveland's Community Rowing and Sailing Center

# Rowing in Cleveland



Learn more about the history of Rowing in Cleveland!



## The Cleveland Rowing Foundation

The Western Reserve Rowing Association (WRRRA) was established at a location adjacent to Carter Road Bridge in 1989 as a non-profit corporation by five people who had rowed in the for-profit Flats Racing League, which had been established in 1988. As the Flats Racing League ended its run, WRRRA began its Summer Rowing League in 1993, and remains one of the country's largest summer rowing programs.

Due to the growth of the organization, the Western Reserve Rowing Foundation (WRRF) was formed as an umbrella organization for the collection of high school, collegiate, and adult crew programs. It was established as a non-profit 501(c)3 dedicated to competitive and recreational racing and the expansion of the sport of rowing in the Greater Cleveland area, with a focus on youth rowing.

In 2003, WRRF changed its name, becoming the Cleveland Rowing Foundation (CRF) and revised its governance structure to officers and a board of directors that included rowing representatives as well as community and corporate directors. CRF moved into a new 11,000 square foot facility in the summer of 2004, directly adjacent to its existing boat bays. This new facility included staff offices, a workout facility, and a Common Room that could accommodate 100-plus.

As the organization continued to grow, the CRF Board of Directors began a search for a new home along the Cuyahoga River that would accommodate the needs of its member organizations and secure the future of rowing in Cleveland. Partnering with The Trust for Public Land and with a generous donation from the Gund Foundation, the former Commodore Club Marina was purchased in 2010, which included 6.5 acres of land and a 19,000 square foot building. By the beginning of the 2011 rowing season, CRF was situated in its new location and is part of Rivergate Park. In 2015, an additional boat house consisting of 6,500 square feet was added.

Today, CRF is comprised of eight member organizations, serving over 1,500 high school, collegiate and adult rowers.

## Head of the Cuyahoga Regatta

In 1989, WRRRA hosted the very first Cleveland Sprints Regatta inside the breakwall on Lake Erie. In 1996, the Cleveland Sprints Regatta was moved from Lake Erie to the Cuyahoga River, and the distance was changed from a 2,000 meter sprint to a 2.5 mile head race, marking the beginning of what is known today as the Head of the Cuyahoga Regatta. The initial head race, which was included as a Cleveland Bicentennial event, involved over 250 rowers and 3,000 spectators. The race has continued to grow and is now a 5,000 meter race. In 2018, hosted over 2,200 athletes in over 525 entries from 53 clubs, 38 cities, 11 states and Canada, and is currently the sixth largest Regatta in the country.



## CRF Board



**Cathy Duhigg Gannon**  
President & Governance Chair



**Betsy Batts**  
Safety Chair



**Patricia Leebove**  
Communications & Marketing Chair



**Dr. Gary Clark**  
Vice Chair & Employment Chair



**Doug Carlson**  
Legal Chair



**Robert Leusch**  
Insurance & Risk Management Chair



**Adrian Nino de Rivera Frost**  
Treasurer



**Julie Criscione**  
Development Co-Chair



**Lauren Penkala**  
Development Co-Chair



**Rebecca Luken**  
Secretary & Coaching Chair



**Jim Kozak**  
Finance Chair



**Kirk Lang**  
Executive Director

## CRF Member Organizations



### Western Reserve Rowing Association

WRRR Board; Head Coach, Kirk Lang



### Saint Ignatius High School Rowing

SIHS Crew Parents; Head Coach, Connor Walters



### Cleveland State University Rowing

Head Coach, Erik Meister



### Case Western Reserve University Rowing

Head Coach, Aaron Marcovy

### Shaker Heights High School Crew

SHHS Crew Parents; Head Coach, Kyle Dolan



### John Carroll University Rowing

JCU Athletic Dept.



### Beaumont High School Rowing

Head Coach, David Yormick



### Cleveland Metro. School District Rowing

CMSD Board; Head Coach, Bill Rickman



# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



Photo credit: Share the River

**HEAD OF THE CUYAHOGA**  
clevelandrows.org