

OARS INVITATIONAL - WEATHER PLAN

ORLANDO AREA ROWING SOCIETY

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**OARS Invitational - March 11th & 12th, 2023**

Our intent for the OARS Invitational is to provide a safe, fair, and fun day of racing for all teams. If the weather is unfavorable, all teams should be flexible and prepared to act quickly to get rowers, coaches, & spectators to safety.

**Communication**

All lead coaches from participating teams will receive weather communication updates via Regatta Central, Email, and loudspeaker/megaphone announcements. If necessary, teams will be called/texted individually.

**Team Responsibility**

All teams should provide individual vehicles and/or buses on site for rowers to evacuate the course if needed.

**Weather Predictions Prior to Event**

The weather forecast for the event date will be monitored leading up to the event. If the forecast predicts unfavorable conditions for the entire day, the event will be canceled.

If the forecast predicts unfavorable conditions for a portion of the day, the schedule will be adjusted and either delayed or shortened to avoid the foul-weather.

If wind is forecasted to be unfavorable for the course direction, the course may be flipped and shortened to allow racing.

If racing is delayed, the Regatta Director and Chief Referee will determine and agree that the event can proceed safely, the event will proceed as planned. Final call rests with the Regatta Director.

Because this regatta is back to being a 2 day event, high school races will not be moved to Sunday if racing is canceled on Saturday.

**Weather Changes during the Event Date**

If the weather changes unexpectedly the following protocol will be followed:

* Change of course direction, schedule, including possible delay, or cancellation.
* Communicate change to team leads and broadcast across the venue.
* If delay or cancellation is required immediately, boats will be called off the water.
	+ If delayed- athletes should take shelter in vehicles and team buses. Some cabin space is reserved for emergency shelter.
	+ If cancellation- teams will be instructed to pack up and depart.