

**New York State Collegiate Coaches Association
12 Kales Hill Road Whitney Point, NY 13862**

February 2011

Dear Coaches,

The New York State Collegiate Coaches Association and the Whitney Point Rotary Club we would like to invite your participation in the 20th Annual New York State Collegiate Rowing Championships. Racing will once again be held Whitney Point Lake, in Whitney Point, NY on Saturday, April 30th and Sunday, May 1st, 2011.

We have taken a major step forward this year in engaging the services of RegattaCentral to be our registration and payment interface. I understand most of you are familiar with their services but please feel free to ask and questions that you have as we implement this service. This will greatly stream line every ones paper work as well as provide the convenience of credit card payment.

Fees and schedule remain unchanged from last year. You will need to begin your payment of your Institution Registration Fee of \$370. Then proceed to register your boats the process will handle the first two crews as part of the Institution Registration and charge for additional boats beyond the initial two.

Please take note this year's entry deadline remains the same:

All entries are due by Friday, April 15, 2011.

A mandatory coaches and coxes meeting will be held on Friday March 29 at 6:30pm. The Post Regatta Coaches Meeting will be held 30 minutes after the last race on Sunday. All coaches are urged to attend. This is the best time to discuss this year's regatta and any changes to be made for the future.

We all look forward to seeing you this year in Whitney Point, NY.

Sincerely,

John Sherman
Regatta Director

New User instructions

If you are a new user to RegattaCentral, please follow these steps to register

1. Go to the **Home** tab at www.regattacentral.com
2. Click on the '**Join Now**' link in the '**New Users**' box located in the top left corner of the page
 - a) Click the '**Select Affiliation**' link to enter the team with which you row
 - b) Enter the name of the team or city in which they are located in the "**Team or Club**" field
 - c) Select the name from the list below and click the **OK** button
3. Complete the Account creation process
4. Select the [New York State Collegiate Championships](#) from the "**Add regatta**" box and click the **OK** button
5. Click the 'register' link under the regatta in the '**Regatta Calendar & Entries**' box
6. Enter the access code that was sent to you via email after you created your account and click '**Submit**'
7. Complete the Registration form and click the '**Save**' button

INFORMATION FOR COXES and COACHES

Regattas on Whitney Point Lake will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Racing of US Rowing except as modified in these special instructions.

VIOLATION OF SAFETY RULES

A crew that violated any of the safety rules described below may be assessed a “**warning**” by the Starter or Referee. Such a warning shall be applicable to the next race in which the crew competes. Two warnings will result in exclusion from the next race.

Procedures Prior To Race Day

1. Bow Balls: MANDATORY on the bows of every racing shell unless equivalent provision for visibility and protection against puncture injury is included in the shells basic construction.
2. Follow designated traffic patterns per attached diagram.
3. All practices by crews on Friday MUST be supervised by their own coaches. The L.O.C. will not provide safety launches outside of racing times. NO CREWS SHALL LAUNCH IN DANGEROUS WEATHER CONDITIONS including but not limited to: lightning, high winds, and fog. The LOC and the Head Referee have the final say on practice launching. If either party closes the course to practicing, all crews must land immediately.

Race Day Procedure

Crews will not be able to practice prior to racing on Saturday and Sunday. Crews can practice following racing on Saturday from 1-5PM. Should inclement weather arise, all crews must get off the water immediately. If racing is cancelled or delayed on Saturday, NO CREWS will be permitted to practice on Saturday.

Prior to the Race

1. Check your equipment before launching. Bottom Tape is banned.
2. Check with the Dockmaster to confirm your lane assignment and launching schedule. The Dockmaster is the Referees’ official representative at the staging area and his/her instructions concerning launching must be strictly followed.
3. Bow numbers will be available from the Dockmaster immediately prior to launching and will be collected as soon as the crew lands.
4. Shells departing the float area will be given priority over incoming shells.
5. Crews proceeding to the starting line and warm up area will follow the designated traffic patterns as per the attached diagrams: keeping to the right and off the race course. IMPORTANT: CREWS MUST KEEP RIGHT and row ON THE PADDLE when approaching the starting line.
6. At no time will urinating from the boat be permitted. Violations of this directive will result in immediate disqualification of that crew from the Regatta. Further, the offending TEAM

will be suspended from competition the following year in the event for which the offending crew was entered. NOTE: Offending rowers are subject to arrest and prosecution if caught by the police.

7. If, on the way to the starting line, your shell has any breakage, report said breakage to the Referee, Assistant Referee or Starter and follow his or her instructions. Do not return the dock for repairs unless instructed to do so. If possible, repairs will be made on the water.
8. When reaching the Start, identify yourself to the Starter and remain within voice distance. Your crew must be in position, pointed and ready to race two minutes prior to your scheduled race times. Crews not in position two minutes prior to race time will be charged a false start.
9. Pre-race warm-up should be completed before approaching the starting line. All crews are restricted to rowing on the paddle within 100 meters of the starting line and whenever a race is passing as they row to the start. Watch for the launch wakes after a race has passed.
10. Changes have been made to the warm-up area. New rules & traffic pattern apply above the starting line. A line of buoys parallel to the race course and behind the starter's platform around which crews may continue their warm-up. Keep the buoys a comfortable distance off your port oars. Traffic pattern is still counter clockwise. Crews may circle as time permits. A second outer buoy line along which safety boats will be anchored serves as the outer boundary of the race course and warm-up area. **All crews must stay within this boundary line. Failure to do so will result in an automatic and unappealable disqualification from the race.** Check the map carefully to be sure that you understand the traffic pattern. Both cox and bow should stay alert, as the warm up area will be a very high traffic area with crews moving at high speed.
11. Practice starts on the course are permitted, but only after the previous race has left the start zone. During such practice starts, a crew may row at race speed down the course in its lane only. The crew must remain in its lane while turning, paddling back to the start, and turning again to back into the starting platform. Turn with caution and be alert at all times for other crews.

At the Start

1. Starting platforms and "bows on line" start will be used for all races.
2. When all crews are in position, the Aligner will bring the crews even and raise a white flag when all the bows are on the line.
3. The Aligner's white flag will remain aloft throughout the starting procedure. If the crews lose alignment at any time, the Aligner will lower the white flag, regain alignment, and then raise the white flag again.
4. When the Starter is satisfied the alignment is complete and that the crews are ready to race, he will poll the crews, beginning with lane 1 naming the crew in lane 1, asking if it is "Ready", then

moving on the lane 2, etc. The coxswain should acknowledge readiness with an affirmative wave of the hand. A crew that is not ready will signify so by the bow person's raised hand.

5. When all the crews have been polled and all hands are down, the Starter will begin the countdown start.
6. **THE START:** The Starter will give the following starting commands: "Attention," "Go." The Starter will use an indeterminate pause between the "Attention" and the "Go" command.
7. Coxswains hand will not be recognized once the countdown has begun.
8. IF A CREW FAILS TO LEAVE THE START after the starting commands have been given, the Starter shall stop the race. If the crew's failure to start is not justified, the start may assess the crew with a false start.

During the Race

1. USRA rules will apply with the additions that are listed below.
2. The referee may stop a race if any one of the following situations occurs:
 - a. **False Start:** A crew may be assessed a warning for any action deemed to be unsportsmanlike in nature, and/or gives one or more crews an unfair advantage over the competitors. A crew, which makes or causes two false starts, shall be disqualified from the Regatta.
 - b. **Collisions:** Between crews within the first 150 meters of the race.
 - c. When, during the first 150 meters of the race, the coxswain or any number of the crew puts up their hand to signal broken or damaged equipment or a rower is thrown out of the boat, jumps a slide or experiences an over the head crab, or equipment is damaged as a result of a crab. A partial crab is not grounds for recalling a race. A buoy on either side of the race course will mark the 150 meter breakage zone.

If the Referee observes any of the above incidents and determines that a race should not continue, he will stop the crews by raising a red flag and sounding an airhorn. The Referee will inspect the affected crew and determine when the race shall be rescheduled and whether or not any penalties are warranted.

3. Any attempt to stop a race for unauthorized reasons may be caused for disqualification.
4. **Exclusions:** A crew that makes or causes two false starts shall be excluded from the regatta. A crew may be excluded for causing a collision, or for causing interference with another crew. A crew may be excluded for unsportsmanlike conduct, by an official or jury.

After the Race

1. Coxswains who carry external weights may be required to display their weight to the Referee at the finish line.
2. After each race, crews must clear the finish line promptly and return to the docking area directly by turning left and rowing back between the course and the shore.

3. Follow the Dockmaster's instructions when approaching the docks. Crews launching have priority over those landing.
4. Coxswains must report to the Dispatched and return any external weight and lane markers.
5. Protests must be registered on the water to an official in accordance with US Rowing rules. If possible, an informal pre-bearing will be given by the Ombudsman as soon as the crews return to the dock. The Ombudsman will act as a moderator to attempt to resolve the conflict in a mutually agreeable way between the protesting crew, other crews involved and the official most directly involved. If this is unsuccessful, or a more thorough investigation is needed, the matter will be formally referred to the Race Committee. A hearing will take place at the conclusion of the session's racing. The formal referral to the Race Committee must be submitted in writing by the team's head coach citing the specific rules applicable and be accompanied by a \$25.00 fee (checks to be made out to the NYSCCRA). Disposition of the protest will follow US Rowing rules including return of the \$25.00 fee if the protest is upheld.

The Race Committee shall be made up of the Chief Referee, Associate Referee, Chief Judge, Chief Starter, and the Regatta Director.

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