

Regatta Rules

2010 Head of the Colorado Regatta

Austin Rowing Club

October 30, 2010 • Austin, TX



1. Registration

All on-time entries are registered and paid for at RegattaCentral.com (no paper registration). **Any entry whose fees are not paid in full when registration closes will be scratched, and must be resubmitted as a late entry.** Any entrant whose circumstances require alternative payment arrangements must contact the Registrar before the registration deadline (October 15). Such arrangements are accepted at the discretion of the Registrar.

Competitors should be registered under their full names. Nicknames should be avoided, and competitors entered in multiple events should be registered using the same name in all of them.

All rowers are responsible for the accuracy of their entries on RegattaCentral; this includes birth dates (which determine handicaps for masters). Contact the registrar about entry problems by [email](mailto:).

The Regatta Committee is not responsible for detecting duplicate entries. Please coordinate with your club, as entry fees for duplicate entries will not be refunded.

September 1: Registration begins.

October 15: Registration closes at midnight PST. After registration closes, no scratches or substitutions may be made online; any changes made online have no effect.

2. Late entries

Entries submitted after the deadline are accepted only at the discretion of the Registrar, and must be accompanied by prescribed entry fees, which are **DOUBLE** the regular fees. Late entries must be submitted on the late-registration form (<http://tinyurl.com/2es2h6h>), which may be mailed to

Austin Rowing Club
Registrar
P.O. Box 1741
Austin, TX 78767-1741

Alternatively, a filled-in late-registration form may be scanned and [emailed](mailto:) to the registrar as a PDF, faxed to (512) 472-0700, or handed in at the regatta site **at least two hours** before its event.

Note that for Masters events the late-entry form requires every rower's **year of birth**. Entries listing only ages will not be allowed to compete.

3. Scratches

An entry that scratches during the regatta must submit a scratch form at the Registration table. No entry fees will be refunded for scratches made after the 15 October entry deadline.

4. Liability Waivers

Every competitor must have signed a USRowing Association Release of Liability Waiver. Waivers should be signed on-line at USRowing.com (<http://tinyurl.com/8y6ofq>), and are due by **5:00PM on October 28**. Any competitor who has not signed an online waiver by that deadline will be required to sign a paper waiver at the regatta site; note that waivers for minors must be signed by a parent or guardian. Under absolutely no circumstances will any entry with missing waivers be allowed to race.

5. Regatta Check-in

All crews are required to check-in at the registration desk before racing. At that time, they can clear any problems with their entries, such as missing waivers. Entries with registration problems will not be allowed to race. The registra-

tion desk will be open from 3:00PM to 7:00PM on Friday October 29 and throughout the race day on Saturday beginning at 6:00AM.

6. Bow/Coxswain Meeting

A meeting for all coxswains, bow rowers of 4x and 2x entries, and single scullers will be held at **6:45AM** on Saturday. All competitors are responsible for knowing the information covered at the meeting, including the traffic patterns on the water.

7. Launching

All boats must launch from the Festival Beach venue.

8. Substitutions

No substitutions are allowed in single-scutt (1x) events. A Scholastic or Open crew may substitute the entire crew. A Masters crew may substitute up to half of its rowers, as well as the coxswain.

A completed Substitution form must be submitted at the registration desk at least two hours before the event. Complete information is required for every replacement competitor, including full name, year of birth (for Masters events), and a signed liability waiver.

9. On-time arrival

Boats should be in the starting area 10 minutes before their start time. A boat arriving late to the starting line for an event may be excluded from that event. The Dockmaster can prohibit a boat from leaving the dock if in his or her judgment it cannot reach the starting line on time.

10. Novice Rower Classification

A junior rower is considered a novice in his/her first year of junior competition. A collegiate rower is considered a novice in his/her first year of collegiate competition. All other rowers are considered novices in their first calendar year of competition. Crews entered in Novice events shall include only novice rowers.

11. Novice-2 Events

Rowers who compete in Novice-1 events may not row in Novice-2 events. A team that submits a Novice-2 entry must also have an entry in the corresponding Novice-1 event.

12. Novice Coxswains

A novice entry's coxswain is not required to be a novice.

13. Mixed Crews

Each mixed crew shall include men and women rowers. Doubles require a crew of one man and one woman, quads/fours crews may have either one man or two, and eights crews may have two, three, or four men.

14. Men and Women Rowers in Boats

In accordance with USRA rules, all rowers in men's events must be men, and all rowers in women's events must be women. A female rower cannot substitute for a man in any men's event, nor can a male rower substitute for any woman in a women's event. Coxswains are exempt from this rule. Any entry violating this rule will be excluded.

15. Lightweight Rowers

Lightweight men must weigh no more than 165 pounds, and lightweight women no more than 135 pounds. Rowers shall be weighed in racing uniform, without shoes or other foot-gear, between **one and two hours** before their first light-

weight event. A rower who fails to make weight is prohibited from competing in any lightweight event, and will be given the option of rowing in open-weight events as time and space permit.

Lightweight rowers who make weight will be issued wristbands, which they must wear for all lightweight events. Any rower who loses the wristband must make weight again to receive another wristband.

16. Coxswain's Weight

Coxswain minimum weight limits are 110 pounds for women's races and 120 pounds for men's and mixed races. Coxswains will not be required to weigh in; adhering to the weight limit or carrying appropriate weight is on the honor system.

17. Open Events

Open events may be raced by club, collegiate, or masters rowers, all of whom shall be eligible for medals. No junior, nor any athlete under the age of 18 who is not enrolled at a college or university, may enter an open event as either rower or coxswain.

18. Juniors

A Junior is a competitor who in the current calendar year does not attain the age of 19, or is and has been continuously enrolled in secondary school as a full time student seeking a diploma. A competitor ceases to be a junior after December 31 of the year of his or her 18th birthday, or of the year in which he or she completes the 12th grade of secondary school, having been a full time student, whichever is later.

No junior is allowed to enter as a rower or coxswain in any open or collegiate event.

19. Masters Events

Masters entries' age categories are defined in USRowing's *Rules of Rowing*, §4.104: (AA) 21–26, (A) 27–35, (B) 36–42, (C) 43–49, (D) 50–54, (E) 55–59, (F) 60–64, (G) 65–69, (H) 70–74, (I) 75–79, (J) 80 and over. All rowers in Masters events must be at least 21 years old.

A rower's age is determined as of December 31 of the current calendar year, rounded down to the nearest whole number. A crew's age is the average age of its rowers, rounded downward to the nearest whole number. For example, a crew whose average age is 44.8 would be considered 44 years old for regatta purposes.

A Masters event having six or more entries may be divided into several smaller events by USRA age categories; for example, given a particular set of entries in M Ma 1x, it might be divided into M AA–C 1x, M D 1x, and M E–J 1x, subject to the requirement that every new event have at least three entries. Time handicaps are used in all Masters events.

20. Recreational Singles

A recreational single is any boat at least 17 inches wide at the waterline and at most 22 feet long (e.g. Maas Aeros). There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Note that recreational singles are subject to the bow-clip requirement.

21. Crew Representation

No competitor may represent two different organizations in the Regatta. Any crew composed of competitors from different organizations must be entered as a composite crew.

22. Dispute Resolution

All questions of eligibility, qualification, and interpretation of the rules shall be referred to the Regatta Committee, whose decisions shall be final.

23. Seeding

Seeding for order of crews within an event will be as follows:

1st: On-time entries that competed in the same event last year, in order of their finishes last year.

2nd: On-time entries that did not compete in the same event last year, in order of the last modifications of their Regatta Central records.

3rd: Late entries, in the order in which we receive them.

24. Required Equipment

Every competing boat shall be properly equipped with a bow ball. Every competing boat shall also be equipped with quick-release shoes, as well as heel ties whose length is three inches or less. Every boat will be checked for this equipment each time it is launched.

All boats must be equipped with bow clips.

25. Bow numbers

A bow number will be issued to each entry in its entry packet. If a boat carries the wrong bow number for its event, its start and finish times may fail to be recorded.

26. Penalties

Violations of the course boundaries (marked by buoys), late arrivals at the start, late departures from the dock, excessive time on the docks, and other violations may result in time penalties or exclusion, as deemed appropriate by regatta officials. A table of violations and penalties is available (<http://tinyurl.com/2c3qxlml>) and will be posted at the regatta venue.

27. Passing During a Race

When passing, the overtaking boat has the right of way. The boat being overtaken must give way on the side chosen by the overtaking boat; generally this will be the shortest line that gives an advantage. No boat should press its right of way to the point of collision. Good sportsmanship is expected at all times. Boats showing disregard for safety may be penalized or excluded.

28. Traffic pattern on the water

If a boat **can** row, it **must** row from start to finish. No boat should leave the course for any reason, or turn around prior to the start for any reason, unless directed to do so by an official.

29. Hot-Seating

Hot-seating of crews and equipment is not supported. A boat or competitor that is entered in two or more events in a series may cause its entry to be late. An entry that fails to report to the starting line on time will be penalized and may be excluded.

30. Schedule Changes

The Regatta Committee retains the exclusive right to alter the race schedule. Any crew entered in a canceled event will be contacted and offered the option to switch to another event or receive a refund of the registration fee.

31. USRA Rules

Except as noted above, this regatta follows the United States Rowing Association's *Rules of Rowing*.

32. Sportsmanship

The Regatta Committee reserves the right to rule on any situation not specifically covered by these guidelines, and to penalize or disqualify any competitor or crew that appears to violate the spirit or letter of the rules of competition or sportsmanship, on the water or off.

33. Awards

Medals are awarded for first-, second- and third-place finishes, except that an event's last-place boat does not receive a medal. Medals will be available for pickup at 12:40, 2:40, and 4:40 (best-costume awards will be given at 4:40).