

NORTH BAY ROWING CLUB WINE COUNTRY ROWING CLASSIC

Sunday, October 4, 2009

Welcome to the Wine Country Rowing Classic, a USRowing Registered Regatta. This is a 5,000 meter head race on the Petaluma River, one of the most enjoyable and beautiful lengths of protected water in California.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The regatta will take place at the Petaluma Marina at 765 Baywood Drive, Petaluma, CA 94954.

Entries are due at Regatta Central (www.regattacentral.com) by midnight Friday, September 25th (late entries accepted through midnight Monday, September 28th).

For all Participants:

- 0600: Registration Opens
- 0700: Coaches, Coxswains, and Scullers Meeting
- 0730: Boat launching commences
- 0830: First Race
- 1430: Approximate Conclusion of Races

First and second place medals will be awarded (crews must finish ahead of at least one boat to earn medals).

NEW THIS YEAR: Champion Team Award (overall points leader) will be presented by Petaluma Mayor Pam Torliatt.



SCHEDULE

A preliminary race schedule is on page 7 and is also available on Regatta Central at www.regattacentral.com. The final race schedule will be posted by October 2, 2009.

VENUE

The 5,000 meter course will be on the reach of the Petaluma River depicted below. Outstanding riverside viewing opportunities are available along the bike/pedestrian path in Shollenberger Park. This may be reached via an easy 10 minute bike ride along a path from Regatta HQ (bring a bike or borrow one from our Bike Corral at HQ).



Additional details on page 8.

REGISTRATION IS ON-LINE AT: www.regattacentral.com Please contact support at Regatta Central at 614.360.2922 or support@regattacentral.com, or Abigail Smyth at abigail_smyth@yahoo.com or 415.342.6866 if unable to register electronically.

As a USRowing Registered Regatta, all participating organizations must be active member organizations of USRowing. The only exception to this rule applies to single scullers who are either affiliated with an organization that is not an active member of USRowing, or are unaffiliated with any rowing organization. Such single scullers, providing they are individual members of USRowing, may race, but only as “unaffiliated.”

ENTRY FEES

Registration	Received by	Boat Class			
		1X	2- / 2X	4+/4X	8+
Regular	Midnight Friday Sep 25	\$24	\$36	\$48	\$80
Late (includes \$20 late fee)	Midnight Monday Sep 28	\$44	\$56	\$68	\$100

Please note: Incomplete entries and those without payment will automatically be deleted if not completed by Monday, September 28th. There will be no race-day registration.

LINE UP CHANGES: Indicate any changes on a “Crew Change Form” at WCRC Registration on race day.

WAIVERS

All participants **must** have a signed waiver on file on race day. See www.regattacentral.com for waiver instructions. A paper version is provided on the last page of this announcement as a backup if necessary.

COACHES, COXSWAINS, and SCULLERS MEETING

Coaches, coxswains, and scullers must attend a **mandatory meeting** in the registration area on race day at **7:00 a.m.** You will be advised about the traffic pattern, dangers along the river, County Sheriff's patrol boats, and other items vital to safety. A chart of the course will be on display at Regatta HQ.

All races will be 5,000 meters, single file. This is a relatively easy course with a few gentle turns. Please ensure that all coxswains on your team understand the Rules of Rowing.

Warm up: Your 5,300 meter row to the starting line plus the holding area immediately downstream of the start.

TIDES

The Petaluma River is a tidal estuary. Finish Line tides on October 4th:
Low: 8:50 am (1.2') **High:** 2:13 pm (6.8') **Low:** 9:28 pm (.2')

Participants should allow at least 50 minutes to row against the tide to the start.

LAUNCH PROTOCOL

Please listen carefully and follow the instructions of the Dock Master to ensure efficient use of the docks (one large, one smaller). Unless instructed otherwise by the Dock Master, each crew shall land on the same dock from which they launched.

BOW NUMBERS

Please bring a standard lane number placard that fits in the bow clip of your boat. Bow numbers will be provided to secure to your number placard.

RULES

This is a USRowing Registered Regatta. All USRowing safety protocols will be observed. Bow balls and heel tie-downs or quick-release shoes are required and will be checked by the Dock Master.

All craft shall remain on the westerly side of the river while traveling to the start, and easterly side while racing. **THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE REQUIREMENT FOR YOUR SAFETY. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO STAYING ON YOUR SIDE THROUGH TURNS IN THE RIVER.**

Racing crews have the right of way over all other boats. Boats warming up or returning from the finish must yield to oncoming crews and remain clear of the race course.

Overtaking crews have the right of way over slower boats. Boats being overtaken must yield to the outside of a turn or otherwise follow the instructions of the overtaking boat.

Leave all buoys marking the center of the waterway to port. No cutting corners.

Crews must use sportsman-like conduct and language.

The rules are meant for safety. Violations will result in a 30-second time penalty or disqualification at race official's discretion.

In case of any dispute, finishes will be determined by the Rules of Rowing.

COMPETITOR CATEGORIES/DEFINITIONS

MASTERS: The event will use USRA age groups (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:74-79, J:80+).

Ages are as December 31. Age groups may be combined based on the entries received. All Masters races in combined age groups will be handicapped. In team boats, the average age of the rowers (excluding cox), rounded down, will determine the age group and handicap.

OPEN: No age restriction; no handicaps applied.

COXSWAINS: May be any gender, age, or weight.

MIXED: One half (or more) women rowers.

NOVICE: Any rower (sweep or scull) whose first race was no earlier than one year prior to October 4, 2009.

LIGHTWEIGHTS:

Men	165 Pound Maximum
Women	135 Pound Maximum

PETALUMA MARINA PARKING / BOAT RAMP

Trailer Drivers: Contact Bill Marcoux for instructions --- 707.362.1536.

We will use the Petaluma Marina parking lot. Separate areas will be designated for trailers, and cars with roof racks. Overnight parking is permitted.

A public boat ramp and a gas dock are located adjacent to the temporary launch and recovery docks we'll be using. We must ensure clear access to the boat ramp and gas dock at all times.

ON-SITE VENDORS

Food

- **Marina Bean:** Coffee, tea, bagels and assorted breakfast items in cafe starting at 5:30 a.m.
- **Petaluma Paella:** Sumptuous paella (Spanish rice dish) at lunchtime.

Other

- **JL Racing:** Large selection of rowing apparel and accessories;
- **Fine Designs, Inc.:** T-shirts imprinted with their full line of logos, commemorating the 2009 Wine Country Rowing Classic;
- **Timeless Jewelry Creations:** Unique rowing-related jewelry by Janet Sedacca;
- **Petaluma Arts Council:** Rowing- and river-related art by local artists; and
- **Richard Ersted, Photographer:** Race photos taken at the 5k start line and available on and after October 11, 2009 at SportGraphics.com



*Patrick O'Hea, Men's Open 1x, 3rd Place, 21m: 10s
2008 Wine Country Rowing Classic (R. Ersted)*

Recently photographed:

- Cal men's and women's crews at 2008 and 2009 PAC-10 Championships
- Cal men's crews at 2009 IRAs
- Cal women's crews at 2008 NCAA Championships

PRELIMINARY
SCHEDULE

EVENT #	START	DESCRIPTION	CREWS (2008)
1	8:30 am	Mens Collegiate 4+	4
2	8:40 am	Mens Masters 4+	5
3	8:50 am	Mens Open Ltwt 4+	1
4	9:00 am	Mens HS 4+	0
5	9:10 am	Womens Collegiate 8+	7
6	9:20 am	Womens Open 8+	0
7	9:30 am	Womens Masters 8+	14
8	9:40 am	Womens HS 8+	4
9	9:50 am	Womens Open 1x	8
10	10:00 am	Womens Masters 1x	4
11	10:10 am	Womens Masters Ltwt 1x	3
12	10:20 am	Womens Novice 1x	1
13	10:30 am	Mens Collegiate 8+	5
14	10:40 am	Mens Open 8+	2
15	10:50 am	Mens Masters 8+	7
16	11:00 am	Mens HS 8+	0
17	11:10 am	Mens Open 1x	15
18	11:20 am	Mens Masters Ltwt 1x	7
19	11:30 am	Mens Masters 1x	21
20	11:40 pm	Mens Novice 1x	1
LUNCH			
21	12:10 pm	Womens Collegiate 4+	0
22	12:20 pm	Womens Masters 4+	10
23	12:30 pm	Womens HS 4+	2
24	12:40 pm	Womens Open Ltwt 4+	2
25	12:50 pm	Womens Masters 4x	0
26	1:00 pm	Womens HS 4x	2
27	1:10 pm	Womens Masters Novice 4+	3
28	1:20 pm	Mens Masters Novice 4+	1
29	1:30 pm	Mens Masters 4x	0
30	1:40 pm	Mens Masters Ltwt 2x	0
31	1:50 pm	Mens Open 2x	5
32	2:00 pm	Mens Masters 2x	4
33	2:10 pm	Mens Open 2-	1
34	2:20 pm	Womens Open 2x	5
35	2:30 pm	Womens Masters 2x	4
36	2:40 pm	Womens Masters Ltwt 2x	2
37	2:50 pm	Mens Open 4+	3
38	3:00 pm	Womens Open 4+	0
39	3:10 pm	Mens Masters Novice 8+	0
40	3:20 pm	Womens Masters Novice 8+	1
41	3:30 pm	Mixed Master 2x	0
42	3:40 pm	Mixed Masters 8+	5

Note: The final schedule for the 2009 WCRC will be more abbreviated than that indicated above because events with less than two entries will be eliminated, and the time gap between sparsely populated afternoon events will be reduced. We expect races will conclude at approximately 2:30 pm.

WATCHING THE RACE

Outstanding riverside viewing opportunities are available along the bike/pedestrian path in Shollenberger Park. This may be reached via an easy 10 minute bike ride along a path from Regatta HQ (bring a bike or borrow one from our Bike Corral at HQ).



WAIVER

NBRC's registration staff will ensure the following waiver has been executed by all athletes of each crew prior to issuing their respective bow number. ***Please note that Parents or Guardians must sign for each athlete under 18 years of age.***

Legal Waiver: In consideration of acceptance of entry in the 2009 Wine Country Rowing Classic, I, the undersigned participant, intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive, release, and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages which may hereafter accrue to me against any and all persons, organizations, and legal entities affiliated with such regatta, more particularly, the North Bay Rowing Club, together with their respective officers, agents, employees, successors, assigns, and/or sponsors; for any and all damages which may be sustained or suffered by me in connection with, or entry in, and/or arising out of our traveling to or participating in the Wine Country Rowing Classic, and notwithstanding §1542 of the California Civil Code.

ATHLETE'S NAME (please print)	ATHLETE'S SIGNATURE (or Parent/Guardian if under 18)	DATE