

# NORTH BAY ROWING CLUB WINE COUNTRY ROWING CLASSIC

Sunday, October 23, 2011

Welcome to the Wine Country Rowing Classic, an 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.

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## 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](http://www.regattacentral.com)) by midnight Friday, October 14th. However, with an additional fee, late entries will be accepted through midnight Monday, October 17th.

### *For all Participants:*

- 0600: Registration opens
- 0700: Coaches, Coxswains, and Scullers meeting
- 0730: Boat launching commences
- 0830: First race
- 1430: Approximate conclusion of races



*1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> place medals will be awarded throughout the day.*

## 2011 Wine Country Rowing Classic

First and second place medals will be awarded. Crews must finish ahead of at least one boat to earn medals. Champion Team Award (overall points leader) will be presented at the conclusion of the regatta.

### RAFFLE

Each participant gets a free raffle ticket at registration for a chance to win one of our Wine Country Prize Baskets. Competitors and spectators can buy raffle tickets throughout the day. **Prizes will be awarded at 12 noon, 1PM and 2PM. Someone from the ticket holder's team or club must be present to win.**

### SCHEDULE

Find the preliminary race schedule on page 7 and on [www.regattacentral.com](http://www.regattacentral.com). The final race schedule will be posted by October 22, 2011.

### 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 or 30-minute walk along a path from Regatta HQ. Shollenberger Park docents will be on hand to direct viewers to pathways, helping us protect the entire area, a fabulous nature preserve.



## REGISTRATION

Registration is online at [www.regattacentral.com](http://www.regattacentral.com) Please contact support at Regatta Central at 614.360.2922 or [support@regattacentral.com](mailto:support@regattacentral.com), or Jean Horrell at [horrelj@sonic.net](mailto:horrelj@sonic.net) or 707.795.6473 or Kim Dale at [ssu.coachkim@gmail.com](mailto:ssu.coachkim@gmail.com) if unable to register electronically.

As a USRowing Registered Regatta, the WCRC requires all participating organizations to be active member organizations of USRowing. The only exceptions to this rule are 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 must be individual members of USRowing to race, but only as “unaffiliated.”

## ENTRY FEES

Registration	Received by	Boat Class			
		1X	2- / 2X	4+/4X	8+
Regular	Midnight Friday Oct. 14	\$25	\$40	\$50	\$80
Late	Midnight Monday Oct. 17	\$40	\$65	\$80	\$130

**Please note:** Incomplete entries and those without payment will automatically be deleted if not completed by Wednesday, October 19th. There will be no race-day registration.

**LINE UP CHANGES:** Indicate any changes on a “Crew Change Form” at WCRC Registration on race day. If you anticipate making changes, *please* go to Registration early in the day to allow enough time for our volunteers to accommodate them.

## WAIVERS

All participants *must* have a signed waiver on file on race day. See [www.regattacentral.com](http://www.regattacentral.com) for instructions on submitting an USRowing waiver.

## **COACHES, COXSWAINS, and SCULLERS MEETING**

Coaches, coxswains, and scullers will 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, in the parking lot of the Sheraton near Registration.

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 warm up will consist of a 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. Tides at the Finish Line on October 23<sup>th</sup>:  
**Low:** 5:35 am (0.6')    **High:** 11:39 am (6.5')    **Low:** 6:22 pm (0.8')

Attention: In the morning, the tide will be coming in. Please allow at least 50 minutes to row against the tide to the start. Racers in the morning will be carried toward the finish line by the tide, whereas those racing in the afternoon will have the tide running against them.

## **LAUNCH PROTOCOL**

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

## **BOW NUMBERS**

Bow number placards, specially made by NBRC with every number used in the regatta, will be loaned to participants when they check in at Registration. Crews are encouraged to apply vinyl tape to help secure the card to their bow clip. Bow numbers will be collected by a volunteer upon your return to the dock following your race.

## **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 volunteers.

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 of 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.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Exclusively for Junior athletes

**COLLEGIATE:** Exclusively for Collegiate athletes

**OPEN:** For elite Junior and Master rowers. No age restriction; no handicaps applied.

Women's Open/Collegiate: NCAA rules apply. Collegiate women's entries will not be accepted for events not listed as "collegiate". (Excerpted from NCAA Bylaw 13.11.1.2.)

**MIXED:** One half (or more) female rowers.

**NOVICE:** Any rower (sweep or scull) whose first race was no earlier than two years prior to October 23, 2011.

### LIGHTWEIGHTS:

Men	160 lb Maximum
Women	130 lb Maximum

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

## PETALUMA MARINA PARKING / BOAT RAMP

**Trailer Drivers:** Those planning on arriving the evening before the race, please contact Jonathan Stoumen at 707-293-6801, [jonathan.stoumen@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.stoumen@gmail.com), to meet you at the Sheraton parking lot and direct you to your spot.

We will use the Petaluma Marina parking lot at the Petaluma Sheraton. Trailers, tow vehicles and cars with roof racks will each have separate parking areas. 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.

## VENDORS & SPONSORS

- **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.
- **NBRC Juniors**, supported by **Straus Family Creamery** and **Clif Bars**, will fundraise for a new 8+ by selling yogurt parfaits, ice cream cones, etc.
- **JL Racing:** Large selection of rowing apparel and accessories;
- **Fine Designs, Inc.:** T-shirts imprinted with their full line of logos, commemorating the 2011 Wine Country Rowing Classic;
- **Peter Leabo, Photographer** <http://www.leabogallery.com> Peter was a professional news/sports photographer for 20 years, including 15 years with AP, covering major news and sporting events around the world, including five Olympics (Lake Placid, Los Angeles, Sarajevo, Seoul and Barcelona), 12 Super Bowls, 10 World Series and international competitions such as World Gymnastics Championships, World Figure Skating Championships, World Cup Skiing, Final Four and NCAA Track & Field Championships.
- **Athleta:** Local women's athletic wear company will be on site with information and goodies

# PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

EVENT #	START	DESCRIPTION
1	8:30 AM	Womens Collegiate 8+
2	8:40 AM	Womens Masters 4x
3	8:50 AM	Mens Masters 4+
4	9:00 AM	Mens Open Ltwt 4+
5A	9:10 AM	Mens Masters 2x
5B	9:10 AM	Mens Masters Ltwt 2x
6	9:20 AM	Mens HS 8+
7	9:30 AM	Womens Open 1x
8	9:40 AM	Womens Masters Ltwt 1x
9	9:50 AM	Womens Novice 1x
10	10:00 AM	Womens HS 4+
11	10:10 AM	Womens Collegiate 4+
12	10:20 AM	Womens Masters 4+
13	10:30 AM	Mens Open 1x
14	10:40 AM	Womens Masters 1x
15	10:50 AM	Womens Masters Nov 8+
16	11:00 AM	Mens Masters 1x
17	11:10 AM	Mixed Masters 4x
18	11:20 AM	Mens HS 4+
19	11:30 AM	Womens Open 4+
20	11:40 AM	Mens Masters 8+
21	11:50 AM	Mens Masters Novice 4+
LUNCH		
22	12:20 PM	Mens Collegiate 8+
23	12:30 PM	Womens HS 4x
24	12:40 PM	Mens Open 2-
25	12:50 PM	Womens Masters 8+
26	1:00 PM	Womens Masters 2x
27A	1:10 PM	Mens Masters Ltwt 1x
27B	1:10 PM	Mens Novice 1x
28	1:20 PM	Womens Open 2-
29	1:30 PM	Mens Collegiate 4+
30	1:40 PM	Womens HS 8+
31	1:50 PM	Mens Masters Novice 8+
32	2:00 PM	Womens Masters Nov 4+
33	2:10 PM	Womens Open 2x
34	2:20 PM	Womens HS 2x
35	2:30 PM	Mens Masters 4x
36A	2:40 PM	Mens Open 2x
36B	2:40 PM	Mens HS 2x
37	2:50 PM	Mixed Masters 2x
38	3:00 PM	Mixed Masters 8+
39	3:10 PM	Mixed Open Novice 8+
<p><b>Note:</b> Events denoted "A" and "B" are separate, and are separately timed, but will start in the same time slot with the "B" event following just after the "A" event.</p>		

*Note: Events with fewer than two entries will be eliminated resulting in a more abbreviated final schedule. We expect races to conclude at about 2:30 pm.*

**Note: NCAA rules apply: Collegiate women's entries will not be accepted for events not listed as "collegiate". [Excerpted from NCAA Bylaw 13.11.1.2.]**

## 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 or 30-minute walk along a path from Regatta HQ. **To protect the marsh, please remain on paths at all times!** You may also drive the 1.2 miles from the marina parking lot to the entrance of Shollenberger Park and walk from there. From the marina parking lot turn right onto Lakeville Highway, and then turn right at S. McDowell Blvd. At the intersection of Cader Lane, turn right through the park gates to the parking lot. The sign for the park is very small; be alert.



Shollenberger Park (and its neighboring preserved areas along the river) is visited by hundreds of pedestrians daily who are attracted by the views and abundant bird life. This marks the upstream end of the largest relatively intact ancient salt marsh in California. Information about flora, fauna, and directions is available at: <http://www.petalumawetlands.org/HTML/directions.html>