

# NORTH BAY ROWING CLUB WINE COUNTRY ROWING CLASSIC

Sunday, October 5, 2008

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.

This year North Bay Rowing Club will be hosting a pre-race social event on **Friday, October 3rd at 6:00 PM** at the Sheraton Hotel adjacent to regatta headquarters. The party will include wine tasting from local wineries, light fare, and a silent auction.

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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 by midnight Friday, September 26th (late entries through midnight Monday, September 29th).*

### ***For all Participants:***

- 0600: Registration Opens (coffee table and goodies too!)
- 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).*

## SCHEDULE

A preliminary race schedule is on page 7 and is also available on Regatta Central at [www.regattacentral.com](http://www.regattacentral.com). The final race schedule will be posted by October 3, 2008.



## VENUE

The 5,000 meter course will be on the reach of the Petaluma River depicted below.



Maps with more local road detail are on page 8.

**REGISTRATION IS ON-LINE 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 Abigail Smyth at [abigail\\_smyth@yahoo.com](mailto: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 is for singles entries. These single scullers must be individual members of USRowing and must race as “unaffiliated.” A single sculler may not compete under an organization’s name that is not an active USRowing organizational member.

## ENTRY FEES

Registration	Received by	Boat Class			
		1X	2- / 2X	4+/4X	8+
Regular	Midnight Friday Sep 26	\$24	\$36	\$48	\$80
Late (includes \$20 late fee)	Midnight Monday Sep 29	\$44	\$56	\$68	\$100

**Please note:** Incomplete entries and those without payment will automatically be deleted if not completed by Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://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 5<sup>th</sup>:  
**High:** 7:57 am (4.6')    **Low:** 12:42 pm (2.9')    **High:** 5:47 pm (5.9')

Those racing in the afternoon 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 launches. **NEW THIS YEAR:** separate docks for launching and landing.

## BOW NUMBERS

Please bring a standard lane number placard that fits in the bow clip of your boat. Three digit bow numbers with adhesive backing 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 downstream, and easterly side traveling upstream. **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 and 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 5, 2008.

### LIGHTWEIGHTS:

Men	165 Pound Maximum
Women	135 Pound Maximum

## **PETALUMA MARINA PARKING / BOAT RAMP**

**Trailer Drivers: Contact Bob Mackay for instructions (707.206.5157).**

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.

## **FOOD**

Coffee, bagels and pastries will be on sale at 6:30 a.m. to help get your morning off to a good start.

Lunch will be available for sale through a variety of local vendors on site. More details will be forthcoming at Regatta Central under the heading of "Food & Dining" (visit [https://www.regattacentral.com/index.jsp?tab=regattas&section=all\\_entries&id=854](https://www.regattacentral.com/index.jsp?tab=regattas&section=all_entries&id=854) and select relevant section).

## **OTHER VENDORS**

**JL Racing** will again be here to offer a selection of rowing apparel and accessories.

**Fine Designs, Inc.** will also be here to commemorate the 2008 Wine Country Rowing Classic with sportswear items imprinted with their full line of logos.

## **FINAL INFORMATION PACKET**

The final schedule, a race course map, and other important information will be available in the final information packet posted by October 3 at [www.regattacentral.com](http://www.regattacentral.com)



# PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

EVENT #	START	DESCRIPTION	CREWS (2007)
1	8:30 am	Mens Collegiate 4+	4
2	8:40 am	Mens Masters 4+	6
3	8:50 am	Mens HS 4+	8
4	9:00 am	Mens Open Ltwt 4+	1
5	9:10 am	Womens Open 8+	0
6	9:20 am	Womens Collegiate 8+	4
7	9:30 am	Womens Masters 8+	11
8	9:40 am	Womens HS 8+	7
9	9:50 am	Womens Open 1x	4
10	10:00 am	Womens Masters Ltwt 1x	1
11	10:10 am	Womens Masters 1x	4
12	10:20 am	Womens Novice 1x	0
13	10:30 am	Mens Collegiate 8+	4
14	10:40 am	Mens Open 8+	1
15	10:50 am	Mens Masters 8+	6
16	11:00 am	Mens HS 8+	5
17	11:10 am	Mens Open 1x	10
18	11:20 am	Mens Masters Ltwt 1x	4
19	11:30 am	Mens Masters 1x	14
20	11:40 pm	Mens Novice 1x	2
<b>LUNCH</b>			
21	12:10 pm	Womens Collegiate 4+	6
22	12:20 pm	Womens Masters 4+	4
23	12:30 pm	Womens HS 4+	7
24	12:40 pm	Womens Open Ltwt 4+	1
25	12:50 pm	Womens Masters 4x	2
26	1:00 pm	Womens Masters Novice 4+	0
27	1:10 pm	Mens Masters Novice 4+	1
28	1:20 pm	Mens Masters 4x	1
29	1:30 pm	Mens Masters Ltwt 2x	2
30	1:40 pm	Mens Open 2x	5
31	1:50 pm	Mens Masters 2x	4
32	2:00 pm	Womens Open 2-	0
33	2:10 pm	Mens Open 2-	0
34	2:20 pm	Womens Open 2x	0
35	2:30 pm	Womens Masters 2x	3
36	3:40 pm	Womens Masters Ltwt 2x	0
37	3:50 pm	Mens Open 4+	0
38	4:00 pm	Womens Open 4+	0
39	4:10 pm	Mens Masters Novice 8+	2
40	4:20 pm	Womens Masters Novice 8+	4
41	4:30 pm	Mixed Master 2x	3
42	4:40 pm	Mixed Masters 8+	4

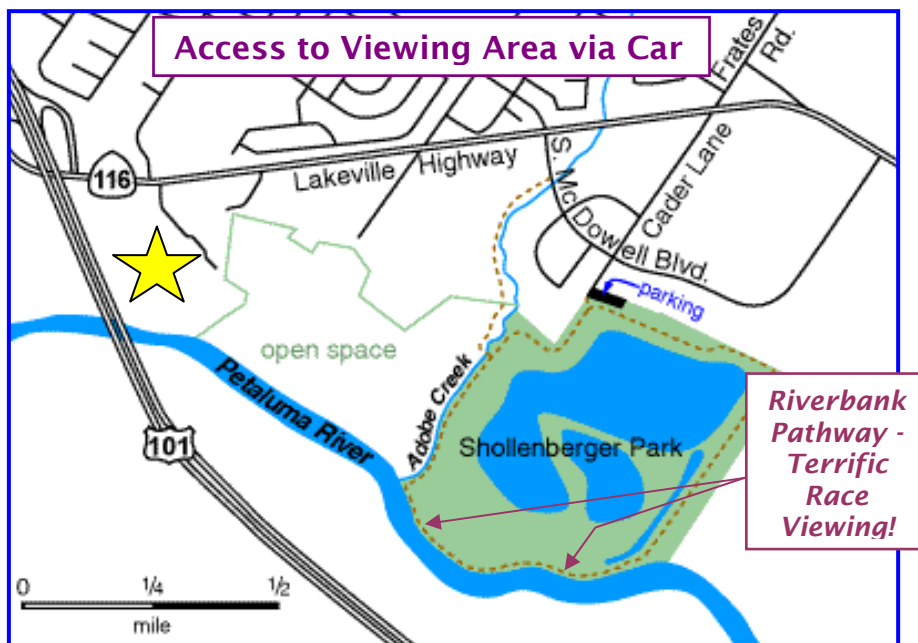
**Note:** Events for open water boats will not be offered this year due to lack of interest in the past. The final schedule for the 2008 WCRC will be more abbreviated than that indicated above because **events without at least two entries will be eliminated, and the time gap between sparsely populated afternoon events may be reduced.**

## 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), or by driving to the park and walking in.



To reach Shollenberger Park via auto, go east on Lakeville Hwy. (Hwy. 116 East) one mile to South McDowell Extension. Turn right (south) and proceed about ¼ mile to the far side of the U. S. Postal Service Buildings. Turn right there at a tiny lane marked with a street sign, Cader Lane. This turn-off is at the foot of Cader Lane. Fifty yards down the lane is a parking lot. The lane continues as a trail leading up onto the loop trail on the main dike.





## 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 2008 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