



ACRA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA 2008

www.americancollegerowing.com

This document should provide the necessary information for entering and attending the 2008 American Collegiate Rowing Association National Championship Regatta.

Please read the document in its entirety to ensure that your entries will be accurate and accepted without the need for further information. Entries are not complete without ALL of the following:

1. On-time entry at Regatta Central www.regattacentral.com
2. Payment of entry fees
3. Submission of athlete eligibility form
4. Athlete waivers

Thank you, and we look forward to receiving your entries and seeing you in Oklahoma City. The following table of contents should help you find the answers to specific questions you may have.

Please note that we are a work in progress, and some components and details of the regatta are still being decided and implemented as we proceed. We will attempt to provide as much information to all programs as soon as it is decided and available. Please contact me if you have specific questions or suggestions about this packet.

Bob Jaugstetter, Treasurer and Registrar, ACRA
row2lan@tulane.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 2	General Regatta Information
Page 4	Program Eligibility
Page 5	Athlete Eligibility
Page 6	Entry and Payment Information
Page 6	ACRA Progression Systems
Page 8	Contacts



GENERAL REGATTA INFORMATION

The inaugural **American Collegiate Rowing Association Championship Regatta** will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on **Saturday and Sunday May 24-25, 2008**. The Chesapeake Boathouse is the local organizing committee.

Eligible Institutions: All collegiate club rowing programs recognized by their respective universities are eligible for participation in the ACRA Championship Regatta. In addition, varsity programs at institutions that do NOT have membership in the NCAA (for example, NAIA member institutions and Community and Junior Colleges) may attend.

All programs must meet BOTH the eligibility requirements of their home institution and the ACRA.

Please note the racing format: Time Trials, Heats and semifinals will be raced on Saturday with finals on Sunday. Depending on the number of entries, some events may be required to row a time trial format instead of heats.

Time Trials (2000 meters) will be run in the 1x, 2x, and 2- events if the entries number 13 or more. The results of the time trial will place crews directly into finals (top 6 to Grand Finals, 7-12 to Petite Finals, etc.)

Please note the following important points:

1. Shirt betting will be strongly encouraged for both men and women. The head coach or designated representative will indicate at registration whether an institution is betting shirts. Any institution must either participate with all its entries or none. If the institution chooses NOT to participate then it can NOT win/accept any shirts. A list of non-participating programs will be posted after registration.
2. Each organization must complete and submit, with appropriate university signatures, the ACRA Eligibility Certification, available after May 5 on the Regatta Central website (click the "news" link) or at www.americancollegerowing.com . Forms can be mailed to:
Alison Derrick
Chesapeake Boathouse
725 S Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73129
3. The entry deadline is the scratch deadline. All scratches not made online by the deadline must be emailed from the coach's email address to both <uofmcrew@aol.com > and <row2lan@tulane.edu >. Scratches after the deadline and before 10:00am Central time on Friday May 23 will be assessed a scratch fee of \$50 per scratch and no refund of entry fee. Any scratches after Friday at 10:00am, or any no-shows, will be assessed a \$100 scratch penalty. Any team assessed a scratch fee will not be permitted to participate in the regatta until the fee is paid.

4. Late entries may be accepted with a penalty fee of \$50 per entry, plus the entry fee. Late entries will not be accepted for the 2008 regatta without extraordinary circumstances and a majority vote of the ACRA Board of Directors.
5. Regatta heats will be assigned in accordance with ACRA Progression Formula Guidelines.
6. A minimum of three entries is required to run an event. ACRA will attempt to place crews from cancelled events in another appropriate event if possible.

RACING RULES

The regatta will operate under the US Rowing Rules of Racing except as altered by ACRA or LOC rules and regulations.

WAIVERS

Each participant must submit a completed waiver. Waivers may be mailed to:

Alison Derrick

Chesapeake Boathouse

725 S Lincoln Blvd

Oklahoma City, OK 73129

or presented at registration at the regatta site. Participants under age 18 need a parent's or guardian's signature. Waivers are available on the Regatta Central website.

REGATTA MEETING

Each program must have a representative at the regatta meeting on Friday, May 23 at 6pm. This is not a "coaches and coxswains" meeting. The meeting will be at the boathouse.

NOTE: The meeting will have a roll call and cover ONLY specific safety instructions and schedule changes. The meetings WILL NOT go over the rules of racing, starting procedures, and boat handling advice. Crews are expected to know the rules and how to handle their equipment to attend a championship regatta.

WEIGH-INS

Weigh-ins for coxswains and lightweight events will be conducted at the boathouse.

Weigh-ins will begin at 4:00 Friday afternoon until 7:00pm, and resume at 7:00 am until 9:00am on Saturday. All lightweights are required to weigh in once for the weekend in racing attire.

Weight limitations are: Women under 130 pounds for each individual, no average; Men 160 pounds max, 155 pound boat average. **Crews must weigh in with all members present.** Coxswain minimum weights in racing attire: 125 pounds for coxswains of men's crews; 110 for women's.

MEDALS

First, second, and third place medals will be awarded in all ACRA events with four or more entries, first and second for an event with only three entries.



SAFETY AND TRAFFIC PATTERN

NO coaching launches are allowed on the water on Friday, May 23. Traffic patterns will be posted at the boathouse. All coaches, coxswains, captains, etc. must read and be familiar with these rules **prior to launching for PRACTICE OR RACING**. Crews must be off the water by 8:00PM Friday. No crews may launch for practice Saturday evening until all racing is complete. If there is time between Saturday's heats and semis, the regatta committee will post times that the river will be open for practice.

REGISTRATION

Registration will be from 4:00 – 7:00 Friday at the boathouse. Late arriving crews should contact Alison Derrick at aderrick@chesapeakeboathouse.org to coordinate an alternate registration time.

TEAM TENTS:

Team tents may be erected only at designated sites along the race course or in the boat storage areas out of the way of boat traffic on its way to or from the docks. Prior to tent setup, check with the Chesapeake Boathouse LOC regarding approved anchoring system.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY / ENTRY RULES

1. Entries must be made online at Regatta Central (www.regattacentral.com). Entry deadline is May 14, 2008. Entries must be **COMPLETED** before midnight Pacific time. This is also the deadline for scratches with refunds.
2. Only one entry per event is allowed from each program, with the exception of the sculling events. Note: only the top finisher from a program entering multiple scullers is eligible for medals or points. Crews may enter a varsity crew and a novice crew in the Men's and Women's Lightweight 4+ event. These events will be separated into two races if there are sufficient entries to do so. A Women's Lightweight 8 may enter the JV / Var Ltwt 8 event without a varsity entry from the same program, but must make weight to be eligible to race.
3. Doubling of athletes is not permitted.
4. An organization must enter and race a Varsity boat of the same size, weight, and gender classification of crew in order to enter a Junior Varsity boat.
5. Program entries will be accepted from only ONE designated representative. Specifically, this means a student who rows a single or double outside of a college's recognized program which is entering crews at the regatta, then that program's designated representative needs to submit the sculling entry for the entry to be accepted.
6. The ACRA Executive Committee will have final discretion regarding entries.

This is an attempt to summarize the main guiding rules of the ACRA and may not include all previous rulings. Except as noted above, all rules will reflect previous ACRA procedures. Special rulings may be invoked by the ACRA Executive Board.

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY / ENTRY RULES

Eligibility for the ACRA Regatta shall be dependent upon the conference rules of the competing institution, and **ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1. All participants must be full time undergraduate students and enrolled at the institution they represent. To be considered a full time undergraduate student, each must currently be taking courses totaling at least 12 credit hours on the semester basis or its full time equivalent, and must be making normal progress toward his/her first degree. Exceptions to the 12 credit hour rule must be certified by the Academic Office of the involved institution. A student athlete who has received a Baccalaureate or equivalent degree, and who is enrolled in the his or her first year of graduate or professional school, of the institution attended as an undergraduate, or who is enrolled and seeking a second Baccalaureate or equivalent degree at the same institution, may participate in ACRA, provided the student athlete has athletic eligibility remaining, and such participation occurs within the time period set forth in number 2 below.
2. An ACRA competitor has four years of eligibility, which must be completed during the first 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which after the student is enrolled in a collegiate institution in at least a minimum fulltime program of studies as determined by the regulations of that institution. Competing for an institution in any one event within the academic year is enough to constitute one year of eligibility.
3. Any individual who has raced during the current academic year with a non-ACRA eligible college program will not be eligible for participation in the ACRA Regatta.
4. Novice Classification: The ACRA defines novices as those in their first year of collegiate rowing.
5. A student athlete who is enrolled in a graduate or professional school of the college or university may participate, provided he/she has eligibility remaining and is within five calendar years of initial fulltime collegiate enrollment.
6. To compete at the ACRA, each athlete must be listed on the program's roster, and certified by the institution's registrar or program administrator (varsity athletics or rec sports level administrator, NOT the head coach or team officers).

Appeals for exceptions to these rules must be entered in writing to the ACRA Eligibility Committee (Gregg Hartsuff, ACRA President, uofmcrew@aol.com, Paul Mokha, Compliance Director, pmokha@ucla.edu, Will Greene, ACRA Secretary, wgreene@sao.rochester.edu) prior to the entry deadline. Documentation is required for any request to be considered.

Violations of regulations may be cause for crew or team disqualification. Unusually serious violations may be grounds for even more sanctions.



ENTRIES AND PAYMENTS

The schedule and fees are available at the Regatta Central site. After you have familiarized yourself with the regatta rules, please make your entries at www.regattacentral.com and make your payment there by credit card, or send a check made out to "ACRA" to:

Alison Derrick
Chesapeake Boathouse
725 S Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City OK 73129

Waivers (available at Regatta Central) and the **Athlete Eligibility Form** (available at www.ACRAregatta.com) also should be mailed to Alison Derrick, or brought to the regatta registration if time does not permit.

For maps, lodging and other information: www.chesapeakeboathouse.org

PROGRESSION SYSTEMS

SEEDED EVENTS

Events: MV8, MLt8, M2V8, MFN8, WV8, WN8

- a) The vote is to be placed by the head coach of each program entered in the event, and not one of the assistants or team officers.
- b) Voting will be conducted online a week prior to the championship, and initial votes will be viewed by all the head coaches.
- c) The head coach **MUST** vote for his/her own crew in the poll.
- d) Coaches may change their votes one time within two days of the closing.
- e) After the second day, all voting is final.
- f) At this point all votes **WILL BE MADE PUBLIC**.
- g) Seeded crews will be sorted into heats according to the poll results. **EVERY CREW WILL BE GIVEN A SEED.**

SORTED EVENTS

Events: MV4+, MLt4+, MFN4+, WV4+, WLt4+, WN4+

This is an attempt to separate crews who have remained intact through the racing season and performed well at a major championship regatta. The goal is to create regional and competitive diversity in the heats.

This will be a responsibility of the Regatta Director, and two other designated members of the Championship sub-committee. Finalization of the sub-committee's recommended placements will be made by the Executive Board.

This is not an attempt to place every entered crew. Results will be considered **PRIMARILY** from the Dad Vail regatta, ECAC-NIRC, and WIRA, with consideration given to SIRA, Indianapolis Invitational, NY States, New England Championships, PCRC, and Knecht Cup, with a goal of splitting up crews who competed against each other in the Grand Finals at those events. It is also to prevent the winners of those events from being "stacked" into the same heat. The remainder of the field will be determined by random draw.



The ACRA progression system will be used, with a random draw of lanes to be done after the heats have been determined. Sorted crews will not be assigned to certain lanes.

TIME TRIALED EVENTS

Events: M2-, M2x, M1x, W2-, W2x, W1x

A time trial will be used for any of the above events with 13 or more entries. An initial starting order will be determined by using the same system as SORTED crews, trying to make an effort to place known fast crews to the front. Other crews will be randomly placed behind them.

The time trial will be conducted using two or three lanes. The finals will be sorted in the following way, based strictly on the results of the time trial:

Entries number 1-6: Grand Final only, random draw of lanes

Entries number 7-12: 2 Heats, top 3 of each to the Grand Finals, remainder to Petite Finals

Entries number 13 or more: Time trial with places 1-6 to the Grand Final, 7-12 to the Petite, 13-18 to the 3rd Level, and so on in 6 slot increments.

ACRA PROGRESSION SYSTEMS

# of Entries	Heat	Lane 1	Lane 2	Lane 3	Lane 4	Lane 5	Lane 6	Lane 7
Up to 7 Entries	Final Only	6	4	2	1	3	5	7
8-14 Entries	Heat 1	12	8	4	1	5	9	13
1-3 to Grand, 4-6 to Petite	Heat 2	11	7	3	2	6	10	14
15-21 Entries	Heat 1	18	12	6	1	7	13	19
1-4 to A/B Semi-Finals, 5-7 to C/D Semi-Finals	Heat 2	17	11	5	2	8	14	20
SF: 1-3 to Grand, 4-6 to Petite	Heat 3	16	10	4	3	9	15	21
19-28 Entries	Heat 1	24	16	8	1	9	17	25
1-3 to A/B Semi-Final, 4-6 to C/D Semi-Final, 7th to 5th Level Final	Heat 2	23	15	7	2	10	18	26
SF: 1-3 to Grand, 4-6 to Petite	Heat 3	22	14	6	3	11	19	27
	Heat 4	21	13	5	4	12	20	28

Should conditions dictate, the Fairness Commission, composed of the ACRA Executive Board and the Head Referee or his/her designated representative, will have the authority to reassign lanes to prevent a disadvantage for higher seeded crews.

One of two progression alternatives will be chosen at random at the conclusion of each set of heats to place crews into semifinals.

ACRA RACING SCHEDULE

(subject to change based on final number of entries)

Saturday

8:30 – 1:30 Heats for all events

3:30 – 6:00 Semifinals for events with more than 14 entries

Sunday

8:00 – 8:45 C Finals

9:00 – 10:15 B Finals

Grand Finals

10:30 Women's 1X

10:40 Men's 1X

10:50 Women's 2X

11:00 Men's 2X

11:10 Women's 2-

11:20 Men's 2-

11:30 Men's Novice 4

11:40 Women's Novice 4

11:50 Men's Ltwt 4

12:00 Women's LtWt 4

12:10 Men's Varsity 4

12:20 Women's Varsity 4

12:30 Men's Novice 8

12:40 Women's Novice 8

12:50 Men's JV 8

1:00 Women's JV and Ltwt Var 8

1:10 Men's Ltwt 8

1:20 Women's Varsity 8

1:30 Men's Varsity 8



CONTACTS:

ACRA Regatta Questions

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ACRA Eligibility Questions send email to ACRA Eligibility Committee:

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Gregg Hartsuff, ACRA President, uofmcrew@aol.com
William Greene, ACRA Secretary, wgreene@sao.rochester.edu

Oklahoma City Area Questions

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