

Cincinnati Junior Rowing

Spring Competition Covid Protocols

Background Information

Rowing is a sport that easily lends itself to social distancing between teams. Rowers interact only with those in the same boat. On the water, teams each have their own lane and are spaced 12-15 meters apart. On land, athletes do not interact with other teams. With a few minimal adjustments, we can easily ensure that there will be no close contact between athletes from different teams. These adjustments for the 2021 season are listed below.

Venue Set-up

Each visiting team will have a clearly marked outdoor area in which only its team members may enter. The food at team tents must be limited to “grab and go” pre-packaged items. No buffet-style lines will be allowed. Food prep at the team tents should be minimal (no grills).

Each team will be assigned bathrooms/portable toilets (2-4) to be located near their team area. These bathrooms/portable toilets will be labeled and will be for that team’s use only. There will also be bathrooms/portable toilets assigned to officials and event staff.

There will be a wide walkway provided to get from the team area to the launch docks.

Teams will enter the launch dock area one at a time. There must be only one team on each side of each launch dock at a time. Athletes will need to follow directions from the Dock Master.

- To provide adequate social distancing, teams may be directed to recover in the beach area.
- Teams may wet launch as directed by the Dock Master

There will be no “common space” provided at the venue. Each team will be responsible for providing any such resources and will do so in their provided area. There will be medical personnel at the venue in a separate area for access during emergency situations.

- Two EMTs will be on-site during the event
- Medical Officer will be on-site during the event
- The Clermont Count Board of Health has been made aware of the event and has contributed and reviewed the COVID plan. The Parks Director of the State of Ohio has approved the plan to ensure all state of Ohio COVID-19 guidelines have been addressed.
- A list of medical resources will be provided at the event.

Ample space will be provided for teams to load and unload its shell trailer so that social distancing may be maintained.

Hand sanitizers will be provided in multiple targeted locations throughout the venue (i.e., near areas/items frequently touched by multiple people).

Social distancing and facial covering required signs will be posted in multiple targeted locations throughout the venue.

Public drinking fountains will be closed.

There will no vendors allowed on site with the exception of those needed for operations (I.e., boat repair). Teams will need to provide beverages and water.

Compliance officers for the venue and for each team will be assigned to help monitor/ensure social distancing and facial covering. The regatta director will serve as the primary compliance officer.

Operations and procedures

Coxswain meetings will either be:

- eliminated, with information shared via email to visiting teams
- conducted via a zoom call the night before the competition
- done at the venue with special attention to social distancing and with all in attendance wearing a mask

All competitors at the venue will be required to wear masks when on land. Masks may not come off until after a crew has launched their shell.

All other persons at the venue (coaches, staff, officials, stake-boat holders, event staff, etc.) will be required to wear masks at all times.

If coaches are permitted to go on the water to watch the races or practices then each program is to be assigned to its own launch. Launches may not be shared between teams. Launches are to be cleaned and sanitized each day prior to use.

Oars will be wiped down with sanitizing wipes after each use. Each team should supply wipes for the team oars.

Coxswain weigh-ins are to be eliminated from all regular-season races.

Lightweight events will be replaced with U-17 events.

Boat weigh-ins will not be conducted.

Athletes, coaches, trainers, and officials must conduct daily symptom assessments before game/competition. Anyone experiencing symptoms must stay home. According to the CDC, COVID-19 symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headaches, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. This list does not include all symptoms.

Coaches will be responsible for assessing themselves and their team.

If a rower assigned to a boat group experiences symptoms, the entire boat will be quarantined and unable to participate. Rowers must remain at the medical tent until they are released to coaches for removal from the venue.

High touch areas will be disinfected regularly. Staff will be equipped with appropriate PPE to prevent contact with the areas.

The health department will be contacted to report suspected cases of exposure.

There must be no congregating before or after the event by athletes, coaches, trainers, and officials or spectators. Teams and coaches must stay in the designated areas for trailer loading/unloading, distribution of equipment, and post-race hydration.

We anticipate a very limited need for overnight stays for officials or athletes. If overnight stays are necessary, proper mitigation strategies should be used by the traveling participants (teams, officials, or individuals). These include, but are not limited to, minimizing room occupancy, minimizing contact during travel to a regatta location from the participant's home location, minimizing contact when going to and from the venue once arriving at the regatta location, limiting activity to your hotel room and venue as much as possible (i.e., using carry-out or delivery for meals and eating in your hotel room), and daily monitoring of the health and wellness of your traveling party (athletes, coaches, and other staff).

Out-of-town athletes, coaches, and staff staying in local hotels that show symptoms or test positive will be quarantined for the remainder of the competition. Athletes or Coaches would quarantine at the hotel in their room. Hotel GM would be notified, so that housekeeping does not enter the room and would take precautions to sanitize the room upon their departure. The team would make safe travel arrangements for that positive case individual to return to their home with guidance from medical doctors.

All athletes and coaches must self-monitor for symptoms. Coaches will be responsible for attesting for themselves and their team.

Additional Location Protocols for Spectators

Spectators are limited to officials, coaches, athletes, and volunteers with a maximum of 1/3 capacity (150) at the viewing area to adhere to local venue protocol. Spectators must observe all posted rules for social distancing.

Volunteers, LOC, and spectators must conduct a daily symptom check.

Volunteers, LOC and spectators experiencing symptoms must stay home. According to the CDC, COVID-19 symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headaches, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. This list does not include all symptoms. Volunteers will be asked to verify they have not exhibited any symptoms.

All spectators in the beach area will be required to maintain a six-foot social distance between individuals/households/family groups.

Spectators will be required to use a facial covering at all times. At a minimum, the facial covering should be cloth/fabric and cover the individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

COVID 19 safety protocol information will be distributed prior to via the Regatta Central website, the Cincinnati Junior Rowing Website, on-site announcements, and flyers posted at the venue entrance.

Viewing area protocols:

Signs will be posted reinforcing the face-covering requirement. Announcements will also be made throughout the event.

Due to the nature of the event, spectators are limited to race viewing areas at the beach, while maintaining a six-foot social distance between the groups.

One-way entrances and exits to the beach area will be clearly marked. No chairs or blankets will be permitted in the spectator area.

Appropriate PPE supplies such as masks, gloves (as needed) and hand sanitizer will be provided at the venue for officials, volunteers and medical personnel. Athletes and coaches must supply masks and personal PPE items for their individual teams.

All officials, medical staff, and volunteers must self-monitor for symptoms.