

# 2023 Matt Abel Speed Fiesta Regatta Rules & Information

**Racing will be conducted under the USRowing "Rules of Racing" using FSRA items listed below.**

## Referee Candidate Opportunity

- A goal of this regatta is to afford referee candidates opportunities to complete the observation portion of their referee training.
- Teams providing referee candidates that both complete their online referee training prior to the race and participate at this regatta will receive entry fee credits for FSRA state championships. Credits will be at least \$50 per candidate.
- Candidates receive a reduced fee US Rowing membership.
- Candidates will need to complete safe sport training and background check before online referee training can start.
- **Interested candidates need to contact and register with USRowing as soon as possible, but no later than January 12**, to be eligible for entry fee credits.

## Eligibility Requirements

- This regatta is an association regatta open to current Scholastic and Youth team members of the Florida Scholastic Rowing Association.
- FSRA teams must be in good standing with the association and all delinquent fees and dues must be paid prior to any entry being accepted from that team. FSRA membership fees must be paid before January 1st.
- An Eligible Athlete is a competitor who has completed their FSRA 2022-2023 waiver on regatta central.

## How to enter

- Each event will be capped at 16 entries (2 flights of up to 8 boats); additional entries will be wait listed.
- Only "A" boat entries will be accepted during the standard registration; wait listed "B" boat entries will be accepted to fill available lanes once the standard registration window closes.
- Boatings must include the legal names of competitors (as it appears on photo ID and FSRA-NOARA waiver for verification purposes). Only athletes completing the pre-registration eligibility verification will be allowed to compete: see **Eligibility Requirements section above**.
- Boatings must be completed with eligible (cleared) athletes by the standard registration entry deadline; otherwise, the entry will be removed to make space for wait listed entries.
- Late entries will be accepted as long as open lanes are available; otherwise, late entries will be wait-listed. Late entries will not be prioritized over entries already accepted. Additional outside lanes and additional races will not be added to accommodate late entries. Late entries will not be seeded.
- **Scratch Policy:**
  - Scratches made after the standard entry deadline forfeit their entry fee.
  - Scratches made starting Wednesday prior to the race and race no shows will incur a Scratch Fee which is due before following crews are allowed to launch or future entries accepted. Verified medical exceptions will be accepted.

## Regatta Fees

1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> 8+	\$11
1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4+, 4x	\$9
1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2x	\$6
Scratch	\$50 Additional
Lost Bow Number	\$10 per bow card
Fee Cap	No Team Fee Cap

## Practice Sessions

The racecourse will be open for **practice on Friday only from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm** as long as water safety marshals are in place. **Launch docks close at 5:15 pm to allow for the course to be cleared by 6:00 pm**. Race day traffic pattern will be enforced. There will not be any practice sessions on Saturday.

Teams violating the practice session time box or launching without water safety marshals in place will be assessed one warning to all their entries for all their races.

## No Drones Allowed

Based on county event permitting and park rules in place for the duration of this FSRA regatta, individuals are not allowed to launch, operate, and/or land drones while being within the boundaries of the entire Nathan Benderson Park, not just the regatta island, without prior approval by FSRA. Per FAA, if an organization or a venue has a written policy, that's enough to keep a drone out of the air. FAA also said that if anyone is being filmed via drone without giving their consent, that's illegal. NOARA waivers grant permission for filming only to FSRA or their designated representative. Teams found using or promoting themselves in drone videos which is not from a FSRA approved source are subject to exclusion or disqualification from current and/or future events.

## Regatta Registration

Regatta registration will only be open on Friday from 2:00PM to 6:00PM to address regatta questions, scratches and substitutions.

- **Volunteers sign-up (1 volunteer per 'A' boat entry - TBD)**

## Lineup Changes

Any line-up change required after standard registration entry deadline must be reported to regatta registration and completed prior to the first race of the event.

## Regatta Meeting

Regatta meeting will begin at **8:00PM on the Wednesday** prior to the regatta. The meeting will be hosted virtually via Microsoft Teams and dial-in phone numbers will be provided to accommodate those who cannot log in. A summary of main points to be covered will be emailed out prior to the meeting to all with this regatta in their Regatta Central Calendar.

- Meeting will cover scratch policy (see scratch fee policy above).
- Meeting will cover the officiating aspects relevant to this event.

## Rules

- All races are 1500 meters or as close to this distance as the race venue safely allows.
- Breakage: allowed maximum of one hour after the breakage is reported from either the warmup area or the first 100m of the race. **NOTE: it is the responsibility of the team coach to provide a valid race day text number and monitor for text messages.** Boats failing to resolve breakage issues within the one-hour limit will be scratched from the event without any advancement opportunities.
- Missed race: No special allowances will be made for crews late to the start line. Teams hot seating athletes or equipment do so at their own risk. Hot seating must be done at launch docks and coordinated with control commission.
- Doubling limits: none – The regatta hopes to provide each athlete an opportunity to race but teams who double athletes do so at their own risk.
- Males may not row in female events. Females may not row in male events. Coxswains are exempted from this limitation.
- Composite crews (rowers from two or more FSRA Member teams in the same boat) are not permitted.
- Teams will enter a 1<sup>st</sup> boat before entering in the same category 2<sup>nd</sup> boat event and will enter a 2<sup>nd</sup> boat before entering in the same category 3<sup>rd</sup> boat event.
- "B" entries are accepted in all events. "B" entries are allowed in any event with an "A" and don't need to start at 1<sup>st</sup> boat level. "B" entries may be moved to a different level than entered to allow for accepting the wait listing.
- FSRA will provide alphanumeric bow cards. Teams will be issued bow cards by control commission when launching and must return bow cards at the recovery docks. Bow numbers must be properly affixed to the shell in order for a crew to be allowed onto the racecourse.
- No weigh-ins at this regatta.

## Minimum Entries

For events with less than three (3) boats entered at the registration deadline will be eliminated and the teams will be notified in advance of race day.

## Race Format

The regatta will race flights only. If more than 8 entries are entered for an event, entries will be divided between 2 flights.

### **Order of Events**

The order of events will follow the event number order as listed on Regatta Central.

### **Awards**

First place medals will be awarded to the winners of each flight. Awards may be collected after the race is marked officially complete.

### **Inclement Weather Procedure**

The FSRA Regatta Committee, the Regatta Director, the Chief Referee, and the LOC will work together to monitor the weather continuously during the event. Should it be determined that schedule changes are necessary due to weather concerns, the FSRA Regatta Committee will prioritize events following the order of events guidelines and determine which races will occur during the time window racing can be safely conducted.

Weather-related schedule changes will be announced utilizing the following mediums.

- Announced over the on-site sound system.
- Regatta text group.