



Event Dates: October 25-26, 2025.

Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Oak Ridge Rowing Association is delighted to present the 2025 Secret City Head Race. This two-day event includes two different and challenging 5000-meter head race courses on Melton Lake. This is a quick reference. The regatta packet remains the authoritative source of information for this event. Chief Referee: John LeDuc. Regatta Director: Mike Stinson.

The Secret City Head Race is a USRowing-registered event. Per USRowing policy, effective August 18, 2025, all athletes must be listed on your team's roster and a USRowing member number must exist for the individual being added to a lineup when making an entry. Please note, athletes do not need to be compliant when entries are made, only prior to race.

Quick Links

Join the [2025 Secret City Head Race GroupMe](https://groupme.com/join_group/108973102/eZQz2pi6) (https://groupme.com/join_group/108973102/eZQz2pi6) (Announcements-only). This will be used to communicate information to coaches and other participants throughout the Event. It is a announce-only text message service.



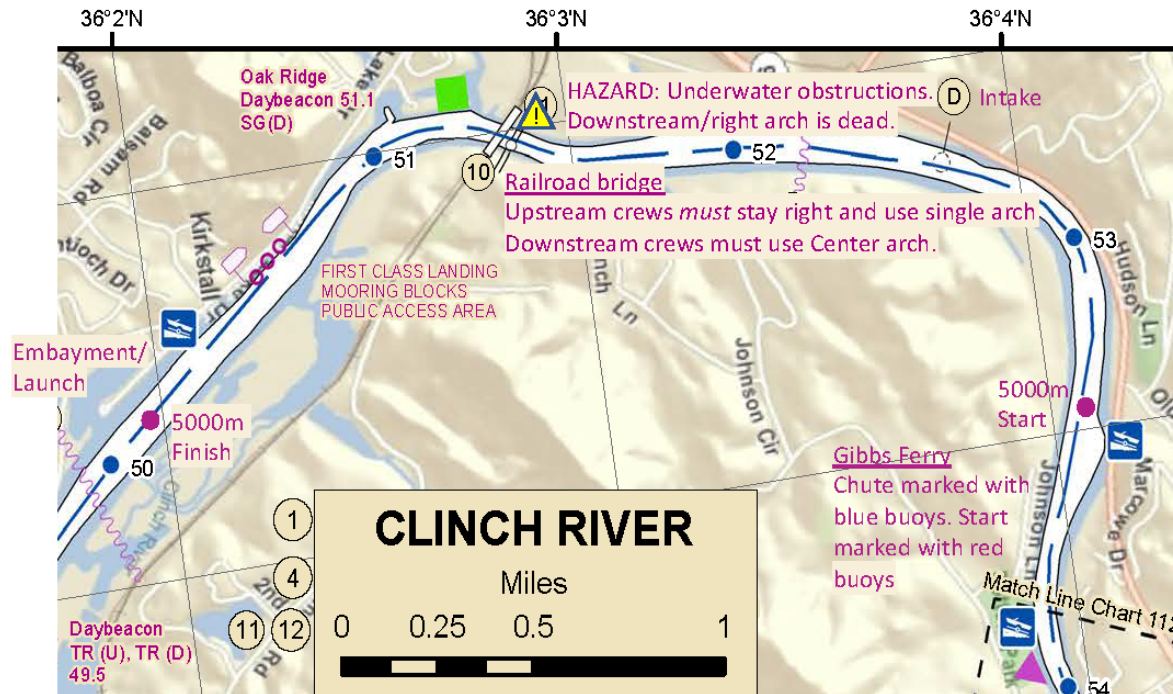
Schedule The Official Schedule is available via HereNow.

Results The Official Results are provided via HereNow.

Site Map



ORRA Secret City Head Race - Downstream 5k Course



ORRA Secret City Head Race - Upstream 5k Course



Check-in: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Friday or 6:30 AM - 8:00 AM Saturday for Saturday Events. Additional Check-In time 6:30 AM - 8:00 AM on Sunday for Sunday Events. All Check-in is in the ORRA Boathouse. Crews are required to check in before anyone from that team is allowed to race. Crews must have all USRowing waivers completed, and all entries paid for prior to racing.

Lineup Changes must be completed at the Registration Desk no less than 90 minutes before the event.

Coaches and Coxswains Meeting – 8:00pm Wednesday via Zoom. See Regatta Central.

At least one representative from each crew must attend. All crews will be responsible for the information delivered at the meeting, regardless of attendance.

Shell Trailer Parking The venue will be open for shell trailer parking starting at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday. Arrival before this time requires coordination with the LOC. General availability of the trailer parking area begins on Friday at 8:00 a.m. Prior to parking and unloading trailers, crews are required to check-in with a Venue Coordinator. Trailer locations are not random. Trailers will be parked in order of arrival. 1x and 2x shell drop-offs are available immediately adjacent to the boathouse, directly across from the large mural that faces Melton Lake Drive.

Note: *To protect the safety of athletes, teams may not remove their trailer from the venue until racing has concluded for that day and all crews have returned their shells to their respective areas. Drivers should expect the greenway to be closed to vehicle traffic until the Chief Referee and LOC reopen the north and south entrances.*

Practice The launch docks are available on Friday for practice. The downstream course is fully installed. The upstream course will be only partially marked on Friday. The upstream course is completed Saturday night, at the conclusion of Day 1. Teams may practice anywhere they prefer, acknowledging that they do so at their own risk.

Daylight is 7:30 a.m. No crews may leave the dock before 8:00 a.m. Sunset is 7:00 p.m. All crews must be off the water, with no exceptions, by 7:00 p.m.

There is no practice after racing on Saturday afternoon/evening.

Rowing to the Gibbs Ferry/Bull Run Starting Line Saturday and Sunday

Allow 50-minutes to launch and move to the marshaling area above the day's race course.

Weather

If inclement weather, including high wind or thunderstorms, affects the safety of crews, volunteers, and referees, the Regatta Director and Chief Referee will notify all participating crews of adjustments to the schedule via the announce-only GroupMe service.

VIP Parking

VIP Parking is available at the boathouse, with guaranteed in/out privileges for the entire weekend. Pre-purchased passes will be available at the Boathouse Office on Friday afternoon, and at the parking lot entrance beginning at 6am on Saturday. Per City of Oak Ridge ordinance, there is no overnight parking at Melton Lake Park. VIP passes are non-transferable.

2-Minute Drop-Off / Load / Unload Zone

Dropping off athletes, food/beverages? ORRA has a 2-minute drop-off zone directly on the Melton Lake Drive shoulder, just past the parking lot entrance. This area is specifically marked. Parking is not allowed in this zone (and enforced).

Handicapped Parking

Handicap parking, including access aisles, for those persons with a valid handicap tag or placard is available at the boathouse venue, but the number of spaces is quite limited, managed and enforced by the City of Oak Ridge.

Special Consideration for Buses

For teams that are using commercial vans/buses, ORRA will permit athlete drop-off and pick-up in the ORRA Boathouse parking lot. Special parking spaces are designated for this activity. Buses may not idle and may not stay. Maximum turn-around time is ten-minutes and is enforced.

Team Tents

Tents are allowed anywhere along the peninsula, on the river (race-course) side, except for the area that defines the Finish Line (the sprint course 1500m marker). A Team Tent may occupy up to 20 linear feet (two parking spaces) along the surface parking area. The area defined by the team tent, on the surface parking lot, is also extended from those outer boundaries to the riverbank. There is NO PARKING in the surface lot on the *river* side, but all of the embayment side is available for vehicles with a VIP parking pass.

All tents must be appropriately weighted (reference the occasional loss of an unrestrained tent into Melton Lake). There is no staking of tents on the venue due to the presence of buried utilities.

The ORRA LOC will assist with team tent placement to ensure that the 20 linear feet maximum is maintained, and that a 10' buffer is provided between each 20' of tent space.