



Pittsford Crew Pull the Plug Regatta November 2, 2008

Welcome to Pittsford Crew's, Pull the Plug Regatta, so named as it is the last weekend before the New York State Canal Corporation, 'Pulls the Plug' on the Erie Canal and drains it for the season. Join us for an end the season head race through the picturesque Village of Pittsford. The event's base is the William C. Warren III Boathouse on Clover Street across from Lock 32 on the Erie Canal. From the boathouse, crews will travel the length of the course to the start line 4110 meters to the flood gates approaching the hamlet of Bushnell's Basin. The race course is then run westbound through the village back to the finish line at the boathouse. The entire race course is visible from the tow path. Parents, coaches and spectators can watch from anywhere along the path! We hope to see you for a great end of the season regatta!

Location & Parking:

The trailer parking and boat launching will take place at the William C. Warren III Boathouse at 2800 Clover Street. Directions are available on the web at: <http://pittsfordcrew.org/MapsDirections.htm> Map Quest link at top of page and turn by turn directions at bottom of page.

Note: Trailers must approach from the North (heading southbound on Clover Street) in order to make the turn onto the access road. We have limited space for parking at the boathouse, therefore, only one hospitality vehicle per team will be allowed to park at the boathouse and **will need a permit**. For this and any other special needs parking, please contact the regatta coordinator listed on Regatta Central. If your team will be arriving by bus, please contact the regatta organizer, so parking arrangements can be made. **All requests must be received one week before the regatta to allow for mailing of the permit.** If you have a truck pulling a trailer, it does not need a permit. All other parking will be across the street on the DOT Access road, or the Lock 32 Park. Please be aware that there is road construction in the area and in the Lock 32 Park that may change the parking from previous years. There will be volunteers available to direct you.

Hospitality:

Hospitality from each crew can set up on the lawn between the canal and either the boathouse or the indoor rowing center. Due to limited parking, please one vehicle per team. If you have a trailer, we will do our best to accommodate.

Registration:

All registrations are via <http://www.RegattaCentral.com>

The first boat in any category from a team must be registered as an 'A' boat and registered in the 'A' boat race. Second and third entries will be registered in the 'B' races. Separate medals will be awarded for the 'A' and 'B' races provided there are sufficient entries to meet the three boat rule. Any boat registered in a 'B' race without a boat in the 'A' race will have that registration moved by the organizing committee to the 'A' race. If you have three boats, you must enter the first in the A race. You can then enter two boats in the B race.

Anyone who rows in a particular event may row in only one boating for that event. For example, if you row in the A boat, you can't row in the B or C boat. If you row in the C boat, you can't row in the A or B boat. If you are a coach, and you are short people for the C boat, take them from the Novice crew, or borrow them from another novice team. For the purposes of this rule, there is no distinction between lightweight and heavyweight classes or races. For example, if you need someone from the heavyweight B boat, you can't take them from the heavyweight A boat, nor can you take them from your lightweight A boat. You can take them from the lightweight B boat.

Eligibility:

Novices: Any rower that has not participated in a sweep oar event in an on-the-water regatta before Dec 1, 2007.

Saturday Practice:

You may practice on Saturday. Please be considerate of crews that are buoying the course. If you plan to arrive for a Saturday practice, please contact us in advance for trailer parking instructions.

Coaches and Coxswain's Meeting:

The Coaches and Coxswain's meeting will take place at 8:45 AM in the back of the boathouse.

Launching:

All crews should anticipate launching 45 minutes prior to their published race time. Listen for bow numbers to be called by the dock master or his assistants. Plan to come down the ramp bow first. Tie in on the water, not at the dock. We will make every attempt to maintain the schedule. Please be aware that this means some boats can not be re-rigged between rows.

All boats must have:

Bow balls, Bow Numbers in the bow clip, heel straps tied down to within 3" in accordance with USRA rules. Flotation compartments must be tight.

Traffic Pattern:

The traffic pattern is counterclockwise. From the launch, proceed eastbound, directly to the start staying to the right. The channel to the start will be marked with red buoys, stay between the red buoys and the shore. At the Railroad Bridge take the right arch. Hazards will be marked with yellow buoys. It is each crew's responsibility to not interfere with boats on the race course and to proceed to the start without delay nor delaying other crews progress to the start. As you proceed down the course, be aware of docks that jut out from shore.

At the start, line up in bow number order and in accordance with the marshal's instructions.

Once underway on the course, keep the red buoys on your left, do not enter the return lane.

There is a **no passing zone** starting at the Main Street Bridge through the Railroad Bridge. Take the right arch of the Railroad Bridge as directed and marked with buoys. Be prepared to have starboards pull it around as soon as you pass under the RR bridge. Passing is again allowed on the far side of the RR bridge.

Once you pass the Finish line, continue to row to the large red ball buoy, keeping it on your left. Turn left (counter clockwise) around the buoy and return to the dock. Coxswain's, please: watch and listen for instruction as to where to dock.

Passing and No Passing Zone

In accordance with the USRA "Rules of Rowing" 2007 Edition 'Appendix to Article VIII section (b):

A crew is deemed to be overtaking another crew when it has moved to within one length of open water of the crew ahead. On those portions of the course that are straight, a crew being overtaken shall move to the right and allow the overtaking crew to pass. Where the course turns, a crew being overtaken shall move to the outside of the turn and allow the overtaking crew to pass along the shorter path. Nevertheless, passing is not allowed, nor is the crew being overtaken required to yield, in cases where the overtaking crew's position clearly prevents safe passage or there is insufficient room to yield.

There is a no passing zone as described above and marked on the course map. Overtaking crews entering the 'No Passing Zone' must either complete the pass before entering the NP Zone –or- yield and complete the pass after the NP Zone. The overtaking crew must yield in the NP Zone in accordance with USRA Rules.

Protests:

Protests regarding safety issues, being at the start on time, etc. shall be made to the Judge at the Start. Leaving the start area (starting the race) signifies acceptance of fairness of the start or that you have lodged your protest.

If a crew feels it is being unfairly delayed in rowing up to the start, a protest should be made to one of the safety marshal on the way to the start.

Protests regarding safety issues, failure to yield right of way, passing, unsportsmanlike conduct must be made to the marshal above the Finish, on the water. Leaving the water signifies acceptance of fairness of the race or that you have lodged your protest.

Penalties:

Penalties will be assessed by the USRA Officials on site.

Buoy violation: 10 seconds

Late to start: 60 seconds

Interference: 60 seconds

Failure to go around turn-around buoy at finish: 30 seconds.

Unsportsmanlike behavior: Disqualification from the race.

This does not constitute a comprehensive list of potential infractions and penalties.

Final judgments will be made by the USRA Judge/Referees on site.

Light Weight Races:

Light weight crews will adhere to USRA guidelines of:

Boys – 165 lbs.

Girls - 135 lbs.

This will be by the Honor system (no weigh-in)

Medals:

First place medals will be awarded if there are only two boats registered in an event.

First and Second Place Medals will be awarded in all races with three or more registrants. Medals will be available at the registration area when the race is declared official.

Course Map:

