



**Head of the Colorado Regatta  
October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Festival Beach Park  
Lady Bird Lake**

**NEW FOR 2017**

HereNow Timing will facilitate Timing and Results for the Head of the Colorado Regatta, all results will be available online at [www.herenow.com](http://www.herenow.com). No results will be printed and posted at the venue.

**Venue Information**

**Location**

Festival Beach Park  
Lady Bird Lake  
5 Chicon Street  
Austin, Texas 78702

All Crews will be required to launch from the main venue site for the 2017 regatta.

**Parking**

Parking within the venue will be limited on race days to boat trailers and tow vehicles only. Parking permits are only issued to trailer tow vehicles. Please visit the website for trailer parking maps for additional information. No cargo trailers are allowed to be parked within the venue or in the lower parking lot. Loading and unloading will take place on Friday and after racing concludes on Saturday. Austin Rowing Club is working closely with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department to better enforce regatta-parking guidelines.

***No vehicles will be allowed within the venue to begin load up until racing concludes. Please plan accordingly.***

**NO PARKING ON GRASS IS PERMITTED FOR ANY REASON.** Any vehicle found to have parked on the grass will immediately be towed.

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## **Event Drone Policy**

The Local Organizing Committee, working in conjunction with the chief referee, is charged with approving the use of any and all drones at the regatta venue both on shore and in the field of play, including the airspace above the course (in accordance with local and FAA drone regulations for the specific venue).

Anyone wishing to operate a drone at the regatta venue, including media, competing organizations (including athletes, coaches, support personnel, parents or fans) or spectators must have prior approval from the LOC.

Any drones operating in the field of play must be controlled from the shore with an experienced drone operator. The drone itself must remain at least 10 meters behind the crew in its lane and at least 10 meters above the highest point of the referee launch. A drone may not operate in front of a crew in the field of play. At no time may a drone fly directly above a crew or referee in the field of play.

A drone may follow racing on the side of the course, but it must remain at least five meters away from the outside lane and 10 meters above the highest point of the referee launch. A drone may not follow racing on the side of the course being used as the travel lane for launching crews unless there is enough space to have both a five-meter buffer between the drone and the side of the course, as well as a five-meter buffer between the drone and the travel lane.

## **Practice**

The course will be available for practice Friday afternoon October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Crews may launch for practice from 2pm – 5:30pm. All crews must be off the water by 6pm.

## **Sportsmanship**

USRowing Rule 2-410 Unsportsmanlike Conduct (\*)

(a) A Crew or Team that engages in Unsportsmanlike conduct, as witnessed by a Race Official, may be assessed by a Race Official with one of the penalties described in Rule 2-602 (“Types of Penalties”), regardless of whether such conduct otherwise constitutes a violation of these rules. If another Crew’s opportunity to win, place, or advance is affected by such conduct, the Race Official shall take appropriate action to restore that opportunity, pursuant to Rule 2-603 (“Restoring Opportunity of Winning; Altering Results”).

(b) Any Team member, including a Competitor, who engages in Unsportsmanlike conduct at any time during the Regatta, as witnessed by a Race Official, may have his or her further participation at the Regatta curtailed or prohibited by a Race Official.

(c) If any Team member engages in personally abusive language or conduct, the incident shall be reported by a witnessing Race Official to USRowing.

### **Rules & Membership**

Except as noted in this packet, the 2017 Head of the Colorado Regatta will be governed by the 2017 USRowing Rules of Rowing. The Head of the Colorado is a USRowing Registered Regatta. In order to compete in this event all organizations will need to adhere to the following:

All attending organizations must be current USRowing organizational members

All unaffiliated rowers must have a USRowing Championship membership

All competitors must be a basic member and have a current (online) signed waiver

Every competitor must have signed a USRowing Release of Liability Waiver online through USRowing. Competitors whose online waivers do not appear in Regatta Central's USRowing Waiver Compliance Report at 9:00am on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> will be required to sign a paper waiver at the venue; this may involve standing in long lines, and waivers of minors can be signed ONLY by their parents or legal guardians.

If any club has a question on how to renew membership or sign an athlete waiver please contact USRowing membership department directly at [members@usrowing.org](mailto:members@usrowing.org) or call 1-800-314-4769.

### **Registration/Entries**

All on-time entries are registered and paid for at [regattacentral.com](http://regattacentral.com) (no paper registration). Any entry whose fees are not paid in full when registration closes will be scratched, and must be resubmitted as a late entry. Any entrant whose circumstances require alternative payment arrangements must contact the Registrar before the registration deadline (October 18<sup>th</sup>). Such arrangements are accepted at the discretion of the Registrar.

Competitors should be registered under their full names. Nick names should be avoided, and competitors entered in multiple events should be registered using the same name in all of them.

Crews who practice under their own crew names (e.g. "Oarsome Foursome") are encouraged to enter under those names at Regatta Central.

All rowers are responsible for the accuracy of their entries on Regatta Central; for rowers in Masters events, this includes birth years (which determine handicaps). Contact the registrar about entry problems by email.

### **On Site Registration**

On-site registration will begin on Friday from 3-6pm and throughout race day on Saturday beginning at **6:00**am. Crews who need to make scratches or substitutions may do so during these times.

### **Important Entry Deadlines:**

- Opening of Registration: September 18th, 2017 (12:01am)
- Standard Registration Deadline: October 18th, 2017 (11:59pm)
- Waiver Submission Deadline: October 25th, 2017 (11:59pm)
- Line-up Deadline: October 25th, 2017 (11:59pm)
- Late Registration Deadline: October 25th, 2017 ([11:59pm](#)) (between October 18th and October 25th late entries will be accepted on Regatta Central. [After](#) October 25th, late entries will [only](#) be accepted [during](#) on-site registration hours [on October 27th](#). No late entries will be accepted on race day.)

The deadline for standard registration is 11:59PM CDT, Wednesday October 18th, 2017. All entries are required to be paid at the time the entry is placed. Any entry that is scratched before the standard registration deadline will be refunded through Regatta Central.

**A) Scratches:** Fees for scratched entries made after the standard registration deadlines are non refundable, with no exceptions. Scratches can be made on Regatta Central through [Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup>](#) at 11:59pm. Please inform the registrar by email of scratches that occur Thursday October [26<sup>th</sup>](#). All scratches made after this time will need to be made at registration during registration hours on Friday. Scratch forms are available at the registration tent.

**B) Late Entries:** Late entries submitted after the [standard registration](#) deadline (October [18<sup>th</sup>](#), 2017) are accepted at the discretion of the registrar. Prescribed late entry fees which are DOUBLE the regular fees, must accompany late entries. Before October 25th at 11:59pm, late entries must be submitted on-line at Regatta Central. After this time, late entries will only be accepted on site Friday, October 27th from 3-6pm during registration hours. No late entries will be accepted after 6:00 PM on Friday, October 27th.

**C) Substitutions:** Before Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup>, any entry may replace all of its rowers and its coxswain, and all changes must be made by updating the entry's lineup at [Regattacentral.com](#)

Line-up changes must be submitted on paper Substitution Forms available at the registration table, and handed in there at least one hour before their events.

If substitutions in a masters entry reduce the crew's average age less than its event's minimum, it is moved to the oldest event for which the entry is now eligible.

If substitutions in a masters entry cause the crew's average age to increase, the entry will remain in its original event.

**D) Duplicate Entries:** The regatta committee is not responsible for detecting duplicate entries. Please coordinate with your club, as fees will not be refunded for duplicate entries.

### **Crew Representation**

A team is a group of rowers, representing one junior, collegiate, or club program or organization which has practiced and competed with the distinct location, colors and coaches for the entire competitive season beginning September 1, 2017. A junior rower is eligible to compete in this regatta only if s/he has represented the same team for the entire season.

No competitor may represent two different organizations in the Regatta. Any entry composed of competitors from different organizations must be entered as a composite entry. Composite entries are not permitted in junior events.

### **Schedule Changes**

The event schedule is subject to change depending upon the number of entries received. Masters events may be split into separate age categories, and events may be canceled or combined if there are fewer than three entries as of the standard registration deadline. Any crew entered in a canceled event will be contacted and offered the option to switch to another event or to receive a refund of the registration fee.

### **Regatta Check in**

All crews are required to check in at the registration desk before racing to pick up their bib and bow numbers. The registration desk will be open from 3:00pm to 6:00pm on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> and throughout the race day on Saturday beginning at 6:00am.

### **Coaches, Coxswains/Bow Meeting**

A meeting for all coxswains, single scullers and bow rowers of 4x, 2x, and 2- entries will be held at 6:45am on Saturday. All competitors are responsible for knowing the information covered at the meeting, including the traffic patterns on the water.

## **Required Equipment**

Every competing boat shall be properly equipped with a bow ball, quick release shoes, and heel ties whose length is three inches or less, in accordance with the 2017 USRowing Rules of Rowing regarding Bow balls (3-105), Footgear Release (3-108) and Bow Numbers (3-110). All boats must be equipped with bow clips. Boats observed to be lacking any of these features will not be allowed to race.

A bow number and shirt number will be issued to each entry in its entry packet. If a boat fails to carry the correct number for its event, its start and finish times may fail to be recorded.

## **Traffic Pattern on the water**

If a boat can be rowed, it must be rowed from start to finish. No boat should leave the course for any reason, or turn around prior to the start for any reason, unless directed to do so by an official.

## **COMPETITORS**

### **Hot Seating of Boats**

A boat that is to change crews immediately upon arrival at the docks after a race, and to race again without being removed from the water, is considered a hot-seat boat. The dockmaster must be notified of every hot-seat boat before it launches for a pre-hot-seat race, and may provide the boat with an identifying marker to indicate the need for special treatment on its return. In all cases, crews should follow the instructions of the dock personnel.

### **On time Arrival**

Boats should be in the starting area 10 minutes before their start time. A boat arriving late to the starting line for an event may be excluded from that event. The [Control Commission Referee](#) can prohibit a boat from leaving the dock if in his or her judgment it could not reach the starting line on time.

### **Junior Competition**

A crew entered in a junior event shall include only junior rowers. A junior is a competitor who is and has been continuously enrolled in secondary school as a full-time student seeking a diploma. A competitor ceases to be a junior after December 31 of the year of his or her 18th birthday, or of the year in which he or she completes the 12th grade of secondary school, having been a full-time student, whichever is later. Rule 4-104.1(c)

No junior is allowed to row in any non-junior event, nor to enter as a coxswain in [any](#) open event.

### **Novice Competition**

Crews entered in Novice events shall include only novice rowers. A rower qualifies as a novice in a given discipline (sweep or sculling) provided s/he did not row in the 2016 Head of the Colorado Regatta, or in any previous regatta, in the same discipline.

Coxing experience has no bearing on novice rower classification. A novice entry's coxswain is not required to be a novice.

### **Novice Coxswains**

A novice entry's coxswain is not required to be a novice.

### **Second Novice Events**

[Rowers who compete in First Novice events may not row in Second Novice events. A team that submits a Second Novice entry must also have an entry in the corresponding First Novice event.](#)

### **Men and Women Rowers in Boats**

In accordance with USRowing rules, all rowers in men's events must be men, and all rowers in women's events must be women. Coxswains are exempt from this rule. Each mixed crew shall include at least one male rower, and at least half of the rowers must be women. Doubles require a crew of one man and one woman, quads/fours crews may have either one man or two, and eights crews may have two, three or four men. Any entry violating this rule will be excluded.

### **Lightweight Weigh-Ins**

The weight of rowers in lightweight events will be determined on race day between 6:00am and 9:00am. Lightweight men must weigh no more than 160 pounds ([except](#) for Junior men, [who must weigh no more than 155 pounds](#)), and lightweight women no more than 135 pounds. Competitors will be weighed in racing uniform, without shoes or other footgear. A rower within one pound of the weight standard is allowed one re-weigh during the 6:00–9:00am window; a rower whose initial weight exceeds the weight standard by more than one pound will not be allowed to re-weigh.

Lightweight rowers who make weight will be issued wristbands, which they must wear for all lightweight events. No rower without such a wristband may compete in any lightweight event.

### **Open Events**

Club, collegiate, or master's rowers, all of who shall be eligible for medals, may race open events. No junior, [or other](#) athlete under the age of 18 who is not enrolled at a college or university, may enter an open event as either rower or coxswain.

### **Masters Competition**

Masters' age categories are defined in USRowing's 2017 Rules of Rowing, 4-104.1(d). A rower's "rowing age" is his/her age on 31 December 2017; a crew's age is the average of its rowers' rowing ages, rounded down to the nearest whole number. All rowers in masters' events must be at least 21 years old.

Entries in Masters events must list every rower's year of birth in order to compete. The Regatta Committee reserves the option to split any Masters event into two or more separate events according to the crews' age categories.

Time handicaps, applied in all Masters events, are computed [using](#) the formula on page 31 of USRowing's Rules of Rowing and multiplied by 5.000 to account for the length of the course.

Masters Crews shall be classified by age according to the following categories:

- (AA) 21-26 years
- (A) 27-35 years
- (B) 36-42 years
- (C) 43-49 years
- (D) 50-54 years
- (E) 55-59 years
- (F) 60-64 years
- (G) 65-69 years
- (H) 70-74 years
- (I) 75-79 years
- (J) 80 years and over

### **Recreational Singles**

A recreational single is any boat at least 17 inches wide at the waterline and at most 22 feet long (e.g. Maas Aero). There will be no exceptions to this rule. Note that recreational singles are subject to the bow-clip requirement (Rule 12).



## **Dispute Resolution/Protest**

All questions of eligibility, qualification, and interpretation of the rules shall be referred to the Regatta Director and or Chief Referee whose decisions shall be final. Any protest filed will be in accordance with the 2017 USRowing Rules.

## **Seeding**

Seeding is for starting order of entries within a non-masters' event as follows:

1. First are on-time entries that placed 1-5 in the same event last year, in order of their finish last year. Single-scutt entries are identified as individuals, and named crews are identified by their names. All others are identified by affiliation and seed.
2. Next are all other on-time entries, in order of their Regatta Central seed values; entries with the same seed value are ordered randomly.
3. Last are late entries, in the order in which they are received by the Registrar.

Because the division of Masters events into age-based sub-events varies from year to year, Masters events are seeded randomly.

## **Violations and Penalties**

Late arrivals at the start, late departures from the dock, excessive time on the docks, and other violations may result in time penalties or exclusion, as deemed appropriate by regatta officials. A table of violations and penalties is available **ONLINE** and will be posted at the regatta venue. Note that buoy penalties are no longer in force.

## **Passing During a Race**

When passing, an overtaking boat has the right of way. A boat being overtaken must give way on the side chosen by [the](#) overtaking boat; generally, this will be the shortest line that gives an advantage. No boat should press its right of way to the point of collision. Good sportsmanship is expected at all times. Boats showing disregard for safety may be penalized or excluded.

## **Awards**

Medals are awarded for first, second, and third place finishes, except that no medal is awarded to an event's last-place boat. Medals for each event will be available for pick up at the registration table 30 minutes after the posting of the event's results, beginning at 10:00am. All medals must be picked up within 30 minutes after the posting of the results of the last event; no medals will be mailed.

## **Cancellation Due to Weather**

Occasionally regattas have to be truncated or canceled, usually in order to avoid exposing competitors, officials, and volunteers to unsafe weather conditions. No regatta is truncated or canceled except by order of the City of Austin or of the Chief Referee, who is trained and certified by the United States Rowing Association and bears ultimate responsibility for the regatta's safety.

When a regatta is truncated or canceled, no registration fees are refunded. If a regatta's sponsoring organization, whose expenses are not reduced by the cancellation, had to bear the entire risk of weather events, entry fees would have to be raised (if the regatta could be staged at all). Instead the risk is distributed among the entrants. Any entrant unwilling to assume a share of that risk should not submit an entry.

### **Contact:**

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