



**Texas Rowing Championships
April 21 & 22, 2018
Festival Beach Park
Lady Bird Lake
Austin, Texas**

NOTE THE FOLLOWING UPDATES OR CLARIFICATIONS TO:

PARKING: PLEASE ADVISE OTHER PARENTS AND COACHES OF CHANGES MADE TO PARKING RULES. Pg. 1 & 2

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE AT COACHES & COXSWAIN MEETINGS Pg. 2

LIGHTWEIGHT WEIGH-INS Pg. 6, 7 & 8

NOVICE DEFINITION Pg.6

PARKING

Parking within the venue will be limited on race days to only boat trailers and the vehicle that was used to tow the boat trailer. Parking permits are only issued to boat trailer tow vehicles. Please visit the website for trailer parking maps and for additional information.

For vehicles without permits: No equipment vehicles other than the boat trailer and tow vehicle are allowed to park within the venue. The venue is defined as the inner circle of Chicon Street.

Parents, booster clubs, and additional equipment vehicles are only allowed within the inner loop of the venue during the following times:

- Friday: Before 1pm and after 6:30 pm
- Saturday: 60 minutes after the conclusion of the final race of the day
- Sunday: 60 minutes after the conclusion of the final race of the day

Parents and coaches who have tents, grills, coolers, and other equipment to unload outside of the above times will need to park on Nash Hernandez Road. They will not be given access to the inner circle of Chicon Street outside of the posted loading/unloading times.

No coach/trailer tow vehicles will be allowed to enter or exit the inner circle of Chicon Street starting 90 minutes prior to the first race of the day.

Anyone missing this window will need to park outside the venue, even if they have a parking permit.

Parking continued:

Coaches with permits, and other vehicles without permits will be permitted to enter/exit the inner circle of Chicon Street 60 minutes after the conclusion of the last race of each day.

Please plan accordingly.

Austin Rowing Club is working closely with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department to better enforce regatta-parking guidelines.

NO PARKING ON GRASS IS PERMITTED FOR ANY REASON.

Any vehicle found not adhering to the above rules will be towed immediately.

Coach, Coxswains & Blind Boat Meeting

Attendance is mandatory for each day. Chief Referee will take attendance to make sure each team has a representative at the meeting. If not at the meeting, you will need to speak with the Chief Referee prior to being allowed to launch.

Practice

The course will be available for practice Friday afternoon April 20th.

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

Rules & Membership

Except as noted in this packet the 2018 Texas Rowing Championships will be governed by the 2018 USRowing Rules of Rowing. The Texas Rowing Championships 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. No paper waivers will be available for this regatta. 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 or call 1-800-314-4769.

Registration/Entries

Important Entry Deadlines:

- Opening of Registration: March 18, 2018 (9pm CDT)
- Standard Registration Deadline: April 9, 2018
- Waiver Submission Deadline: April 17, 2018
- Line-up Deadline: April 17, 2018
- Late Registration Deadline: April 17, 2018 (between April 10th and April 17th late entries will be accepted on Regatta Central. On April 20th late entries will be accepted on site during registration hours. No late entries will be accepted on race days.)

The deadline for standard registration is 11:59PM CDT, Monday April 17th, 2018. 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 April 17th at 11:59pm. 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 are accepted after the standard registration deadline at the discretion of the registrar and only to fill empty lanes; no heats will be added to accommodate late entries. Prescribed late entry fees must accompany late entries. Before April 17th 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, April 20 from 3-6pm during registration hours. No late entries will be accepted after 6:00 PM on April 20th.

C) Substitutions: Once an entry has been submitted and the deadline for submitting the identity of members of the Crew has passed (April 17, 2018), a Crew other than a single scull may substitute up to one half of its Rowers, as well as the coxswain. On race days, the LOC may prohibit such substitution if it is not submitted in writing at registration at least one hour before the first race of the event in which the crew is entered. After the first race in an event has taken place, the composition of a crew, including the coxswain, shall remain the same and no substitution shall be allowed for any subsequent races in that event, except as allowed by the Chief Referee in the case of injury or illness.

D) Duplicate Entries: Fees will not be refunded for duplicate entries.

On Site Registration

On site registration will begin on Friday from 3-6pm and throughout race days on Saturday and Sunday beginning at 5:30am. Crews who need to make scratches or substitutions may do so during these times.

Changes in the Form of Progression

Changes will be made following the below rules:

- a)** By the LOC, no later than two hours before the scheduled time of the first race in the event, if due to scratches, the reduced number of entries would call for a different form of progression under the applicable progression system; or
- b)** By the LOC, any time before the first race in the event, if due to scratches, the event would be reduced to a final only, with no heats, under the applicable progression system.

If the LOC changes the form of progression under subsection (a), it shall conduct a new draw to determine composition of heats and lane assignments.

For masters events, entries will be broken down by age categories depending on number of entries. If heats are required for master's events, they will follow the progression stated above.

Required Equipment

All boats are required to comply with the 2018 USRowing Rules of Rowing regarding Bow balls (3-105), Footgear Release (3-108) and Bow Numbers (3-110).

ALL CREWS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING THEIR OWN BOW NUMBERS.

Reporting to the Start

Each crew is responsible for being attached to its starting station and ready to race two minutes before the scheduled time of the race, whether or not the starter has made announcements. If racing is delayed, crews shall be responsible for being within voice range of the starter and in a position to respond to instructions. Regatta officials may prohibit crews that are late to the starting line from racing. The official at control commission may prohibit a boat from leaving the dock if in his or her judgment it cannot reach the starting line on time.

A crew that is not attached to its starting station at least two minutes before the scheduled time of the race may be assessed a warning Rule 2-602(b), "Types of Penalties" by the starter. A crew that is not attached to its starting station by the scheduled time of the race may be excluded by the starter. If racing is delayed, the starter may announce a new racing time, which shall have the same effect as the original scheduled time for the purpose of this rule.

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.

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.

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).

JV Competition

No rower who competes in a Varsity event may also compete in any JV event. For example, a rower competing in a Varsity quad may not also compete in a JV double, and a rower in a Varsity double may not compete in a JV quad.

In order for a team to compete in a JV event, that team must also compete in the corresponding Varsity event of the same boat class and gender.

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 has been competing for under one calendar year, and did not compete in the 2017 Texas Rowing Championship.

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

**** Important Note: Sweep vs. sculling novice eligibility is under review by the LOC, and is subject to change after the 2018 spring racing season. ****

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.

Lightweight and Coxswain Weigh-Ins

The Texas Rowing Championship will follow the 2018 USRowing Rules of Rowing pertaining to all athlete weigh ins and coxswain weigh ins. All lightweight athletes and junior coxswains will be required to weigh in during the appropriate weigh-in window. Coxswains needing to carry weight are responsible for providing their own weight. **Masters Coxswains will not be required to weigh in.**

"Weigh-in Window" shall mean the period of time that is no less than one (1) hour and not more than two (2) hours before the Scheduled Time of the first Race in which the weight is relevant.

"Adjusted Weigh-in Window." Should the LOC or Race Officials adjust or alter the racing schedule for compelling reasons, changing the amount of time between the Weigh-in Window and the newly Scheduled Time of the Race, an Adjusted Weigh-in Window shall be created. The Adjusted Weigh-in Window shall be no less than one (1) hour and not more than two (2) hours before the newly Scheduled Time of the Race.

Rules regarding weigh-ins are as follows:

4-104.3 Lightweights

A lightweight Crew is one that complies with the requirements below. An open Event is one that is not a lightweight Event.

(a) Men:

- (1) A men's lightweight Crew, including a single Scull (1x), shall have no Rower who weighs more than 160 lbs.
 - (2) A Youth men's lightweight Youth Crew, including a single Scull (1x), shall have no Rower that weighs more than 150 lbs.
- (b) Women:
- (1) A women's lightweight Crew, including a single Scull (1x), shall have no Rower who weighs more than 130 lbs.
- (c) The Coxswain shall not be counted for purposes of this rule.

4-105 Coxswains

- (a) A Coxswain is a member of the Crew and subject to all rules governing Competitors unless specifically exempt.
- (b) A male Coxswain may compete in Events for women, and a female Coxswain may compete in Events for men.

4-105.1 Coxswain's Weight

- (a) All Competitors who are competing as a Coxswain must meet the following minimum weights and their weights shall be determined as provided in Rule 4-106 ("Weighing of Competitors").
 - (1) A Coxswain in an Event for men's Crews shall weigh at least 120 lbs.
 - (2) A Coxswain in an Event for women's Crews shall weigh at least 110 lbs.
 - (3) A Coxswain in an Event for mixed Crews shall weigh at least 120 lbs.
- (b) Coxswains who do not comply with subsection (a) above shall carry deadweight in order to achieve the minimum weight. Any such deadweight shall be placed in the boat as close to the torso of the Coxswain as possible and such weight shall remain in the boat throughout the duration of the race.
- (c) It is specifically forbidden to distribute deadweight throughout the boat.
- (d) A Crew whose Coxswain does not to have their deadweight at the finish of the Race shall not be placed.
- (e) At any time, before or immediately after the Race, the Referee, another Race Official, or a member of the Control Commission may require the weight of the deadweight to be checked.
- (f) Excess clothing, Equipment, electronic systems, tools, or other utilitarian devices germane to competition, shall not be considered part of the Coxswain's weight and shall not be included as part of any deadweight required under subsection (b) above.

4-106 Weighing of Competitors

- (a) Competitors shall be weighed in racing uniform without shoes or other footgear. The racing uniform shall cover the torso of the competitor.
- (b) The weight of Rowers in lightweight Events as described in Rule 4-104.3 ("Lightweights") shall be determined once each day during either the Weigh-in Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in Window but not both.
- (c) Lightweight Rowers who fail to weigh-in during either the Weigh-in Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in Window shall be deemed ineligible to race.
- (d) The weight of Youth Rowers in lightweight Events as described in Rule 4-104.3 ("Lightweights") shall be determined once each day during either the Weigh-in

Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in. Each Youth Rower shall have only one (1) initial opportunity to weigh in. A Rower within one (1.0) pound or less of the weight standard is allowed one (1) re-weigh within the same window as his or her initial opportunity. A Rower whose initial weight is greater than one (1.0) pound above the weight standard will be ineligible to compete in the Event.

(e) The weight of Coxswains as described in Rule 4-105.1 (“Coxswain’s Weight”) shall be determined once each day during either the Weigh-in Window or Adjusted Weigh-in Window but not both. In the event a Coxswain is weighed after the applicable Weigh-in Window or Adjusted Weigh-in Window but before the first Race in which the weight is relevant, the Coxswain may be subject to one of the penalties described in Rule 2-602 (“Types of Penalties”); the presumed penalty for such infraction is a Warning. Failure to weigh-in at any point in time prior to the first Race in which the weight is relevant shall constitute a violation of Rule 4-105.1 (“Coxswain’s Weight”) and result in the Coxswain being deemed ineligible to race.

(f) When an Adjusted Weigh-in Window is created due to a scheduling change, a Competitor may weigh-in during either the original Weigh-in Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in Window, but not both, provided the Competitor completes their weigh-in prior to the newly Scheduled Time of the Race and on the same day as the newly Scheduled Time of the Race.

Masters Competition

Masters’ age categories are defined in USRowing’s 2018 Rules of Rowing, Rule 4-104.1(d). A rower’s “rowing age” is his/her age on December 31, 2018; a crew’s age is the average of its rowers’ rowing ages, rounded down to the nearest whole number.

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.

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) 80-84 years
- (K) 85 and over.

Crew Representation

No competitor may represent two different organizations in the Regatta. Any crew composed of competitors representing different organizations must be entered as a composite crew.

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 2018 USRowing Rules of Racing.

Schedule Changes

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

Awards

Medals are awarded for first, second, and third place finishes.

The ceremony at which medals are awarded for juniors events will take place 15 minutes after Sunday's last event. Medalists in juniors event are encouraged to appear at the awards ceremony in uniform.

Medals for masters events will be available for pick at registration throughout each afternoon of racing.

State Championships

Crews from outside Texas may compete in master's events and earn medals but junior events are restricted to junior crews from Texas. Championship trophies will be awarded only to crews from Texas.

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.

Lady Bird Lake is no touch water:

NO swimming or throwing the cox into the water is permitted on Lady Bird Lake.

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.