



USRowing Youth National Championships

June 9-11, 2017

Nathan Benderson Park, Sarasota, FL

USRowing and Nathan Benderson Park are proud to bring the USRowing Youth National Championships to the home course of the 2017 World Rowing Championships. This event offers opportunities for crews that have qualified from around the country to come together to crown national champions in 18 events.

Please read this packet completely as it includes information regarding entries, rules, events, qualification, eligibility, venue and other information about the policies governing this regatta. All crews competing in the USRowing Youth National Championships are responsible for the information contained in this packet.

USRowing would like to thank the Nathan Benderson Park Staff, the World Rowing Championships staff, and the Youth Advisory Committee for their guidance and assistance in organizing this year's event.

New for 2017

For your convenience, below is a brief summary to highlight some of the event updates for the 2017 regatta. Please refer to the listed pages for full information about each item.

Be sure to read this packet in its entirety, as you are responsible for all information included.

- [Information about 2017 Entry Fee Structure](#) (pg 2-4)
- [Areas of Significant Change for 2017](#) -- Changes to schedule, progression, and event list (pg 5)
 - [Progression](#) -- Includes time trial heats, semifinals, and A, B, C, & D level finals (pg 5)
 - [Order of Events](#) -- updated order of events (pg 6)
 - [Schedule Information](#) -- updated to reflect new progression system (pg 6)
 - [Time Trial Procedures](#) -- list of procedures for time trial heats (pg 6-7)
- [Important Dates & Deadlines](#) -- added a list of key dates and deadlines (pg 7-8)
- [Venue Information](#) -- updated for Nathan Benderson Park (pg 8-9)
- [Express Lane](#) -- detailed requirements and deadlines for "express lane" on-site registration option introduced in 2016 (pg 11)
- [Petitions](#) -- changed the time standard for accepting petitions (pg 15-16)

- [Entry Information](#) -- updated information about 3 day deadline. (pg 20-21)
- [Inclement Weather Policy](#) -- “Race Day” contact added to text messaging list (pg 22-23)

Information about 2017 Entry Fee Structure

To our coaches, competitors, and members,

Following the 2016 racing season, USRowing’s Board of Directors and staff conducted a full review of the working conditions at USRowing-owned championship events.

To this end, a subcommittee of the Board was formed, and worked with staff to develop solutions for improving the racing experience of competitors, staff, referees, volunteers, and rowing fans.

From this committee came a number of initiatives that will be enacted at the 2017 USRowing-owned events, beginning with the youth championships in May.

- Increased referee staffing -- USRowing is committing to providing funding for a 25% increase in the number of referees at its owned events
- Attracting top referee talent -- USRowing has committed a number of resources with the goal of attracting top referee talent to our most prestigious events. These include full travel reimbursements, to remove the financial burden of officiating USRowing’s biggest events.
- Limiting the number of working hours in a single day -- USRowing’s events have grown to levels that push the boundaries of physical daylight, physical safety of competitors and referees, and the work conditions and recruiting efforts for volunteers to staff the events. To these ends, USRowing is committed to keeping the planned racing schedules to no more than 8.5 hours of racing in a single day (generally, 8am-6pm). This will provide for improved fairness in a number of areas:
 - Officials and volunteers will be in better physical condition on the later days of the events, which typically host the most important races,
 - Improve each event schedule’s ability to accommodate weather delays and interruptions,
 - Limiting the hours that coaches and athletes have to be ready to compete.

Enacting these improvements requires USRowing to make additional investments in the event budgets.

After the budget approval in December, USRowing staff has again worked with the Board of Directors in an effort to restructure the entry fees for USRowing owned events, making an effort to limit the amount of increase to regatta entry fees necessary to meet these investments.

At the regional level, USRowing worked to level pricing inequities found across the country. The west coast events were paying significantly higher entry fees than their counterparts in other regions. Those prices have been brought even with each other, resulting in increases for the events in the Southeast, Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Central regional events. From that equitable foundation, all regional events saw a 10% increase to reach the final entry fee numbers:

2017 USRowing Youth Regional Entry Fees	
8+	\$ 215.00
4x/4+	\$ 160.00
2x/2-	\$ 88.00
1x	\$ 66.00

2017 USRowing Masters Regional Entry Fees	
8+	\$215.00
4x/4+	\$ 160.00
2x/2-	\$88.00
1x	\$ 55.00

Entry fees for the national championships were set an average of 20% higher than the regional events, to represent the increased demands and prestige of these events.

2017 USRowing National Championship Entry Fees			
	Youth Nationals	Club Nationals	Masters Nationals
8+	\$ 248.00	\$ 248.00	\$ 248.00
4x/4+	\$ 182.00	\$ 182.00	\$ 182.00
2x/2-	\$ 121.00	\$ 121.00	\$ 105.00
1x	\$ 77.00	\$ 77.00	\$ 66.00

Along with the improved safety and fairness aspects, USRowing is also committed to elevating the experience at these championship regattas by providing programming and special events to create the “championship” atmosphere fitting for USRowing’s “Championship” members.

The new pricing structure will benefit coaches and competitors both on and off of the water.

If you have any questions about these, or any of the changes coming for 2017, feel free to contact alvin@usrowing.org or james@usrowing.org.

We look forward to a great racing season.

--

Susan Smith, USRowing

Director, Member Programs and Services

Areas of Significant Change for 2017:

We want to especially highlight the following changes:

- [Progression](#) -- Time trial heats are now included for all events. “D” level finals have been added, to ensure that as many as 24 crews in each event can expect to advance to a side-by-side race after the time trial.
- [Order of Events](#) -- The order of events has been rearranged to streamline regatta operations.
- [Schedule](#) -- Semifinal races are split between Friday evening and Saturday morning, and are not run in strict, event order. The semifinals for Lightweight and Coxed events are scheduled for Friday evening. These crews will not have to re-weigh their athletes after competing in the morning time trial. Semifinals for events that do not require weigh-ins are scheduled for Saturday morning.

For your convenience, these sections have been moved to the front of this packet.

Progression:

Entries	Time Trial Heat	Advancement	Semifinals	Advancement	Finals
1-6	1	Top 6 to Final A	-	-	Final A
7-13	1	Top 6 to Final A 7th-13th to Final B	-	-	Final A Final B
14-18	1	Top 12 to Semifinals 13th-18th to Final C	2	Top 3 to Final A 4th-6th to Final B	Final A Final B Final C
19-28	1	Top 12 to Semifinals 13th-18th to Final C 19th-24th to Final D	2	Top 3 to Final A 4th-6th to Final B	Final A Final B Final C Final D

Each crew is responsible for knowing the progression of their event.

Order of Events:

Below is the order in which finals are scheduled to be run.

Event	Description	Event	Description
1	Womens Youth 1x	10	Mens Ltwt Youth 2x
2	Mens Youth 1x	11	Womens Youth 4+
3	Womens Youth 2x	12	Womens Ltwt Youth 8+
4	Mens Youth 2x	13	Mens Youth 4+
5	Womens Youth 2-	14	Mens Ltwt Youth 4+
6	Mens Youth 2-	15	Womens Ltwt Youth 4+
7	Womens Youth 4x	16	Mens Ltwt Youth 8+
8	Mens Youth 4x	17	Womens Youth 8+
9	Womens Ltwt Youth 2x	18	Mens Youth 8+

The schedule of races will be determined based on the number of entries at the close of registration.

The initial assignment of bow numbers shall be posted on the USRowing web site by 5:00pm Eastern time on June 7, 2017.

Schedule Information:

Click here to view planned regatta schedule.

This posted schedule is for illustrative purposes only. It is tentative and subject to change.

Time Trial Heats will run on Friday.

Semi-finals will follow time trials. On Friday afternoon, semifinals for Ltwt and coxed events will be run. This will allow crews to weigh-in for their morning time trial, but not have to re-weigh before their semifinal.

Semifinals for remaining events will be held Saturday morning.

Final C events will follow semifinals on Saturday.

Final D events will be held after Final C events on Saturday afternoon.

Final A events will be held Sunday morning. Final B events will be held after Final A events on Sunday.

Time Trial Procedures

Time trials will be conducted over a 1,900 meter course.

Bow assignments for the time trial will be seeded by randomly assigning bow numbers to the crews based on how they finished in their qualification regatta. Crews finishing first in their qualification regatta will be randomly seeded first, followed by the crews finishing

A marshal will be positioned near the start to direct crews to enter the course. Crews are responsible

for staying in numerical order, staying behind crews with lower numbers and in front of crews with higher numbers.

Crews are responsible for maintaining their proper order and distance. Crews failing to maintain their proper position may be delayed, moved to the end of the starting order, penalized, or excluded. A crew will be allowed to race as long as they are in the starting area before the crew with the last bow number of the event has started.

Crews will have approximately 100 meters to build up to race pace. A crew's race time begins once their bow ball crosses the 1,900 meter start line.

Odd number crews will race in lane 3, and even number crews will race in lane 4.

There will be a 20-second gap between starting crews, resulting in a 40-second gap between crews in the same lane.

Passing:

A crew being overtaken must yield to the outside lane to allow the overtaking crew to pass. Crews racing in lane 3 would move to lane 2, and crews racing in lane 4 would move to lane 5.

Any crew failing to yield will be excluded.

A crew is deemed to be overtaking another crew when it has moved to within one length of open water of the crew ahead.

Referees will give instruction in accordance with the USRowing Rules of Rowing.

Broken Equipment:

A crew experiencing broken equipment during the race should move to the outside lane.

Important Dates and Deadlines

- March 1, 2017 -- Entry Packet posted.
- May 5-7, 2017 -- First set of qualification regattas are held.
- May 8, 2017 -- Invitations sent to crews from first set of qualification regattas.
- May 11, 2017 -- Last day for crews from first set of qualification regattas to submit their entries or to submit petitions from these events.
- May 13-14, 2017 -- Second set of qualification regattas are held.
- May 15, 2017 -- Invitations sent to crews from second set of qualification regattas.
- May 18, 2017 -- Last day for crews from first set of qualification regattas to submit their entries or to submit petitions from these events.
- May 19-21, 2017 -- Third set of qualification regattas are held.
- May 22, 2017 -- Invitations sent to crews from third set of qualification regattas.
- May 25, 2017 -- Last day for crews from third set of qualification regattas to submit their entries or to submit petitions from these events.
- May 27, 2017 -- Final qualification regatta is held.
- May 29, 2017 -- Invitations sent to crews from final qualification regatta. Crews notified regarding the final status of petitions submitted for all but final qualification regatta (NEIRA).
- June 1, 2017 -- Last day for crews from final qualification regattas and accepted petitions to submit their entries. Last day for NEIRA crews to submit petitions.

- June 3, 2017 -- Last day for accepted petition crews from NEIRA to submit accepted entries.
- June 5, 2017 -- Initial schedule of races posted.
- June 7, 2017 -- Official practice sessions begin. Initial bow assignment list is posted on USRowing web site.
- June 8, 2017 -- Official practice sessions available. On-site credential pick-up is available. "Express Lane" opens. Trophies due to be returned. Coaches and Coxswains Meeting. USRowing Graduation Ceremony held.
- June 9, 2017 -- Racing begins. Parents Reception.
- June 11, 2017 -- Finals Day, including awards ceremonies. Olympic Day held at venue.

Special Events

USRowing Graduation Ceremony

In 2015, USRowing introduced the Graduation Ceremony to recognize the academic accomplishments of seniors competing at the Youth National Championships. Since that year, the ceremony has had nearly 1,000 attendees from around the country.

The ceremony will return this year, scheduled for Thursday, June 8, 2017, beginning at 6:30pm.

Registration information and event details will be included with your team's bid invitation in May.

Parents Reception

To recognize and celebrate the parents that make participation in the sport possible for youth rowers, USRowing and Nathan Benderson Park will host a Parents' Reception.

The reception is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 2017.

Tickets and information will be posted to the USRowing web site as it becomes available.

Olympic Day

As part of the festivities around the final day of racing, USRowing will again host an Olympic Day in conjunction with the Youth National Championships.

Olympians will be on-site for meet-and-greet opportunities, autographs, and photos.

Venue Information:

Venue – Nathan Benderson Park, Sarasota, FL

Location:

5851 Nathan Benderson Circle

Sarasota, FL 34235

Nathan Benderson Park is situated west of Interstate 75 and east of The Meadows residential community. Cattleman Road extension provides access to the park from Fruitville Road(Exit 210) and University Parkway(Exit 213).

Major Access Roads: Interstate 75 (North-South) and US Highway 41 (North-South)

Directions to Regatta Island from the NORTH:

- From I-75 take University Parkway, Exit 213.
- Drive WEST on University Parkway.
- Turn SOUTH (left) onto North Cattlemen Road (traffic light).
- Drive approx .8 km / 0.5 miles, following signs and pass thru 3 traffic circles.
- Continue SOUTH on North Cattlemen Road to Regatta Island.
- Rowing facility will be on your right.
- Follow Parking Staff instructions.

Directions to Regatta Island from the SOUTH:

- From I-75 take Fruitville Road, Exit 210.
- Drive WEST on Fruitville Road.
- Turn NORTH (right) on North Cattlemen Road (traffic light).
- Drive approx 3.5 km / 2.2 miles to the Regatta Island.
- Rowing facility will be on your left.
- Follow Parking Staff instructions.

Nathan Benderson Park Rules

Park Hours – 6:00am-8:00pm

Public Conduct

- Swimming is prohibited.
- Littering or dumping is prohibited.
- Open Fires are prohibited.
- Glass containers are prohibited.
- Overnight camping is prohibited.
- Dogs must be on a 6’ leash.
- Dog owners must pick up after defecating dogs.

Indecent Exposure

Indecent exposure, soliciting, or lewd acts are prohibited and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Environmental

1. Feeding of wildlife is prohibited.
2. Bird Island may not be trespassed.
3. Fishing is permitted, following Florida Department and Wildlife regulations.
4. Shore and boat fishing is permitted.
5. Fishing is prohibited from the docks or starting platform.
6. No gas powered vessels are allowed unless permitted by Sarasota County Code.
7. Electric motors are permitted to propel vessels.
8. No trespassing or fishing is permitted from the wave attenuator.
9. Timing huts are strictly prohibited from trespass.

Venue Parking and Team Arrival Information

Parking at the venue will be available at \$5/vehicle per day.

Nathan Benderson Park will open for boat trailers to arrive between 9:00am-5:00pm beginning Tuesday, June 6. The park will re-open during the same times on Wednesday, June 7, and Thursday, June 8 for trailer arrivals.

Official practice sessions will be available on Wednesday, June 7, and Thursday, June 8.

The park will be open to any team wishing to practice at the facility before the course is turned over to USRowing on June 7th. Interested crews should complete the form below, and contact Sarah Kupiec (sarah@sanca.us) for more information on availability, fees, and coordination of practice times.: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form?EQBCT=7a1a6e6585cf4152939d0557fa0e024c>

Event Drone Policy:

Aerial drones are prohibited at Nathan Benderson Park, unless granted written approval by USRowing and SANCA staff.

Unapproved drones are not permitted anywhere on the regatta venue. Continued use of unapproved drones may result in penalties to the associated crew, and the operator may be subject to removal from the venue.

Tent and Team Space Policy for Nathan Benderson Park (NBP):

Recently, NBP experienced multiple encounters with tents that were not properly anchored or secured that resulted in safety hazards to the venue and its patrons. Therefore, in the best interest of safety for the athletes and spectators, SANCA is mandating that any tent larger than two combined 10x10 EZ set up tents must meet specific safety standards regarding fire and wind load. In order to ensure that these requirements are met, larger tents are required to be rented through SANCA and installed by the SANCA approved tent contractor. This policy is to better enhance the safety of our NBP customers. Please provide your request 10 days prior to the event to ensure availability. If your team is larger than 75 athletes and you require a larger space special exceptions can be made in writing to accommodate such request.

Team tent rental order form can be found at the following link:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form?EQBCT=fe8462c97dec445485779292e65770fe>

Questions can be emailed to sarah@sanca.us or cell 941-224-9395

Team Survey

All teams must complete a "Team Survey", and return them to SANCA prior to receiving their registration materials.

The survey questions will be included in the online registration form that teams complete on RegattaCentral.

This information is required before a team will be allowed to compete.

Course: The course is a 2,000 meter, 7-lane, fully-buoyed course with a starting platform. Crews must be able to back into a stakeboat.

USRowing Membership:

The USRowing Youth National Championship is a USRowing-owned event.

Each participant is required to be a current, “Championship” member of USRowing. Each participant must also have a signed waiver on file for 2017.

Each competing organization is required to be a current organizational member of USRowing.

Memberships can be activated or renewed by visiting <http://www.usrowing.org/join.aspx> or by calling the Membership Services Department at (800) 314-4769.

Memberships should be handled prior to arriving for the event.

Pre-Registration “Championship” Membership	On-Site Registration “Championship” Membership
\$45	\$50

If you have questions regarding the status of your organizational or individual memberships, please contact our Membership Services department at (800) 314-4769 or members@usrowing.org.

A current listing of your athletes, their member numbers, and expiration dates can be found on your online roster: <https://rosters.usrowing.org>

Waivers:

All athletes should make sure to sign their USRowing waiver using their Championship Member number.

Credentials:

Credentials will be issued to athletes once registration is complete, membership and waiver information is verified, and all fees are paid in full.

A coach or team representative may pick up the credentials for their team if all team members meet the above criteria and the organization’s membership and regatta fees are paid in full. All team credentials must be picked up at the same time. Partial groups will not be distributed.

Athletes will be required to show credentials in order to pass through Control Commission and launch for racing sessions.

Crews will not be able to launch without showing proper credentials.

Each athlete will receive one complimentary credential as part of their registration for the event. Any replacement credentials can be purchased for \$10 at the registration desk.

“Express Lane”:

Any crew whose line-ups are complete, fully compliant with Membership requirements, and fully paid on all entry and other fees are eligible for the “Express Lane” on-site registration option.

These crews may collect their credentials without waiting in line to speak with a USRowing representative.

To be eligible, crews must be in compliance by June 4, 2017.

After this deadline, a list of eligible crews will be made available.

Eligibility:

The USRowing Youth National Championships is an invitational championship regatta.

Crews must qualify for a Youth National Championship bid by attending a recognized qualification regatta, placing in one of the 18 Youth National Championship events, and receiving a bid.

Affiliation:

Affiliation with only one program, which he/she is registered with as of the first competition (registered/ non-registered, not including indoor events) for the duration of the spring season, defined between January 1 and June 15 of that current calendar year, to participate in the USRowing Youth National Championship Regatta.

Exception: Athletes who are members of a junior rowing club existing as a composite of athletes with no stand-alone high school rowing program may row as a single (1x) in a regatta under the name of their school where they are not permitted to enter as “unaffiliated.” When permitted, a single (1x) competing as “unaffiliated” is not considered to be representing an organization, and therefore would remain in compliance with the affiliation requirement listed above.

For the purposes of qualifying for the USRowing Youth National Championships in an individual event, the athlete must still represent the club (entered under the club’s name) with which he/she began the season.

If athletes wish to compete in a team event under the name of their school with an established high school rowing program rather than as a club, USRowing organizational membership is required for that school for that purpose and the athletes must compete as this organization the entire spring season.

Classifications:

Youth- A Youth is a competitor who in the current calendar year does not attain the age of 19, or who is and has been continuously enrolled in secondary school as a full-time student seeking a diploma. A competitor thus ceases to be a Youth 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.

Post Graduates: Per Rule 4-104 (a), a student must be working towards their first secondary school diploma, therefore, post graduate students who attain the age of 19 in the current calendar year are ineligible to compete.

Qualification:

The USRowing Youth Advisory Committee has established seven youth districts, each with its own qualification regatta(s), to qualify for the USRowing Youth National Championships.

All crews from the organization must qualify at the same qualification regatta. In districts with multiple qualifying regattas, teams will be required to declare which regatta they will use as their qualifier for the Youth National Championships prior to regatta registration each year. For those crews that participate in more than one qualification regatta, failure to declare will result in using the first qualification regatta entered as the crew’s qualification regatta. Declarations can be made using the online form available on the [USRowing Youth National Championships event page](#).

The Youth Advisory Committee has a “Roll Down” bid policy that applies at a qualifying regatta with

less than three bids. If a qualifying crew(s) chooses to decline a bid(s) for the Youth National Championships, the subsequent place finisher(s) would receive the bid(s). In no case does a roll down bid extend past the third-place finisher.

New for 2017, a “Roll Down” bid policy will also apply at a qualifying regatta with three bids. If a qualifying crew(s) chooses to decline a bid(s) for the Youth National Championships, the subsequent place finisher will receive the bid only if they meet the time standard required to submit a petition for the event. This means a crew must finish within three (3) seconds in the 8+/4+/4x, or five (5) seconds in the 2x/2-/1x events of the final qualified in order to receive an automatic “roll down” based on a close finish. This “roll down” will only happen if a crew declines a bid in the event. Teams will be notified if they receive a “roll down” bid on the Friday of the week after their qualification event.

Teams may petition the Youth Advisory Committee to permanently change their appointed district affiliation due to a hardship within their current district. The receiving LOC must endorse any transfer prior to registration. Teams are not permitted to change qualification districts annually.

A crew that receives a Youth National Championship bid from a recognized qualification event and registers in an event shall be required to compete in all its stages: time trials, semifinals, and C, B, or A finals. Failure to participate in an event for which a crew has registered will result in a one-year suspension for that team for that registered event.

No competitor shall enter more than two events at the Youth National Championships.

Crews shall only be allowed to qualify for the Youth Nationals Championships from a qualifying regatta within their individual districts. Note that the qualifying regattas are contingent on their USRowing registered regatta status. If the regatta chooses not to register their regatta, they cannot be considered a qualifying regatta.

Crews receiving bids will be notified no later than the Monday following their qualification regatta. Crews are required to register for the Youth National Championship within three days of receiving this notification **OR** to notify USRowing that the bid will be declined.

On Friday of the week following the notification, a crew will forfeit any bids in events where it has not been entered, and those spots will be made available to petitioning crews.

Qualification Process Inclement Weather Policies

Should a qualification regatta be cancelled due to inclement weather, bids will be decided based on the official finishing order of the crews as determined by the regatta’s established practices and policies.

Should a qualification regatta not have its own published weather policy, USRowing will award bids based on the results of the last completed round of the event.

In instances where qualification events are cancelled without completing any rounds, those crews will be required to submit a petition that includes results from the current season to demonstrate their placement within their district. These petitions will be given an expedited review, and the bids originally allotted for that regatta will be awarded based on the determinations of the committee.

Recognized Qualification Regattas

Districts	Youth National Championship Qualification Regattas	Bid(s)
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Central District	USRowing Central Youth Championships May 6-7, 2017: Oklahoma River, Oklahoma City, Okla.	2
Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas		
Mid-Atlantic District	Philadelphia City Championships May 5-6, 2017: Schuylkill River, Philadelphia, Penn.	2
USRowing Mid-Atlantic Youth Championships May 13-14, 2017: Lake Mercer, West Windsor, N.J.		
Virginia Scholastic Rowing Championships May 6 & 13, 2017: Occoquan Reservoir, Fairfax Station, VA		
Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania (Eastern), and Virginia		
Midwest District	Midwest Scholastic Rowing Championships May 13-14, 2017: Lake Dillon, Nashport, Ohio	1
Midwest Junior Rowing Championships May 20-21, 2017: Harsha Lake, Bethel, Ohio		
Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania (Western), West Virginia, and Wisconsin		
Northeast District	New York State Scholastic Championships May 13-14, 2017: Fish Pond, Saratoga Springs, NY	2
USRowing Northeast Youth Championships May 20-21, 2017: Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Mass.		
NEIRA Championships May 27, 2017: Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Mass.		
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont		
Northwest District	USRowing Northwest Youth Championships May 19-21, 2017: Vancouver Lake, Vancouver, Wash.	3
Alaska, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming		
Southeast District	USRowing Southeast Youth Championships May 13-14, 2017: Lake Lanier Olympic Venue, Gainesville, GA	3

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee

Southwest District

USRowing Southwest Youth Championships

3

May 5-7, 2017: Lake Natoma, Rancho Cordova, Calif.

Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah

Provisional Qualification Regatta

USRowing and the Youth Advisory Committee have granted “provisional” status to the Mountain/Desert/West Regional Regatta (May 13, 2017; Fort Collins, CO).

USRowing will provisionally accept petitions from the first-place crews in the 18 USRowing Youth National Championship qualifying events, as long as at least five (5) crews from four (4) different organizations have competed in the event. Petition acceptances will still be based on availability of spaces within those individual events.

Petitions from first-place crews in events with fewer than five crews from four different organizations will still be considered. However, these crews must show evidence of speed versus crews from other regions.

Only crews from Utah, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota are eligible to compete and petition from this regatta.

Petitions:

USRowing will accept petitions; **acceptance of a petition does not guarantee a bid to attend the Youth National Championships.**

Petitions must be submitted no later than three (3) days after the conclusion of the crew’s qualification regatta. Due to the late nature of the qualifier, NEIRA crews interested in submitting a petition must do so no later than Monday, May 29, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. EDT. Only two (2) bids will be reserved for NEIRA programs unless the final selection posting does not fill all open bids.

NO LATE PETITIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Petitions must be submitted via the online form on the [Youth Nationals web page](#).

Petitions will only be accepted from a coach or team administrator. Parents, athletes, referees, and others who do not act as a coach or official administrator to the crew submitting the petition are not eligible to submit a petition on a crew’s behalf.

All event categories can receive a maximum of 28 entries. If an event is fully subscribed and not all petitions can be accepted, the Youth Advisory Committee will choose the petitions from the most competitive crews based on the information given in the petition, without appeal.

Crews will be notified of their petition status on May 29, 2017. NEIRA crews will be notified of their petition status on June 1, 2017.

Petitions will not be accepted from athletes that are part of a boat that was excluded or disqualified while participating in that event at a qualifying regatta, unless the exclusion or disqualification is

overturned.

Petitions will not be accepted from crews competing in non-qualifying events held as part of a qualification regatta. Petitions will not be accepted from crews that have not competed in the petitioned event at an on-water competition since January 1 of the current calendar year.

Petitions will be accepted for the following reasons. Petitions that do not meet these requirements will not be sent to the Petition Committee for consideration.

- An unfortunate event, especially something beyond the ordinary or the expected, which caused a disadvantage that precluded a crew to compete in a qualifying event. Poor rowing,
- The petitioning crew must provide the petition committee substantiation of sufficient boat speed within the following time standards of the last qualified crew in the petitioned category at a recognized YNC qualifying regatta.
 - o 8+/4+/4x: within three (3) seconds
 - o 2x/2-/1x: within five (5) seconds

A link to the results used to substantiate boat speed must be provided with the submitted petition.

Petitions are required to include the contact information of the Chief Referee at the regatta in order to confirm the details of the circumstances surrounding the petition.

Petitions will be reviewed and voted on by a subcommittee of three members of the Youth Advisory Committee. The composition of the petition committee shall include Byron Walthall, Chris Skokowski, and Ethan Curren. The Regional Representative of the petitioning crew will offer their recommendation to the Petition Committee members, to be considered as part of the petition process.

After reviewing the petitions, the Petition Committee will notify crews of the status of their request on the dates listed above. Crews whose petitions are declined shall also receive an explanation as to why their petition was not accepted. If a crew whose petition was not accepted has compelling new information to be considered, it may request an appeal of the decision.

The burden is on the appealing crew to provide compelling new information for consideration. Simply disagreeing with the Petition Committee's decision is not grounds for an appeal.

The new information, and original petition, will then be voted on by the full Youth Advisory Committee. The status of the appeal will be determined by the vote of the majority of the full Youth Advisory Committee.

Rules:

USRowing's Rules of Rowing will govern this event.

An online version is available at <http://www.usrowing.org/About/RulesofRowing.aspx>

USRowing licensed referees will officiate the event to ensure safety and fairness.

Starting Commands with Lights

A starting light system will be utilized for this regatta, in accordance with Rule 2-306.1 Starting Commands with Lights.

A practice session will be conducted prior to racing to allow crews unfamiliar with starting light

systems to experience the system prior to racing.

(a) After the Crews have been announced, the Starter shall start the Race by: (1) calling out “Attention!,” (2) the Starter shall press a button (or switch) to change the traffic lights from the neutral (unlit/black) position to red, and then (3) after a distinct and variable pause, the Starter shall give the starting command by pressing a button that shall at the same moment:

- Change the red light to green,
- Make an audible signal through the loudspeakers.

(b) If, after the red light has been illuminated, the Starter believes for any reason that the start should not occur, he or she shall call out, “As You Were!” and change the lights from red to neutral. The Starter shall repeat the starting commands in their entirety, but may dispense with announcing the Crews.

(c) Crews may leave the starting line when the light turns from red to green.

Equipment:

All equipment used in competition must meet the USRowing Rules of Rowing requirements for equipment. Each organization is responsible for ensuring that their equipment meets these standards.

Bow numbers will be provided at the launch docks, once a crew has passed through Control Commission.

Any equipment not meeting these standards, or judged to be unsafe by a USRowing official, will not be allowed onto the water.

Minimum Weight of Boats:

“Boat Weighing” will be conducted in accordance with the 2017 USRowing Rules of Rowing. The rules are listed here for the convenience of the competitors and coaches. Any differences in the language listed here and the 2017 Rules of Rowing is typographical, and the Rules of Rowing shall still govern these rules and procedures.

All boats shall comply with the following minimum weights:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Weight (kg)</i>
1x	14
2x	27
2-	27
4+	51
4x	52
8+	96

The minimum weight of the boat shall include seats, rudders, skegs, fins, and riggers. For the purposes of determining the minimum weight of boats, the following definitions shall apply:

- “Attached” shall mean glued, taped, “Velcro-ed”, or any other form of attachment such that if the boat is picked up or turned over, the item shall not fall out.
- “Firmly Fastened” shall mean a glued, screwed, bolted, welded or any other form of fastening such that it is not possible to change or manipulate the item during the time on the water or that the equipment or boat shall not be damaged by forceful removal of the item.

The minimum weight of the boat shall also include:

- Loud speakers if they are firmly fastened to the boat and associated wiring for such speakers;
- Any housings or fixings that are firmly fastened to the boat for the purpose of holding electronic or other equipment;
- Cables and wires required to connect the firmly fastened equipment, and
- Seat pads that are attached to the seat

The weight of a boat shall not include oars, the bow number or any other item not firmly fastened to the boat.

If a boat is underweight, additional deadweight shall be added to bring the boat into compliance.

It is the sole responsibility of the Crew that its boat has met the required minimum weight.

Crews nominated to have their boat weighed will be notified as they leave the water by a Race Official or other appointed person who shall accompany the Crew to the weighing scales.

Once the Crew has been notified, no extra weight of any description can be added to the boat until the boat has been weighed.

At the official weighing of the boat, the normal wetted surface of the boat is accepted. However, any standing water must be removed before the weighing, in particular any water between the shoulders and under the decking. All other items not firmly fastened must be taken out of the boat before the weighing.

If a boat is below the minimum weight, it will be reweighed after the Race Official has tested the scales with a gauged weight.

The first offense penalty for having raced in an underweight boat in an Event, except for a finals Race, shall be relegation. If the Crew races again in an underweight boat in a later round of the same Event, the penalty shall be exclusion. The penalty for having raced an underweight boat in a finals Race shall be exclusion.

Crews will have an opportunity to test the weight of their boat on the scales during practice sessions beginning Thursday, June 8. Weighing the boat outside of the official weigh-in for their race is done for the crew’s information, and has no bearing on their official weigh-in, if selected after a race.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct:

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to, failure to heed the instructions of race officials, use of obscene language or gestures, delaying a race without just cause, intentional or flagrant disregard of principles of safety and fairness, or abusive behavior toward any official, team member, or spectator.

Use of an unapproved drone at the racing venue may also result in an Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty on the organization associated with the drone operator.

A crew that engages in unsportsmanlike conduct may be assessed a penalty by a race official.

Any team member, including a competitor, who engages in unsportsmanlike conduct at any time during the regatta may have his or her further participation at the regatta curtailed or prohibited by a race official.

A parent or spectator engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct may result in the crew they are associated with having their further participation at the regatta curtailed or prohibited, and may be removed from the racing venue.

Weigh-Ins

All weigh-ins shall be conducted in accordance with the 2017 USRowing Rules of Rowing. The rules are listed here for the convenience of the competitors and coaches. Any differences in the language listed here and the 2017 Rules of Rowing is typographical, and the Rules of Rowing shall still govern these rules and procedures.

Competitors shall be weighed in racing uniform without shoes or other footgear.

Lightweights:

The weight Youth Rowers in lightweight events shall be determined once each day during either the Weigh-in Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in Window, but not both. 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.

Competitors who fail to weigh-in during either the Weigh-in Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in Window shall be deemed ineligible to race.

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 his or her weigh-in prior to the newly Scheduled Time of the Race and on the same day as the newly Scheduled Time of the Race.

“Adjusted Weigh-in Window”: Should 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.

An “Adjusted Weigh-in Window” is only created if an adjusted schedule is officially posted or published by USRowing. Commonly occurring delays throughout the day are not considered an official adjustment to the schedule.

Lightweight Men:

Max: 150 lbs. (no average)

Lightweight Women:

Max: 130 lbs. (no average)

Coxswains:

The weight of Coxswains 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.

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 his or her weigh-in prior to the newly Scheduled Time of the Race and on the same day as the newly Scheduled Time of the Race.

“Adjusted Weigh-in Window”: Should 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.

An “Adjusted Weigh-in Window” is only created if an adjusted schedule is officially posted or published by USRowing. Commonly occurring delays throughout the day are not considered an official adjustment to the schedule.

Coxswains who do not comply with the minimum weight standard must provide their own materials to create deadweight in accordance with the USRowing Rules of Rowing. This weight must be placed in the boat as close to the torso of the coxswain as possible, and is specifically forbidden to be distributed throughout the boat. 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.

Crews must provide their own weight making materials.

Excess clothing, equipment, electronic systems, tools, and 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.

Weighted vests cannot be worn in order to achieve the minimum weight.

Coxswain for Men’s Event:

Minimum: 120 lbs.

Coxswain for Women’s Event:

Minimum: 110 lbs.

Entry Information:

Crews will be notified of their qualification status no later than the Monday following their qualification regatta. At the time of notification, crews will have the permission necessary to submit their qualified crews online via [RegattaCentral](#). No paper entries will be accepted for this event.

Crews must submit their entries no later than three (3) days after receiving their bid notification.

This will be enforced this year, as the only spaces available for petitioning crews will come from bids that are declined.

On the Friday following a crew's bid notification, any bids that do not have an entry in the Youth National Championships will be forfeited, and those bids will be made available to petitioning crews.

Petitioning crews that are accepted to enter an event are required to submit the corresponding entry within three (3) days of receiving the notification, otherwise, the bid is forfeited.

Entry fees become non-refundable after June 2, 2017.

All entry fees must be paid in full by June 2, 2017. After this date, unpaid entries may be scratched from the regatta. Payment arrangements may be made by contacting alvin@usrowing.org prior to the deadline.

Crews representing an organization with an outstanding balance will not be allowed to compete until the balance is paid in full.

Category	Entry Fee
8+	\$ 248.00
4x/4+	\$ 182.00
2x/2-	\$ 121.00
1x	\$ 77.00

Line-ups:

All entries should include the line-up of athletes to compete as part of that entry.

A maximum of 50 percent substitutions (not including coxswains) will be allowed in the boat line-up that has qualified at a recognized qualification regatta. Substituted athletes must meet all eligibility and affiliation rules in order to compete.

Line-up changes must be submitted no later than 1 hour before the first race of the event for which the crew is entered.

Entry Limits:

All events will be limited to a maximum of 28 total entries.

No competitor shall enter more than two events at the Youth National Championships.

Coaches and Coxswains Meeting:

Coaches and Coxswains Meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, June 8, 2017, at 5:00 PM.

Medals:

Medals will be awarded to the first, second, and third-place finishers in each A- Final. Coaches are invited to join their crews to receive a medal with their competitors.

Medals will be awarded at the awards dock, at the completion of each Final A race. A referee at the finish line will direct the top 3 finishing crews to approach the awards dock, located near the finish line. Crews should approach the dock in reverse finish order: 3rd place, followed by 2nd place, followed by first place.

Winning crews can come to the USRowing tent to check-out trophies for each event, once they return to land.

All medals and trophies are contingent on crews completing boat weighing, and any other rules-related requirements.

Trophies:

Trophies are awarded to the winning crew in each event. A coach or adult representative will be required to provide contact information for the crew taking the trophy.

Each winning crew is responsible for updating the trophy with their crew name and the year they won the trophy.

Winning crews are also responsible for the condition of the trophy during the year in which they possess it.

Crews that won trophies at the 2016 USRowing Youth National Championships are required to return the trophies prior to racing at the 2017 regatta. Those crews returning to the 2017 event should return the trophy to the USRowing registration desk no later than June 8, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.

Organizations not returning for the 2017 event must mail the trophy to the USRowing office no later than May 27, 2017. The trophy must be shipped to USRowing, 2 Wall Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

Crews not returning trophies from the previous year will not be allowed to compete until the trophy has been returned.

Inclement Weather Information:

The Chief Referee, USRowing, and Local Organizing Committee will work together to monitor the weather continuously during the regatta.

In accordance with venue policies, the lake will be closed if lightning is within 3 miles of the venue, wind exceeds 25 mph, or other weather, water quality, or other circumstances create unsafe conditions.

In the event that inclement weather causes delays in the regatta schedule, the following weather plan will be utilized:

Notification Process:

All schedule change notifications will be announced in the following places:

- On-site on the results/announcements board near the athlete/boat area
- On-site through any on-site public address systems in use
- Online via Twitter, Facebook, RegattaCentral, and the USRowing website
- Via text message. Coaches, athletes, and parents can register to receive weather related text messages by texting "USRowing" to 313131.

To ensure that each crew has at least 1 representative on the texting list, USRowing will manually add the Race Day Contact listed on RegattaCentral to the texting system.

Crews are responsible for staying updated on announced schedule changes.

Please direct any questions about schedule changes to USRowing at the registration area.

Schedule Changes will be made with the following priorities

- Delay racing either later the same day or to the next day, if time is available.
- Begin racing earlier than previously announced. Announcement will be made no later than 3 hours before racing or 9:00 PM the evening before in the case of morning racing.
- Utilize a time-trial system for a round of the event.
- Omit a round of the event. The composition of the next round will be determined on the basis of the results of those rounds that have been completed. If grand finals must be omitted, medals and trophies will be awarded based on the results of the last completed round of the event.
 - o If rounds must be omitted, the priority for rescheduling and race cancellations will give priority to ensuring the "A" Finals are held, and those events progressing into the "A" Finals are prioritized over the "C" and "B" finals.
- Cancel regatta.

Under no circumstances will races be rescheduled for a date later than June 11, 2017.

Weigh-in Procedures

In instances where inclement weather causes a change in the scheduled race times for events that require the weighing of competitors (lightweights or coxswains), the time in which a competitor must be weighed will be affected as follows:

If the Scheduled Time of the first race is officially changed, then competitors may weigh-in during the original Weigh-in Window or the Adjusted Weigh-in Window.

The "Adjusted Weigh-in Window" is no less than one (1) hour and not more than two (2) hours before the new official start time of the first race in which the weight is relevant. The "Adjusted Weigh-in Window" only applies when a new official start time is published and posted. Normal regatta delays do not result in creating an "Adjusted Weigh-in Window".

Lodging Information:

USRowing has partnered with EMC Venues to provide accommodation options for teams and spectators travelling to the 2017 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Rooms are now available at a variety of hotel properties near the venue.

Use the link below to find a listing of available properties:

[2017 USRowing Youth National Championships Hotel Link](#)

Contact Information:

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