



2023 Waco Rowing Regatta

Regatta Entry Packet

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INTRODUCTION

The Waco Rowing Center is proud to announce the second running of the Waco Rowing Regatta, a 5k Head Race on the Brazos River.

Hosted along the banks of the rolling grass of Brazos Park East, with a rowing course traveling from the historic bridges of downtown Waco to the picturesque bluffs of Cameron Park, this regatta is set to be the next great Fall rowing race.

IMPORTANT DATES & SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Important Dates

Sept 18, 2023	"Early Bird" Registration Opens on RegattaCentral
Sept 30, 2023	"Early Bird" Registration Closes.
Oct 1, 2023	Standard Registration Opens.
Oct 31, 2023	Standard Registration Closes.
Nov 1, 2023	Online Late Entry Opens.
Nov 6, 2023	Online Late Entry Deadline. Lineups due. Last day to scratch entries and receive a full refund of the entry fee.
Nov 11, 2023	Venue opens at 12pm(noon)-6pm for trailer parking & practice. Time trial bow number pickup. Coaches & Coxswains meeting (5pm). Online lineup deadline. On-site late entry deadline.
Nov 12, 2023	Race Day

Schedule Information

All racing will take place on Saturday, November 12, 2023.

Coaches, Coxswains, and Blind Boat Meeting

Coaches and Coxswains Meeting will be scheduled for Saturday, November 11, at 5:00 pm.

All competitors and coaches are responsible for all information given at this meeting.

Events Offered

1	Mens U17 1x
2	Womens U17 1x
3	Mens Youth 1x
4	Womens Youth 1x
5	Mens Masters 1x
6	Womens Elite/Open 1x
7	Mens Elite/Open 1x
8	Mens Elite/Open Ltwt 1x
9	Mens U17 4+
10	Womens U17 4+
11	Mens Youth 4x
12	Womens Youth 4x
13	Mens Masters 2x
14	Womens Masters 2x
15	Mens Youth Novice 4+

16	Womens Youth Novice 4+
17	Mens Elite/Open 2-
18	Womens Elite/Open 2-
19	Mens Youth 4+
20	Womens Youth 4+
21	Mens Elite/Open 2x
22	Mens Youth 2x
23	Womens Youth 2x
24	Mens Collegiate 8+
25	Womens Collegiate 8+
26	Mens Collegiate Novice 4+
27	Womens Collegiate Novice 4+
28	Mens Masters 4x
29	Womens Masters 4x
30	Mens Youth Novice 8+

31	Womens Youth Novice 8+
32	Womens Masters 4+
33	Mens Collegiate 4+
34	Womens Collegiate 4+
35	Mens U17 4x
36	Womens U17 4x
37	Mens Youth 8+
38	Womens Youth 8+
39	Mixed Masters 2x
40	Mixed Open 2x
41	Mens Youth Novice 4x
42	Womens Youth Novice 4x
43	Mens Youth Novice 4x+
44	Womens Youth Novice 4x+
45	Mens U17 2x
46	Womens U17 2x

47	Mens U17 8+	50	Womens Masters 8+	53	Womens Elite/Open Ltwt 2x
48	Womens U17 8+	51	Womens Masters 1x	54	Mens Masters 4+
49	Mens Masters 8+	52	Mens Elite/Open Ltwt 2x	55	Womens Elite/Open 4x

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

Inclement Weather Information

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

Should it be determined that schedule changes are necessary due to weather concerns, the following weather plan will be utilized:

Communication Plan

Weather-related schedule changes will be announced utilizing the following mediums:

- Online via RegattaCentral
- Via GroupMe messaging system. All “Race Day” contacts listed in RegattaCentral will be added to a “GroupMe” channel for weather-related announcements.
- Crews are responsible for staying updated on all announced schedule changes.

Schedule Change Priority System

1. Delay racing later the same day as time allows.
2. Begin racing earlier than previously announced. Announcement will be made no later than 3 hours before racing or 9:00 p.m. the evening before in the case of morning racing.
3. Combine events within the same boat class, but across age categories.
4. Combine events across boat classes with typically similar speeds.
5. Cancel some events based on circumstances.
6. Cancel regatta

Under no circumstances will races be rescheduled for a date later than November 12, 2023.

At any point in this process, race centers may be reduced and/or events may be combined to accommodate as much racing as possible with the time available.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

USRowing Membership

We are a USRowing sanctioned regatta. As such, all athletes need to be USRowing members and participate in applicable Safe Sport Training.

All U.S. based organizations must hold active organizational membership with USRowing. Organizations can join or renew at <https://membership.usrowing.org> or by contacting Member Services at (609) 751- 0706.

Athletes representing U.S. based organizations must have at least a Basic membership and waiver on file.

All unaffiliated athletes must have at least a Basic PLUS or Champ membership and waiver on file.

All athletes age 18 or over must complete the SafeSport training called Abuse Prevention for Adult Athletes.

Click [here](#) for more information on Safe Sport.

Individual competitors can join USRowing at <https://membership.usrowing.org/individual/join> or by contacting the Member Services at (609) 751-0700.

Competitors can renew an expired membership and/or check their current membership status by logging in to their member profile at <https://membership.usrowing.org/individual/login>.

A current listing of your athletes, their member numbers, and expiration dates can be found on the online team roster through the USRowing Membership Portal at <https://membership.usrowing.org>.

To avoid delays at registration, teams should make sure all competitors have met these membership requirements prior to arriving at the event.

Entry Information

Entries in each event will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

All entries must be made online at [Regatta Central](#).

- Early Bird Entry: Sept 18-30
- Standard Entry: Oct 1-31
- Online Late Entry: Nov 1-6

All entry fees must be paid in full by November 6, 2023.

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

Entry Fees

Boat Class	Early Entry	Standard Entry	Late Entry
8+	\$240	\$270	\$320
4+/4-/4x	\$150	\$175	\$225
2x/2-	\$105	\$125	\$175
1x	\$60	\$75	\$125

Late Entries

All late entries will be subject to the higher "Late Entry" fee as listed above.

Online late entries must be submitted on RegattaCentral starting November 1, 2023, until November 6, 2023.

After November 6, any additional late entries must be submitted on-site on Saturday, November 11, before the end of the Coaches, Coxswains, and Blind Boats Meeting. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 5pm.

No late entries will be accepted after the Coaches, Coxswains, and Blind Boats Meeting.

Scratches

Entries may be scratched without penalty until November 6, 2023.

Beginning November 7, 2023, no refunds will be given for entries that are scratched.

Scratches should be made on RegattaCentral until Saturday, November 11, 2023. After this time, scratches must be made in person at the regatta site.

Lineups and Lineup Changes

Lineups for all entries are due by the close of the Online Late Entry period on November 6, 2023.

The deadline for submitting the final identity of members of the crew for ALL entry lineups must be finalized by November 11, 2023.

The deadline for lineup changes is one hour prior to the first race in the event. Any lineup changes needed the day of the regatta must be done at the registration desk.

COMPETITION INFORMATION

Definitions

- Youth: A Youth is a Competitor who in the current calendar year does not attain the age of 19, or who in the current calendar year does not attain the age of 20 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 their 18th birthday (U19), or upon completion of the 12th grade of secondary school, having been a full-time student within the year of their 19th birthday (U20). Athletes older than U20 are never eligible to compete as Youth.
- U17: A competitor may compete in the U17 category until December 31 of the year of his or her 16th birthday.
- Novice: All crew members must be new to competition, as of September 1, 2023.
- Unaffiliated: Crews entered as “Unaffiliated” are not considered to be representing a club or organization for this regatta. Competitors may compete as “unaffiliated” in single sculls only, as composite entries are not accepted for this event. “Unaffiliated” competitors must meet the individual membership requirements listed in this packet.
- Collegiate: Open to crews representing a college or university.
- Open: The “Open” category is open to crews of any age or skill classification.
- Master: A Master is a Competitor who has attained or will attain the age of 21 during the current calendar year. A Competitor’s age is determined as of December 31 of the

current calendar year, rounded down to the nearest whole number. A Competitor thus becomes a Master on January 1 of the year of his or her 21st birthday. A Masters Crew shall be comprised exclusively of Masters Rowers, but the Coxswain need not be a Master. USRowing age categories will be used.

- Mixed: A Crew competing in a mixed Event must be 50% male and 50% female, not including the Coxswain.

Composite Entries

Composite entries are accepted in all events at this regatta.

Crews, with the exception of single sculls (1x), wishing to compete with one or more “Unaffiliated” rowers would enter as a composite crew.

Crews may row under their club name with a coxswain from a different club (the boat will not be considered composite).

Composite crews will receive an exception from being required to wear matching uniforms.

RULES

USRowing’s 2023 Rules of Rowing will govern this event. An online version is available at https://usrowing.org/sports/2016/6/19/911_132107067100117334.aspx

USRowing licensed referees will officiate the event to ensure fairness and safety. The following rules will be waived for this event:

- Rule 3-104 Minimum Weight of Boats
- Rule 3-202 Oars, uniform throughout the crew

Head Race Procedures and Penalties

Bow numbers will be assigned randomly based on entries.

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 and ready to race before the crew with the last bow number of the event has started.

Crews will start in 10-15 second intervals based on the instruction given by the Starter.

Referee marshals will be stationed along the course to monitor safety and fairness conditions and to assess any necessary penalties. The referees have the discretion to assess the necessary penalty for a given infraction or circumstance within the Rules of Rowing. If a time penalty is assessed for the following situations, the times to be used are:

- Buoy violation - Oars: Oars crossing the buoy line will result in a 10-second penalty. This can apply to either crews racing or crews traveling to the start.
- Buoy violation - Shells: Full shells crossing the buoy line will result in a minimum of a 60-second violation. This can apply to either crews racing or crews traveling to the start.
- Failure to Yield - A crew failing to yield to a passing crew once they are within one boat length will result in a 30-second penalty. See “Passing” section below.

Referees have the discretion to assess stricter penalties as needed for a given situation within the Rules of Rowing.

Bridges Crossing Course

Be aware that multiple bridges cross the course. Know your course map to be sure of which bridge openings to use for the warm-up lane to the start, and for the racing lane back down the course.

Bow & Bib Numbers

Bow & bib numbers for will be distributed to each team in their team registration packets. Crews must collect their bow numbers from the registration desk before trying to launch.

Crews are welcome to keep their bib number as a commemorative from the event.

Passing

A crew being overtaken must yield to the outside portion of the racing lane to allow the overtaking crew to pass.

Crews should yield as soon as it is safe to do so. Passing is not allowed, nor are crews required to yield, in cases where it is unsafe to do so or in situations where yielding would require them to go through a closed bridge arch.

Any crew failing to yield may be assessed penalties ranging from a time penalty to exclusion.

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 out of any racing lane as

quickly as possible.

Seeding

Boat assignments for the time trials will be seeded randomly, with the “A” crews seeded randomly first, followed by a random draw of the “B” crews from each organization.

In “Collegiate” and “Open” events, crews will be seeded randomly, with the “A” crews seeded randomly first, followed by a random draw of the “B” crews from each organization, etc.

In “Masters” events, crews will be placed in lanes according to the average age of the crew, from youngest to oldest. The goal is to place similarly aged crews in lanes next to each other.

Handicaps

In Masters events where multiple age categories are entered, the standard USRowing handicaps will be used.

All handicaps will be multiplied by 5 to account for the 5,000m distance of the course.

Weigh-Ins

There will be no athlete or boat weigh-ins at the 2023 Waco Rowing Regatta. We expect teams to honor the weight requirements as detailed in the USRowing Rules of Rowing for lightweight entries.

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.

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, on or off of the water, at any time during the regatta, may have his or her further participation at the regatta curtailed or prohibited by a race official.

A crew may be subject to an “unsportsmanlike conduct” penalty if a person affiliated with their organization, including spectators and parents, engages in the use of an unapproved drone at the regatta venue. An “unsportsmanlike conduct” penalty issued for the use of a drone will carry a presumed penalty of “Disqualification”.

If you or one of your athletes witnesses unsportsmanlike conduct of any kind, please refer to the USRowing Code of Conduct on how to pursue the matter.

Equipment

All equipment used in official practice sessions or competition must meet the USRowing Rules of Rowing requirements for equipment, with the exception of the waived rules listed above. Each organization is responsible for ensuring that their equipment meets these standards.

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

Medals

Medals will be awarded to the winners for all events.