



USRowing Northeast Youth Championships

May 16-17, 2015

Merrimack River, Lowell, Mass.

USRowing and Greater Lowell Regatta Association are proud to present the 6th Annual USRowing Northeast Youth Championships. This event offers the most opportunities for crews within the region to qualify for the USRowing Youth National Championships, as well as an opportunity for novice and junior varsity crews to compete in a full slate of racing including heats, semi-finals, and finals.

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

USRowing would like to thank the Greater Merrimack Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, Merrimack River Rowing Association, Lowell High School Rowing, and U-Mass Lowell for coming together to host this year's event. This will be the fifth time the event is held on this course.

New Items of Note for 2015

Here is a list of notable changes to the regatta for 2015. Be sure to read the packet in its entirety, as you are responsible for all information in this packet.

- Classifications: Youth, U17, 2nd Novice requirements (see page 3)
- Entry Limits (see page 8)
- Order of Events and Event List (see pages 8-9)

Venue Information:

Venue – Merrimack River, Lowell, Mass.

There will be two launch locations for the event.

Location 1 (Dock located behind boathouse):

UMass Lowell Bellegarde Boathouse

500 Pawtucket Blvd.

Lowell, MA 01854

Location 2 (Beach wet launching area):

Rynne Bath House

157 Pawtucket Blvd.

Lowell, MA 01854

Course: The course is a 2,000 meter, 6-lane, partially-buoyed course with stakeboats. Crews must be able to back into a stakeboat. Each full buoy line contains two lanes, with large buoys every 500 meters marking the separation of the two lanes.

Parking: Tow vehicle and Trailer parking will be along Pawtucket Blvd, on the river side of the road. **Tow vehicle drivers must pick up a parking pass for Boulevard parking.**

Team van and spectator parking will be in Welcome Field, across the street from the boathouse. **Parking fees will apply.**

USRowing Membership:

The USRowing Northeast Youth 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 2015.

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.

Eligibility:

The USRowing Northeast Youth Championships are open to youth competitors from Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont that meet the membership requirements stated above.

Crews from outside of the United States are not eligible to compete at this event.

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.

U17- A competitor may compete in the U17 category until December 31 of the year of his or her 16th birthday.

“2nd” Boats- The 2nd boat classification is not open to any rower competing in a Youth National Championship qualifying event in the same boat class (8+, 4+, etc.). In order to enter a 2nd boat, organizations must also enter a boat in the corresponding Youth National Championship qualifying event.

“3rd” Boats- The 3rd boat classification is not open to any rower competing in a Youth National Championship qualifying event. Organizations must have an entry in the corresponding “2nd” event to be eligible to place an entry in the “3rd” boat event.

Novice- A Novice shall be a coxswain or rower whose initial competition within the same discipline has been in the previous 12 months of the regatta. Coxswains who wish to become rowers may race for one year as a novice rower regardless of their coxing experience.

“2nd Novice”- The 2nd Novice classification is not open to any rower competing in a “Novice” (1st Novice) event in the same boat class (8+). In order to enter a 2nd Novice boat, an organization must also enter a boat in the “Novice” (1st Novice) event in the same boat class (8+).

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.

Youth National Qualification Rules:

The USRowing Northeast Youth Championships offer 3 bids in each of the USRowing Youth National Championships events.

The bids will be distributed to the top 3 crews in each qualifying event that are eligible to qualify at the USRowing Northeast Youth Championships.

Crews competing in the New York State Scholastic Championships that wish to use the USRowing Northeast Youth Championships as their qualifying regatta must declare their intention no later than the close of the initial registration period for the New York State Scholastic Championships.

Crews competing in the USRowing Northeast Youth Championships that wish to use the NEIRA Championships as their qualifying regatta must declare their intention no later than May 5, 2015.

Declarations must be made using the [online form](#).

Failure to declare a different regatta will result in using the first qualification regatta entered as the crew's qualification regatta.

All crews from a given organization must qualify at the same qualification regatta.

Should a non-qualifying crew finish in the top 3 of a qualifying event; the corresponding bid will be offered to the next highest placing crew that is using the Northeast Youth Championship as their qualifying regatta. Bids will not be offered to crews finishing lower than 4th place in the event in question.

Only crews competing in Youth National Championship qualifying events are eligible to receive bids. Crews competing in 2nd, 3rd, or Novice events are ineligible to receive automatic bids. Crews competing in 2nd, 3rd, or Novice events are ineligible to petition to receive bids based on the results of non-qualifying races.

Full rules regarding qualification for the 2015 Youth National Championships will be available in the event entry packet posted on the event website no later than March 1, 2015:

<http://www.usrowing.org/Events/YouthNationals.aspx>

Rules:

USRowing's Rules of Rowing will govern this event.

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

Please pay particular attention to the approved rule changes listed on page 1 of the 2015 Rules of Rowing.

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

Equipment:

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

Crews must provide their own bow balls and bow numbers.

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

Electronic Devices:

Crews will be allowed to bring electronic devices on the water.

Cell phone use is prohibited from the time a crew reaches the launching area to the time they leave the recovery area, except in the case of an emergency.

Crews seen using cell phones in non-emergency situations may be excluded from competition.

Outside Assistance:

Crews are reminded that they are not to receive outside assistance during a race except from the unaided voice.

Weigh-Ins

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.

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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.

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

Entry Information:

No paper entries will be accepted for this event. All entries must be made online at RegattaCentral. Initial registration will be available beginning March 1, 2015 and ending Tuesday, May 5, 2015. No refunds will be given once the initial registration period has ended.

All entry fees must be paid in full by Tuesday, May 5, 2015. After this date, unpaid entries will be considered late entries and subject to the conditions of such designation. Payment arrangements may be made by contacting alvin@usrowing.org prior to the deadline.

Youth National Championship qualifying events with entries from 2 or more organizations will be run as scheduled.

Non-Youth National Championship qualifying events with entries from 2 or fewer organizations at the close of registration will be scratched from the schedule.

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

Boat Class	Entry Fee (\$)	Late Entry Fee (\$)
8+	\$145	\$160
4+/4x	\$120	\$135
2x/2-	\$75	\$90
1x	\$55	\$70

Line-ups:

All entries should include the line-up of athletes to compete as part of that entry. All entry line-ups must be submitted by Sunday, May 10, 2015. Any entry without line-ups after this time will be treated as a late entry. Line-ups with placeholder names such as "A. Rower" will be considered incomplete and will also be considered late entries.

After Sunday, May 10, 2015, crews may substitute up to one half of its rowers, as well as its coxswain, excluding single sculls. After this deadline, no substitutions may be made for single scull entries except for illness or injury in accordance with the USRowing Rules of Rowing.

Line-ups will remain open on RegattaCentral for editing until Sunday, May 10, 2015. Any line-up changes required after this date must be made at the regatta site, no later than 1 hour before the first race of the event for which the crew is entered.

Email lineup changes will not be accepted.

Late Entries:

Beginning May 6, 2015, entries may be accepted in events where additional entries do not change the progression, or exceed any listed entry maximums. These entries are subject to the higher entry fees listed above.

RegattaCentral will be open for late entries until Sunday, May 10, 2015. After this time, any further late entries must be submitted at the USRowing registration desk no later than the close of registration on Friday, May 15, 2015.

E-mail submissions will NOT be accepted.

All late entries must be submitted no later than the close of on-site registration on Friday, May 15, 2015.

Scratches:

Entries may be scratched or changed without penalty until May 5, 2015.

Scratches received beginning May 6, 2015, are not subject to a refund.

Scratches made after the Coaches and Coxswains Meeting, will be subject to a forfeiture of entry fees and an additional \$25 scratch fee.

Scratches will be accepted via RegattaCentral until May 10, 2015.

Beginning May 11, 2015, all scratches must be submitted to USRowing on-site using the forms provided at the USRowing registration desk.

Any crew failing to submit written notification of a scratch, either online or on-site, may be subject to an additional no-show fee of \$100 to be charged to the RegattaCentral account holder.

Composite Entries:

Composite entries are not accepted at the USRowing Northeast Youth Championships.

Crews, excluding single sculls, which include athletes competing as “unaffiliated”, would have to enter as a composite crew, and are therefore ineligible to compete at this regatta.

Entry Limits:

Each organization may submit a maximum of 2 entries all Youth National Championships qualifying events.

Each of these entries is eligible to receive separate bids for Youth Nationals, meaning an organization can earn a maximum of two bids in these events.

Due to scheduling concerns, all events will be limited to a maximum of 24 entries. Entries are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

Athletes are eligible to compete in a maximum of two (2) events. Coxswains are NOT limited in the number of events they may enter; however, they must meet all appropriate eligibility and classification requirements for the event being entered.

Progression:

USRowing Progression System “A” Modified for YNC Bid Process

Entries	Heats	Advancing in each Heat	Semifinals	Advancing in each Semifinal	Finals
1-6	0	-	-	-	Final Only
7	2	(all but last)	0	-	5-boat final
8-12	2	3	0	-	Grand Final
13-15	3	(all but last)	2	3	Grand Final
16-18	3	4	2	3	Grand Final
19-24	4	3	2	3	Grand Final

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

Only Grand Finals will be run at the 2015 USRowing Northeast Youth Championships.

Non-Youth National qualifying events will run a complete progression, including heats and semifinals as required by the listed progression system.

Order of Events:

Below is the order in which finals are scheduled to be run. Events marked with an asterisk (*) are designated as Youth National Championship qualifying events.

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Womens Youth 1x* | 6 | Mens Youth 2x* |
| 2 | Mens Youth 1x* | 7 | Womens Youth 2-* |
| 3 | Womens Youth Ltwt 2x* | 8 | Mens Youth 2-* |
| 4 | Womens Youth 2x* | 9 | Womens Youth 4x* |
| 5 | Mens Youth Ltwt 2x* | 10 | Mens Youth 4x* |

11	Womens Youth Ltwt 8+*	23	Womens 2nd 4x
12	Womens Youth 4+*	24	Mens 2nd 4x
13	Mens Youth Ltwt 4+*	25	Womens 2nd Novice 8+
14	Mens Youth 4+*	26	Mens 2nd Novice 8+
15	Womens Youth Ltwt 4+*	27	Womens Youth 3rd 8+
16	Mens Youth Ltwt 8+*	28	Mens Youth 3rd 8+
17	Womens Youth 8+*	29	Womens 2nd 8+
18	Mens Youth 8+*	30	Mens 2nd 8+
19	Womens 2nd 4+	31	Womens Novice 4+
20	Mens 2nd 4+	32	Mens Novice 4+
21	Womens Novice 8+	33	Womens U17 8+
22	Mens Novice 8+	34	Mens U17 8+

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

Schedule Information:

Heats and semifinals will be run as close to the order of finals as possible.

Heats will be run on Saturday.

Semifinals will be run as permitted by the schedule and available time. Semifinal races may be scheduled on Saturday and/or Sunday.

Grand Finals will be run Sunday.

This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Coaches and Coxswains Meeting:

Coaches and Coxswains Meeting will be scheduled for Friday, May 15, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

Medals:

Medals will be awarded to the first, second, and third-place finishers in each Grand Final, including both qualification and non-qualification events.

A final must contain a minimum of 4 boats in order for a third-place medal to be awarded. This rule applies to both qualifying and non-qualifying events.

The awarding of medals is determined by place regardless of the crew's Youth National Championship qualification declaration. Therefore, the awarding of medals may not necessarily reflect the awarding of Youth National Championship bids.

Inclement Weather Information:

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

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 by the boathouse

- 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 "USRNortheast" to 313131.

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 Youth National Championship bids will be awarded based on the results of the last completed round of the event.
- Cancel some or all non-Youth National Championship qualification events. Cancellation priority will be:
 - o Non-Youth National Championship qualification events that have completed at least one round of racing
 - o Non-Youth National Championship qualification events that have not completed at least one round of racing.
- Cancel regatta.

Under no circumstances will races be rescheduled for a date later than May 17, 2015.

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 described in the Rules of Rowing. See the current year's rulebook, or the weigh-in sections in this packet for details.

Lodging Information:

USRowing has partnered with EMC Venues to provide accommodation options for teams and spectators travelling to the 2015 USRowing Northeast Junior District Championships.

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

[Click here to submit your rooming requests to EMC Venues.](#)

Contact Information:

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