

2008 Head of the Fish Regatta

Entry Packet and General Information

The 23rd Annual Head of the Fish Regatta, co-hosted by the Saratoga Springs Rowing Club and the Saratoga Rowing Association, will be held **Saturday, October 25th & Sunday October 26th 2008**. This year the regatta will be held on the same 2.3 mile course as it has been used for the past 22 years. As was recently instituted, the warm-up lane will remain such that there is no need to cross the racing lane when launching or landing.

We hope you will be able to join us on the 23rd for the Head of the Fish Regatta – home of great water, and the best trophies & t-shirts on the circuit.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2008

1. *All **registration** will be handled online this year at www.RegattaCentral.com. Deadlines will be strictly enforced.*
2. **Official Regatta Venue** – The regatta is held primarily on Lee's Park. All trailers, tents, launch docks, vehicle parking areas, etc are located on this site. The vendor tent, bus parking, timing areas, and Law Enforcement vehicles will be located on the State Boat Launch. There will be EMS locations located on both sites. All vehicles other than buses (which need passes), vendors, and officials will park in Lee's Park. There will be a \$10 fee per vehicle. Tow vehicles are exempt from this charge.
3. **Entry Deadline** – The regatta entry deadline will be strictly enforced. All regatta entries must be completed online no later than **October 15th, 2008**.
4. The regatta **format** is broken up into two days: All High School and Open Events will be held on Saturday. All Collegiate and Masters Events will be held on Sunday.
5. **Regatta Telephone, e-mail, and website** – Questions regarding the regatta will be answered on e-mail at Chaserow@nycap.rr.com, via the website www.saratogarowing.com (click 'regattas' → 'Head of the Fish'), or by phone at (518) 587-6697.
6. **Scratches and Refunds** – There will be no entry fee refunds for scratches received after October 15th.

We look forward to having you here!

Important Entry Information

Definitions

<u>Youth</u>	Eighteen years old and under on race day; not open to college freshmen.
<u>Freshmen</u>	Grade 9 or younger; regardless of experience.
<u>Open</u>	These events are open to any rower in any age group.
<u>Master</u>	Any rower who has attained the age of 27 on or before race day. Master Singles events will be divided into three competing groups: Ages 27 to 39, Ages 40 to 49, and Ages 50-59
<u>Veteran</u>	Age 60 or over.
<u>Novice</u>	Any rower who started rowing after Jan 1, 2008 may enter these events. Seasoned sweep rowers who begin sculling after this date may enter novice sculling events. Seasoned scullers who begin sweep rowing after this date may enter the novice events. Collegiate rowers who are in their first year of college rowing may enter the novice events.
<u>Lightweight</u>	135 lbs. Maximum for women; 165 lbs maximum for men, per individual oarsperson Open & 155lbs max for HS/Youth crews. Average boat weight not applicable. Weigh-in only for winning crews after event.
<u>Mixed Eight</u>	4 women, 4 men, 1 coxswain – no more, no less.

POINT SYSTEM

The RaceTrak website also contains a Point System for the regatta. There are separate Trophies for each of the following: Overall Points, High School/Youth, Masters, and Collegiate (DI & DII/III).

RULES

USRA Rules of Racing shall apply

Boats being overtaken must yield to the passing boat, which must indicate its intentions. On curves, the overtaken boat should allow the overtaking boat to pass on the inside. The overtaking boat must allow ample clearance before moving in front of the passed boat.

Hot-seating (of equipment and personnel) will be performed at the crew's risk of missing an event. At least two races should separate the events being rowed. Under no circumstances will the start of an event be held up waiting for a late boat.

Bow numbers and back numbers must be used. Numbers will be provided at registration. Crews without bow numbers and/or back numbers will not be permitted to launch. Bow numbers are to be turned in at the launch site after race.

Boats without bow balls and quick release footgear will not be permitted to launch. All boats will be inspected prior to launch.

Important Entry Information Continued

RESULTS

Computerized results for each event will be made available as soon as possible, as well as posted in “real-time” online at www.RaceTrak.com All results posted on regatta day are unofficial. Official results will be posted on www.RaceTrak.com.

AWARDS

Medals will be awarded to the members of each winning boat as well as second and third place finishers. Fish Head trophies are awarded to the winning boat in selected event/category. The total point collegiate champion crew (DI and DIII) and the total non-collegiate champion crew each receive a take-home trophy and inscription of their name on the permanent trophies.

As soon as results are posted, winning crews should appear or send a representative to the Registration Tent to receive their awards and pose for a photo-op. The total point trophy winners are announced as soon as possible after the completion of the last race.

PARKING

Parking arrangements for crews and individuals will be detailed on the website as the event draws nearer. Please pay close attention to the instructions regarding parking, and well as the instructions received from police and volunteers on regatta day.

Overnight parking of boats, trailers, and equipment (not vehicles) will be allowed on Friday night. Volunteers will be on hand starting at noon on Friday to direct trailer and boat parking. Please do not come with demands for your Trailer & Food tents. The volunteers will direct you to a place, not vice-versa. Also, there will be security on the premises to safeguard the equipment – both nights.

DIRECTIONS TO REGATTA SITE

From points east: Take I-90 West (Mass Pike) into NY State. (I-90 West becomes the NY State Thruway). Continue on I-90 West to exit B3 towards Albany, NY. Go through Albany on I-90 West to the intersection of I-87 North (the Northway). Continue North on I-87 to Exit 14. Take a left at the exit ramp onto Route 9P East toward Saratoga Lake. Follow enclosed map.

From points west: Take I-90 East toward Albany, NY to exit 24. Proceed through toll booths at exit 24 and follow signs for I-87 North. Take I-87 North to Exit 14. Take a left at the exit ramp onto route 9P East toward Saratoga Lake. Follow enclosed map.

From points south: Take I-87 North toward Albany, NY to exit 14. Take a left at the exit ramp onto Route 9P East toward Saratoga Lake. Follow enclosed map.

From points north: Take I-87 South toward Lake George / Albany to Exit 14. Take a left at the exit ramp onto Route 9P East toward Saratoga Lake. Follow enclosed map.

Special Note: The bridge gets very congested Saturday morning. Look at the enclosed map for directions avoiding the bridge (Left on Meadowbrook Rd., Right on Stafford's Bridge Rd., Cross river at the Start. Right on Fitch Rd., Right on Rt. 9P. Right into Lee's Park.

VERY IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMES

ENTRY DEADLINES

Online entries: will close on Sunday, October 15th, 2008. We hope to have the schedule posted by Wednesday, October 20th.

***** Canadian and international entries must be postmarked by Oct 11th, 2003**

*****No changes or adjustments to entries will be permitted after Oct 17th.**

Please may checks payable to HEAD OF THE FISH REGATTA

Please send your fees to:

Saratoga Rowing Assoc.

P.O. Box 750

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Any questions regarding the regatta or entries should be e-mailed to **chaserow@nycap.rr.com**, if absolutely necessary, should be directed to the regatta telephone line (518) 587-6697.

REGISTRATION

Friday, October 24th	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Registration Tent, Boat Launch
Saturday, October 25th	6:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration Tent, Boat Launch
Sunday, October 26th	6:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration Tent, Boat Launch

Crews are urged to take advantage of the Friday evening registration to relieve congestion on Saturday morning.

Registration packets will include back numbers, bow numbers, schedules, programs, and course information.

COACHES, COXSWAINS, AND SCULLERS MEETING

The coaches, coxswains, and scullers meeting will be held adjacent to the registration tent at Lee's Park at 6:30 a.m. A race schedule, map of course, and general rules will be available at this time. All coaches, coxswains, and scullers are responsible for the information given at the meeting.

LODGING

The Saratoga Rowing Association uses a local Travel Agent (Empress Travel) to block large amounts of rooms for the regattas. This allows the regatta to offer rooms at much lower prices than you will find on your own. We are hoping that you will use this service to book your rooms. The hotels, now being in loop, are also supporters of the regatta in terms of making it an affordable event. Thanks for taking part in the Head of the Fish. You will be able to reach Empress Travel at:

"Where Destination Knowledge, Service and Value Exceed Expectations"

Empress Travel & Cruises

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