

2024 FSRA State Sculling Championship Regatta Rules & Information

Racing will be conducted under the USRowing "Rules of Racing" using FSRA items listed below.

Eligibility Requirements

- The FSRA State Championship regatta is an association regatta open to current Scholastic and Youth team members of the Florida Scholastic Rowing Association.
- FSRA teams must be in good standing with the association and all delinquent fees and dues must be paid prior to any entry being accepted from that team. FSRA membership fees must be paid before January 1st.
- An Eligible Athlete is a competitor who is listed on **2023-2024 FSRA Cleared Athletes** file. Athletes not listed will not receive a regatta credential and will not be able to compete.
- An eligible lightweight competitor must complete the FSRA Lightweight Acknowledgement and Consent Form within the deadlines prior to the regatta. **NOTE: the FSRA lightweight process is separate from the SRAA protocol and teams will need to enter both.**
- New rowing programs will not be allowed special entry exceptions.
- Exhibition entries are not allowed; only eligible entries from FSRA member teams are allowed to race.

Qualifying for SRAA

- FSRA Florida State Championship Regattas are SRAA qualifying events for Scholastic FSRA teams as defined in the FSRA Bylaws. A team's scholastic standing will be determined through the pre-registration process defined below.
- Note SRAA rules have differences from those followed by FSRA. Those differences will not be followed nor accommodated by FSRA. See www.SRAA.net for competitor eligibility restrictions.
- SRAA now follows a 50% substitution rule for the qualifying crew. Scholastic FSRA qualifying boat lineups will be provided to SRAA. **NOTE:** SRAA qualification of boats with middle school athletes will be determined by the regatta committee; boats with over 50% middle school athletes will not qualify.

FSRA Events

1st Varsity: 4x, 2x, 1x
2nd Varsity 4x**
Junior: 4x, 2x, 1x**
Lightweight: 4x**, 2x, 1x**
Freshman: 4x, 2x**, 1x**

** (subject to change based on events offered at SRAA) The 2nd varsity quad, lightweight quad, lightweight single, junior single, freshman double, and freshman single are NOT SRAA events and will not qualify for SRAA. Boats seeking to qualify and/or petition to compete at SRAA must compete in SRAA event categories.

How to enter

- Boat lineups must include the legal names of competitors (as it appears on photo ID and FSRA-Regatta Central waiver for verification purposes). Only athletes completing the pre-registration eligibility verification will be allowed to compete: see **Eligibility Requirements section above.**
- **Alternate spaces only apply to those needing a credential.** Only add alternates to one event if they are not listed in any other lineup. This allows us to produce a credential for them. Alternates does not impact substitutions.
- Boat lineups must be completed with eligible (cleared) athletes by the standard registration entry deadline; otherwise late boat entry fees will be added to the entry.
- Regatta photo ID credential production is based on athletes listed in lineups including alternates at the standard entry deadline. Athletes added after this deadline will incur a late credential fee.
- Late entries will be accepted as long as open lanes are available; otherwise late entries will be wait-listed. **Note** that empty lanes are not always open lanes due to progression schedules applied at the standard registration entry deadline. Late entries will not be prioritized over entries already accepted. Additional outside lanes and additional races will not be added to accommodate late entries. Late entries will be charged an additional late entry fee and will not be seeded for heats. Athletes not previously entered in other events will be charged an additional late credential fee.

Scratch Policy:

- Scratches made after the standard entry deadline forfeit their entry fee.
- Scratches made within 60 minutes before the start time of their race and race no shows will incur a Scratch Fee which is due before following crews are allowed to launch or future entries accepted. Last minute scratches must be made to Regatta Registration. Verified medical exceptions will be accepted.

Regatta Fees

4x	\$120	FSRA housing discount fee: \$100
2x	\$70	FSRA housing discount fee: \$60
1x	\$50	FSRA housing discount fee: \$45
Late boat entry	\$20 Additional	(plus applicable late credential fees)
Scratch	\$50 Additional	
Lost Credential	\$30	for replacement credential per athlete per occurrence
Late Credential	\$30	per athlete for names submitted after standard registration deadline
Lost Bow Number	\$10	per bow card
Fee Cap	No Team Fee Cap	

Practice Sessions

The racecourse will be open for practice on Friday only from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm as long as water safety marshals are in place. **Launch docks close at 5:15 pm to allow for the course to be cleared by 6:00 pm.** The Friday practice traffic pattern will allow for counterclockwise loops on the racecourse. This is not the race day traffic pattern. Maps will be provided for both traffic patterns. There will not be any practice sessions on Saturday or Sunday.

Teams violating the practice session time box or launching without water safety marshals in place will be assessed one warning to all their entries for each of their races.

No Drones Allowed

Based on county event permitting and park rules in place for the duration of this FSRA regatta, individuals are not allowed to launch, operate, and/or land drones while being within the boundaries of the entire Nathan Benderson Park, not just the regatta island, without prior approval by FSRA. Per FAA, if an organization or a venue has a written policy, that's enough to keep a drone out of the air. FAA also said that if anyone is being filmed via drone without giving their consent, that's illegal. NOARA waivers grant permission for filming only to FSRA or their designated representative. Teams found using or promoting themselves in drone videos which is not from a FSRA approved source are subject to exclusion or disqualification from current and/or future events.

Regatta Registration

Regatta registration will only be open on Friday from 1:00PM to 5:45PM. **For teams arriving Saturday, make sure to send a representative Friday.**

Regatta photo ID credentials to be given to a team representative after the following have been verified. Only athletes completing the pre-registration eligibility verification and listed in regatta entry boatings (including alternates) will be provided a regatta ID badge. The team representative will sign a receipt acknowledging all credentials have been received.

- Entry fees (as listed above) and any delinquent fees are paid.
- Trophies returned or missing trophy fees paid.
- Volunteer sign-up (1 volunteer per boat entry)

Regatta Meeting

Regatta meeting will begin at **8:00PM on the Wednesday** prior to the regatta. **Teams are responsible for understanding items covered in the meeting regardless of their attendance.** The meeting will be hosted virtually via MS Teams and dial-in phone numbers will be provided to accommodate those who cannot log in. A summary of main points to be covered will be emailed out prior to the meeting to all with this regatta in their Regatta Central Calendar.

- Meeting will cover scratch policy (see scratch fee policy above).
- Meeting will cover the officiating aspects relevant to this event.

Rules

- All races are 1500 meters or as close to this distance as the race venue safely allows.
- All athletes must present credentials at control commission prior to launching. Entries with athletes failing to do so are subject to disqualification. Credentials must be carried with but not worn while the entry is on the water.
- Breakage: allowed maximum of one hour after the breakage is reported from either the warmup area or the first 100m of the race. **NOTE: it is the responsibility of the team coach to provide a valid race day text number and monitor for text messages.** Boats failing to resolve breakage issues within the one-hour limit will be scratched from the event without any advancement opportunities.
- Missed race: No special allowances will be made for crews late to the start line. Teams hot seating equipment do so at their own risk. Hot seating must be done at launch docks and coordinated with control commission.
- Doubling limits: Rower – 1 event only, no doubling.
- Males may not row in female events. Females may not row in male events.
- Composite crews (rowers from two or more FSRA Member teams in the same boat) are not permitted.
- Teams cannot enter and race a 2nd Varsity 4x without entering and racing the corresponding 1st Varsity 4x.
- Junior events may be entered independently of all other categories.
- Lightweight events may be entered independently of all other categories.
- Freshman events may be entered independently of all other categories.
- An eligible lightweight competitor must complete the FSRA Lightweight Acknowledgement and Consent Form within the deadlines prior to the regatta.
- Junior events are restricted to competitors in the 11th grade (junior year) or lower.
- Freshman events are restricted to competitors in the 9th grade (freshman year) or lower.
- "B" entries are accepted in all events. "B" entries are allowed full progression including winning awards and earning points; they must be valid entries (rowers listed without violating doubling rules)
- FSRA will provide alphanumeric bow cards. Teams will be issued bow cards by control commission when launching and must return bow cards at the recovery docks. Time Trial bow cards will be issued at Friday regatta registration. Bow numbers must be properly affixed to the shell before the crew will be allowed onto the racecourse.
- Lightweight male rower maximum weight: 150 lbs. (no averaging)
- Lightweight female rower maximum weight: 130 lbs. (no averaging)

Weigh-in Procedures

- An eligible lightweight competitor must complete the FSRA Lightweight Acknowledgement and Consent Form within the deadlines prior to the regatta.
- **Test scales** for lightweight athletes will be open **Friday** at the base of the tower from **2:00PM to 5:00PM**.
- All lightweight athletes in a boat including alternates must weigh in at the same time.
- There will be **only one official weigh-in period for the entire regatta** on **Saturday** morning at the base of the tower from **7:00AM to 9:00AM**.
- Team weigh-in forms will be auto-generated from boat line-ups entered during registration. No forms are needed from the teams. Make sure all competitor names, including the names of alternates, are properly registered.
- **All rowers must be present by boat dressed in their team uniform** and accompanied by adult team representative for weigh-ins.
- No weight allowance given for items the athlete is wearing during weigh-in.
- All alternates will weigh in with their boat mates for those athletes to be eligible to substitute.
- Weigh-ins will be conducted as a yes/no system without actual weight being announced.
- Re-weighs will only be allowed if the rower is within one (1) pound of the event maximum and must be done within the weigh-in time window.
- Rowers making weight must have the lightweight wristband attached around their wrist before leaving the weigh-in area.
- Wristbands are to remain in place until the conclusion of rowing in the regatta (2 days).
- Problems with wristbands must be brought to the attention of the official at regatta HQ.

Minimum Entries

For events with less than two (2) boats entered at the registration deadline, the following will be implemented:

- For SRAA qualifying events with a scholastic entry, the race will be scheduled. Otherwise, the event will be eliminated, and the team will be notified in advance of race day.

Progressions

The formula for progression to the final will be as follows: see 2024 FSRA Progression and Points Table.

Heats directly to finals or time trials option may be implemented if time or weather constraints make it necessary. See Order of Events section below.

The FSRA Regatta Committee will seed entries with the objective to allow for the fastest crews to have a fair opportunity to progress to the finals. All teams entered during the standard entry window will be seeded.

Lane assignments will use a standard center lane out format under normal weather conditions based on either seeding or previous race progression results. In the situation of prevailing strong cross winds, the FSRA Regatta Committee may implement an alternate lane assignment system so higher ranked boats will receive the favored windward lanes by either altering the bow number assigned before heat sheets are posted or by altering stake boat numbers after heat sheets are posted. Alternate lane assignment system if implemented will be announced. **NOTE:** if lane assignments are published and there is not enough time to adjust and re-publish those assignments, then lane markers will be adjusted at the 2000m start line and on the 1500m start line pods with boats going to the matching lane card based on their bow number.

Order of Events

The order of events on Saturday will be 1st varsity events first and then following event number order and on Sunday following the event number order. Saturday order may be altered due to time trials. Sunday order may be altered to allow proper rest break between semis and finals. If the order must be alternated due to weather concerns, priority will be given to SRAA events based on SRAA number of bids (primary priority) and FSRA point schedule (secondary priority).

Awards

- First, second, and third place medals will be awarded for grand "A" finals only. A crew must not necessarily beat another crew to be awarded medals. Example: a 3-boat race will award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals.
- The trophies will remain in the possession of the winning team for one (1) year and returned at the next State Championship Regatta.
- Teams failing to return trophies must pay a \$500.00 replacement fee before they will be allowed to compete.
- Event and overall point trophies for first place teams will be awarded.
 - Separate boy and girl point trophies will be awarded to the team with the highest total of the four (4) highest point earning boats per gender.
 - The Overall Point Trophy will be awarded to the team with the highest total calculated from the top four (4) point earning boys boats plus the top four (4) point earning girls boats (8 total boats).
 - In the event of a points tie, the Varsity Quad (V4X) event will be used as a tie break.
- Event and overall point trophies for first place scholastic teams will be awarded.
 - Separate boy and girl point trophies will be awarded to the scholastic team with the highest total of the three (3) highest point earning boats per gender.
 - The Overall Point Trophy will be awarded to the scholastic team with the highest total calculated from the top three (3) point earning boys boats plus the top three (3) point earning girls boats (6 total boats).
 - In the event of a points tie, the Varsity Quad (V4X) event will be used as a tie break.

Points Table

See 2024 FSRA Progression and Points Table.

Inclement Weather Procedure

The FSRA Regatta Committee, the Regatta Director, the Chief Referee, and the LOC will work together to monitor the weather continuously during the event. Should it be determined that schedule changes are necessary due to weather concerns, the FSRA Regatta Committee will prioritize events following the order of events guidelines and determine which races will occur during the time window racing can be safely conducted.

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

- Announced over the on-site sound system.
- Regatta text group.