

Nathan Benderson Park General Regatta Information

Free Admission: Admission to Nathan Benderson Park is free for all attendees and spectators. Parking fees will be collected. Some areas may have restricted access such as the tower and boat staging areas.

On the western shore opposite the finish line tower, please do not stand on the water side or block the view of the black and yellow finish line marker.

Daily parking fees will be collected Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. See the FSRA regatta page for specifics.

NO Vehicle Access to team tents on the island Saturday and Sunday. If you will need to transport items, you will have to do so from the bus loop or from the parking area depending on event access plans in effect. Plan ahead and bring a cart to move items. All team food support trailers must arrive before Friday night to be put into place near your team tent. For the safety of our athletes and spectators, Nathan Benderson park will not allow any vehicles on race days in the team tent area (not even for drop off).

Direction to the regatta island from the NORTH: (all trailers should use SOUTH directions)

- From I-75 take University Parkway, Exit 213.
- Drive WEST on University Parkway approx. 0.3 miles
- Turn SOUTH (left) onto North Cattlemen Road (traffic light).
- Drive approx 0.5 miles, following signs and pass thru 3 traffic circles.
- Continue SOUTH on North Cattlemen Road to the regatta island.
- Rowing facility will be on your right.
- Follow Parking Staff instructions.

Direction to the regatta island from the SOUTH:

- From I-75 take Fruitville Road, Exit 210.
- Drive WEST on Fruitville Road. approx. 0.2 miles.
- Turn NORTH (right) on North Cattlemen Road (traffic light).
- Drive approx 2.2 miles to the regatta island.
- Rowing facility will be on your left.
- Follow Parking Staff instructions.

Coaches only Bike Path: On the western shoreline, there is a dedicated Coaches' Ride Along Path. Traffic pattern on Coaches' path is **NORTHBOUND** only. To reach the Start Line area, you will ride south on a separate path on the far (inland) side of the coaches' path. Be sure to bring your own bike.

Spectator bikes: Spectators are welcome to bring their own bikes to utilize throughout this beautiful facility. All public areas are accessible, except only coaches are allowed on the Coaches' Ride Along Path on the western shoreline. There is a secondary path which is available to Spectators slightly west of the Coaches' Path.

Tents: No tents or beach umbrellas allowed on the beach. Only 2 - 10x10 tents are permitted on site per team. 10x20 tents are NOT Permitted. A 10x10 tent is allowed by your team trailer as long as it does not interfere with neighboring teams and their equipment. For teams needing more or larger tents, use the online order form at least 2 weeks prior to the event.

Regatta Tower Access:

If provided for, a limited number of Tower Access tickets will be sold. Tower opens at 7:30am and will be cleared after the last race of the day has completed. Tickets provide access to the 2nd floor only. Snacks, soft drinks and water will be available. Bring your folding chairs to enjoy the outdoor decks. Indoor seating will be available; indoor video coverage is planned for both regattas. No pets are allowed in the tower.

Access to all other floors is **restricted** to officials only; guests attempting to access other floors will be immediately escorted out of the tower and have all tower access revoked; no refunds.

Sarasota County Park Rules

Park Hours

- April - October: 6:00am - 8:00pm

Public Conduct

- Swimming is prohibited unless by Special Use Permit
- Drones are prohibited
- Littering or dumping is prohibited
- Open fires are prohibited
- Glass containers are prohibited
- Overnight camping is prohibited
- Dogs must be on a 6 foot fixed length leash
- Dog owners must pick up after defecating dogs
- Feeding of wildlife is prohibited
- Bird Island may not be trespassed
- Shore fishing is permitted following Florida Department of Wildlife regulations
- Fishing is prohibited from the docks and starting platforms
- No trespassing or fishing is permitted from the wave attenuator
- Tents larger than 10' x 10' in size are prohibited
- Tents 10' x 10' in size or less must be properly secured and may be open to inspection by SANCA staff
- **Fire extinguishers are required in cooking areas and will be available to inspection by SANCA staff**

Indecent Exposure

- Indecent exposure, soliciting or lewd and lascivious acts are prohibited and will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law

Alcohol Use Policy

- Sarasota County Alcohol Use Policy will be in effect
- An alcohol permit must be obtained to serve alcohol at any special events within Nathan Benderson Park
- Alcohol Use Permits are contingent in obtaining proper insurance as described in the Sarasota County use agreement