

**New York State Scholastic Rowing Association**  
**2018 State Championship Rules & Regulations**

**Note Addition for 2018 regarding Youth Nationals:**

The NYSSRA State Championship is a qualifying regatta for the USRowing Youth National Championship. Please see the USRowing site for specific rules and allocation of bids, etc. Please note however, that if you attend more than one regatta which is a qualifier for Youth Nationals during the course of your season, you will have to elect a specific regatta which will be your Youth Nationals qualifying regatta. If you do not make an election, then the first qualifying regatta which you attend will by default be your qualifier meaning you will only be allowed to qualify for Youth Nationals from that regatta. Specifically for this year, if you compete in a Youth National Championship event at the NYSSRA and that is your qualifying regatta, you will not be eligible to enter that event at the Northeast Regional Championships the following week. Please familiarize yourself with the rules regarding election of your qualifying regatta so you are not under any misunderstanding about being able to qualify crews out of either NY States or at the Northeast Regional Championship.

**Event Categories:**

The following boat classes and categories for both men’s & women’s crews are part of the State Championship:

Boat Class/category	Varsity	Junior	2 <sup>nd</sup> Varsity *	Lightweight	Freshman	Novice
8+	X **	X	X	X **	X	X
4+	X **	X		X **	X	X
4X	X **	X		X	X	
2X	X **	X		X **		
2-	X **					
1X	X **					

\* Team must have a Varsity Eight entered in order to enter a 2<sup>nd</sup> Varsity Eight

\*\* USRowing Youth National Championship Events

A full list of events can be found here: [2018 New York State Championships](#)

## Overall Eligibility:

[1] **Eligibility – individuals and teams:** The following are the eligibility standards for all participants in scholastic and club entries:

**Scholastic teams:** All members of a crew must be enrolled in the same New York State high school and they cannot have graduated with a high school degree prior to the 2018 spring academic year. The residence of the members of the crew is not pertinent to their eligibility to compete for their New York high school. An entry is defined as ‘Scholastic’ or ‘Club’ based upon its lineup. It is not subjective. If every athlete is from the same School -- the Boat is automatically ‘scholastic’. The opposite is true.

**Club teams:** All members of a crew must be **bona fide** members of a rowing club located in New York State **and** must also be permanent residents of New York State. Members of the crew do not have to all come from one school district, and the specific location of their particular residence in New York State is not pertinent to their eligibility to compete for their New York rowing club so long as they are all New York State residents. For those school districts which have 2 schools within that district combining athletes from each school creates a Club Entry.

**Unaffiliated single scullers:** Single scullers who are not affiliated with a New York State high school or New York State rowing club may compete in the NYSSRA State Championships without affiliation so long as their permanent residence is in New York State. Any single sculler who attends a New York High School but is not a New York State resident may only compete for their high school. Any single sculler who neither attends a New York State High School, nor is a New York State resident, is **not** eligible to compete at the NYSSRA State Championships.

All crews must be identified as scholastic or club during the registration process prior to competing based on the identity of the athletes in the boat, and that identification cannot be changed subsequent to the start of racing. However, if a crew is mis-labeled and it impacts the correct medals being handed out, the NYSSRA may instruct the LOC to correct this.

Teams are responsible for providing accurate line-ups during the registration process and must provide any changes to the Regatta Director prior to crews competing. Any substitution of rowers without changing the line-ups of record and accurately identifying the individuals competing can result in disqualification of the entry at the discretion of the Executive Board. Any fabrication of names, or misrepresentation of the identities of any competitor, will likely result in disqualification of the entry and the imposition of further penalties on the team/coach involved at the sole discretion of the NYSSRA Board.

Any athlete who does not fit either the scholastic team or club team eligibility is not eligible to compete at the State Championship regatta and any crew with an ineligible athlete in the boat will be subject to disqualification.

Any questions regarding eligibility of individual athletes of crews will be decided by the Executive Board of the NYSSRA, whose decisions will be final.

**[2] Eligibility – competition:** The following define the number of times any individual is eligible to compete at the NYS Championship:

**General Rule:** All competitors at the NYS Championships are only eligible to race in one event, subject to the following limited and mutually exclusive circumstances:

- A. **Sweep/Sculling Exception:** A rower may row twice if they compete in one sweep event and one sculling event.
- B. **Pair Exception:** A rower may compete in any two sweep events so long as one of those events is the Pair.
- C. **The Single Exception:** A rower may compete in any two sculling events so long as one of those events is the Single.
- D. **Youth Nationals Exception:** A rower or coxswain may compete in two events of the same discipline (i.e. sweep or sculling) if **both** events they are competing in are events which lead to bids for the USRowing Youth National Championships, namely offered at the Youth National Championships in that year.
- E. **No rower or coxswain may row in more than two events in any case.** In 2018, the Straight 4- is the only exception.

**[3] Any questions regarding the eligibility of individuals or teams to race or to row twice, including any exceptions not included in these rules, shall be decided by the Executive Board or the Regatta Director as assigned by the Executive Board. All such decisions shall be final.**

**[4] Racing to conclusion rule:** When a team enters a crew into an event they have committed to race through all stages of the event. Accordingly, if an athlete competes in two crews during the time trials, withdrawal of one of those crews from any subsequent racing will constitute withdrawal of all crews in which that athlete has raced. Therefore, failure to race in one event will, in the absence of extraordinary circumstances, as defined by the executive board, result in disqualification of the second crew. In addition, any team which fails to race through the conclusion of the regatta in any specific event may not be allowed to enter said event the following year at the discretion of the NYSSRA board.

## **Category Definitions:**

**Varsity:** Open to all athletes up to Seniors in high school and open to all teams.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Varsity:** Open to all athletes up to Seniors in high school and open to all teams. A team **must** have at least one entry in the Varsity Eight category in order to enter a 2<sup>nd</sup> Varsity Eight.

**Junior:** Open at all athletes except those in 12<sup>th</sup> grade and open to all teams. No requirement for a Varsity Eight in order to enter a Junior eight.

**Lightweight:** Open at all athletes up to Seniors in high school and open to all teams. Competitors must be less than the following weights: Boys: 150 pounds; Girls: 130 pounds. No averaging of weights.

**Freshman:** Open to all athletes who are in 9<sup>th</sup> grade or younger and open to all teams.

**Novice:** Open at all high school age athletes who began rowing after the last day of the 2017 school year and open to all teams. Note that beginning rowing is defined by the time that athlete began rowing and **NOT** by the first year that athlete competed in a race, i.e. an athlete who began rowing in 2015 and has not competed until 2017 is not eligible to race as a Novice.

## **Weigh-ins**

**[1] Lightweight Weights:** Boys: Maximum 150 pounds; Girls: Maximum 130 pounds

**[2] Coxswain/boat weights:** There are no weigh ins for coxswains or boats.

**[3] Weigh ins:** Athletes must weigh in once for the entire weekend. Weigh ins can be done upon arrival at the race course on Friday. Crews must weigh in together. Saturday weigh ins must take place in the morning at least one hour prior to the time of the crew's race. If an individual in the crew is 1 lb. or less overweight they are allowed one hour within which to make weight. Failure to make weight once prevents that athlete from trying again, i.e. an unsuccessful weigh in attempt Friday precludes a second attempt Saturday morning. When an athlete or crew successfully makes weight, each athlete will be issued a wristband which must be worn all weekend. Any exchange of wristbands among athletes will result in the disqualification of all athletes and crews involved.

## **Progression**

**[1] Time Trials aka NYS Qualifying Regatta:** All crews will compete in Time Trials on the morning of the regatta. The time recorded in the time trial will be the official order of finish of ALL crews in the event until the completion of the Grand Final. Crews will advance to "A", "B" or in some cases "C" finals based on their time in the Time Trials. This portion of the weekend is important so that EVERY crew gains a racing time.

**[2] Finals:** The top 9 times in the time trials will advance to the "A" Final, with the next 9 times advancing to the "B" final, and in the event there are sufficient crews, the next 9 times will progress to the "C" final. Lane 0 will only be used in the event of protests or other extraordinary situations.

**[3] Final Order of Finish:** In all cases, the order and times posted during the time trials will be the official order of finish of all crews until the "A" final for that event has taken place and those results are certified as official. That order of finish will determine the order for bids to both the USRowing Youth National Championships for all crews and to the SRAA National Championships for Scholastic crews. All coaches and competitors are responsible for knowing and abiding by all USRowing and SRAA rules regarding eligibility in the awarding and accepting of bids to each regatta.

## **National Championship Bid Acceptance**

**[1] Youth National Championships:** The top two crews in each of the Youth National Championship qualification events will earn the right to represent New York State at the Championship regatta. USRowing will contact those that earn a bid to invite them to the Youth National Championships.

Please note that if your team attends more than one qualifier for the USRowing National Championship, you are required to elect which regatta you will use as your Youth Nationals Qualifying Regatta prior to May 2, 2018. Please go to the following site to make your election:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTL6jO2h\\_ggqcWaTMv7UZjasEXA1zoWsCdX54Mw8ejqVy\\_gPQ/formResponse](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeTL6jO2h_ggqcWaTMv7UZjasEXA1zoWsCdX54Mw8ejqVy_gPQ/formResponse) .

Petitions by non-qualifying crews can be made to USRowing, however, please note the requirements laid out in the USRowing rules to make sure your petition is within the parameters for permissible petitions or your petition will be denied without being considered. In addition, please note that once you accept a bid, you are obligated to attend and compete through whatever level you attain at the regatta or you will be barred from that event the following year.

For additional information and petition rules, visit the [Youth National Championships regatta website](#).

**[2] Scholastic National Championships:** The top number of scholastic crews achieving the finishing placements in the chart below, will earn the bid for the Scholastic National Championship:

	<b>8</b>	<b>4+</b>	<b>4x</b>	<b>2x</b>	<b>1x</b>
<b>Varsity</b>	4	4	1	2	2
<b>2nd Varsity</b>	2				
<b>Junior</b>	3	3	1	1	
<b>Lightweight</b>	3	3	1	1	
<b>Freshman</b>	3	1			

For additional information and petition information, visit the [Scholastic Rowing Association regatta website](#).

## Contingency Plans

**[1]** In the event of unrowable water on either Saturday/Sunday:

- a. As all events will begin at the “qualifying regatta” Time Trials Saturday morning. Semi’s will be stocked from the Time Trial’s in a manner which creates an even spread of speed.
- b. Saturday can/will be extended (until 7:30) **if** there is a possibility the water will become row-able, and the light holds.
- c. If Finals (Sunday) need to be cancelled, the fastest qualifying times in the Time Trials will be awarded the medals and Nationals slots. The times rowed in the Time Trials will be the time of record until the Finals create the end results.

**[2]** In the event of unrowable water on Sunday.

- a. We will row as many Finals as possible with changes in the race order only if absolutely necessary.

- i. The highest priority is that every kid gets a chance to race.
  - ii. The second priority is that the Youth National Championships/Scholastic National Championship qualifying finals are run.
  - iii. The third priority is that the order of racing (above) is followed.
- b. The day can/will be extended if there is a possibility the water will become row-able.
- c. If finals need to be cancelled, the fastest qualifying times in the Time Trials will be awarded the medals.

## Practice Schedule

1. The racecourse and docks will be in assembly on Friday afternoon. Crews will be allowed on the water, but there is no guarantee that everything will be in place.
2. Because the race course may still be in the process of being assembled, the people who are setting up the course and towing the docks have the priority on the water and cannot be asked to watch crews while doing their job.
3. Crews **MUST** follow the "Practice Schedule Map" – Failure to do so could result in exclusion from the regatta. Follow instructions please.
4. To be sure that your crews are allowed to practice, crews should make arrangements to bring launches and engines. Please contact the LOC if you plan to bring a launch.
5. There will be no practice in the mornings before the racing.
6. On Saturday evening, the course will be open for coach-accompanied practice ½ hour after the completion of the final race until dusk. Time TBA that weekend.
7. Once again...CREWS MAY ONLY PRACTICE IF THERE ARE SAFETY LAUNCHES ON THE WATER!! Coaches, please be prepared to volunteer to be a safety launch driver.

## Medals & Trophies

**[1] Medals:** Gold, Silver and Bronze medals are given to the top 3 Scholastic boats and the top 3 Club boats. In the event there are only three scholastic or club entries in an event for gold and silver medals will be given, and in the event there are only two scholastic or club entries, only a gold medal will be given.

**[2] Trophies and Plaques:** There are trophies for most events and those are available for photos after the official results have been certified, but the physical trophy remains with the NYSSRA. There are also plaques for the top scholastic teams in each event which are given to the school who finished first among the scholastic teams.

**[3] State Champion T-Shirts:** State Champion T-Shirts are available for all gold medal winners. Please present your gold medal to the T-Shirt salesman to obtain your shirt or have your coach do so.

## Miscellaneous

Any situations not specifically provided for in these rules will be decided, on a case by case basis as they are brought to the attention of the NYSSRA, by the NYSSRA Executive Board whose decisions will be final.

### Resources:

- [2018 USRowing Rules of Rowing.](#)
- [New York State Scholastic Rowing Association Webpage](#)
- [New York State Scholastic Rowing Association Twitter Page](#)
- [Streamline Racing](#)