

Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Bylaws
Method of Conduct of the WIRA Championship

Name:

The event is called the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship.

Date:

The WIRA Championship will be conducted on Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, 2008. Thereafter the WIRA Championship will be held on the Saturday and Sunday four weekends prior to the NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Championship.

Regatta Venue:

The WIRA Championship will be held on Lake Natoma in Sacramento, California.

Rules of Racing:

The USRA Rules of Rowing will be followed unless amended by these bylaws.

Events:

<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
Varsity Eight	Varsity Eight
	Varsity Eight, D2, D3, Club
Lightweight Eight	Lightweight Eight
Second Varsity Eight	Second Varsity Eight
	Second Varsity Eight, D2, D3, Club
Varsity Four	Varsity Four
	Varsity Four, D2, D3, Club
Lightweight Four	Lightweight Four
Novice Eight	Novice Eight
Second Novice Eight	Second Novice Eight
Novice Four	Novice Four
Novice Lightweight Four	Novice Lightweight Four
Pair	Pair

Regatta Format:

The order of events will be published as part of these bylaws. No changes to this schedule will occur without the approval of the Board of Stewards. The schedule will not be adjusted to accommodate athlete doubling, equipment sharing, or other special requests. Races will not be delayed in order to accommodate athlete doubling or equipment sharing. No special consideration will be given to a crew that is late to the start because of athlete doubling or equipment sharing. Please remember that the regatta may fall off schedule because of a legitimate equipment breakage, false starts, stoppage of a race due to interference, or other

similar causes. Nevertheless, crews will still be held responsible for making it to their start on time regardless of athlete doubling or equipment sharing. (e.g. It is not an acceptable excuse to be late for a start because an athlete who is doubling was involved in a previous race that had two false starts.)

Definitions:

- a.) A novice is any student-athlete who is in their first year of collegiate competition. Participation in any competition during the spring season, including scrimmages and joint practices, constitutes the use of a person's novice year. A rower who has previously competed only as a coxswain can compete as a novice rower. A coxswain who has previously competed only as a rower can compete as a novice coxswain.
- b.) Any athlete may participate in a varsity category event. An athlete may not participate in both the varsity eight and second varsity eight.
- c.) Male lightweight rowers may not exceed 160 pounds and the crew must average 155 pounds or below. Female lightweight rowers may not exceed 130 pounds. A women's lightweight crew does not need to meet a crew average weight.
- d.) Coxswains for men's crews must weigh at least 125 pounds. Coxswains for women's crews must weigh at least 110 pounds.
- e.) In order to enter a second varsity eight an institution must enter the corresponding varsity eight event. Community Colleges are exempt from this rule.
- f.) An athlete may not participate in both the novice eight and the second novice eight.

Multiple Entries:

Generally, institutions may only enter one crew per event. The board of stewards will determine whether or not an institution is allowed to enter a "B" entry on a case by case basis. This may be possible only if the "B" entry does not result in the creation of an additional heat, and only in the following events (for both men and women): JV8+, Itwt8+, ItwtN4+, and 2N8+.

Responsibilities:

The Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association, through the Board of Stewards, has the ultimate control over all aspects of the WIRA Championship.

The California State University, Sacramento Aquatic Center serves as the host venue and local organizing committee for the WIRA Championship. The Aquatic Center will provide all the logistics for running the regatta both on and off the water.

The Chief Referee shall appoint a jury comprised of three members, including the Chief Referee as President. The jury will decide all issues related to the rules of rowing. Only licensed judge-referees assigned to the WIRA Championship as judge-referees shall be members of the jury. Members of the WIRA Board of Stewards, WIRA coaches, and members of the local organizing committee cannot be members of the jury.

The Regatta Management Committee will decide all issues other than those resulting from actual racing. The voting members of the Regatta Management Committee are the five WIRA stewards. The head of the local organizing committee and the Chief Referee will serve as non-voting members.

Entry Fee:

The entry fee for 2009 is as follows:

One or Two boats	\$575.00
Three - Five boats	\$150.00
More than 5 boats	\$50.00

Entry Deadline:

The deadline for both entry fee and race entry form for the 2009 WIRA Championship is Monday, April 22, 2009, 8:00 PM. Checks for entry fee can be sent to the WIRA Treasurer, as shown on the WIRA Entry Fee Invoice. Race entries can be sent to the designated WIRA representative, as shown on the WIRA Regatta Entry Form. There will be no exceptions made and no late entries will be accepted. No phone entries will be accepted. Changes to entries can be made before the entry deadline, but only if an amended entry form is received prior to the deadline and is clearly marked. No changes to entries will be accepted by phone. After the entry deadline there will be no additional entries accepted unless an event is cancelled due to insufficient entries. A \$100 scratch fee must accompany each scratch. Failure to properly scratch an entry may result in the exclusion of a program's crews from the regatta.

Seeding:

The Board of Stewards will seed the eight oared events. Provisional seedings will be released on Monday, April 28. Coaches will have an opportunity to give the stewards feedback on the provisional seedings. Deadline for feedback is Wednesday, April 29, 5:00 PM. The stewards will then publish the final seedings, by 8:00 PM, Wednesday April 29.

Athlete Doubling:

Athletes may participate in multiple events. Athletes may not double in the Division I/Open Categories between the Varsity 8/JV8/ V4. Athletes may double from the Novice 8 into these Varsity events. As previously noted, there will be no adjustments made to the schedule in order to accommodate an athlete who is participating in more than one event. Crews will not be placed into specific heats in order to accommodate an athlete who is participating in more than one event. Races will not be delayed in order to accommodate an athlete who is participating in more than one event.

Eligibility:

All participants in the WIRA Championship must have their eligibility certified by their institution. Each institution must provide a copy of their roster and a signed certification by the appropriate administrator at their institution with their regatta entry. A coach may not certify athlete eligibility.

Each program must submit the lineups for all of their crews at the Friday night meeting. Lineups will be compared to the certified eligibility rosters.

Athletes who are part of a varsity status women's rowing team must meet the NCAA eligibility standards that are applicable to that institution.

Athletes who are part of a club status women's rowing team and all athletes who are part of a men's rowing team must meet the following minimum eligibility standards:

- a.) The athlete must be enrolled as a full-time student at the certifying institution.
- b.) The athlete must be in good academic standing as defined by the certifying institution.
- c.) The athlete may only compete for a maximum of four seasons as defined by NCAA operating by-laws. Participation in any competition, including fall races and scrimmages and joint practices at any time of year, constitutes the use of a season of competition. Although fall competition does not constitute the use of novice eligibility, it does count as a season of competition.
- d.) The athlete must conform to the five-year rule. All seasons of competition must be completed within five years from the time the athlete first started classes as a full-time student at any two year or four year collegiate institution. The five-year time period begins whether or not the student participates in any sport. Division II and III men's and women's crews may utilize the ten semester rule.
- e.) Athletes may be given consideration of hardship for additional eligibility under guidelines used in governing women's NCAA varsity teams.

Rower Weigh-Ins:

Lightweight Women CRCA-IRA (Intercollegiate Rowing Association) Regatta weigh-in procedures will be used. Athletes weigh-in Friday evening after 3pm. Athletes must make appropriate weight within one hour of first attempt, utilizing at most 3 total attempts. Athletes will be allowed the 2 additional attempts after the initial attempt only if they are at or below: 132.0 for women, 162.0 for men. Saturday morning weigh-in is an option for late travelers, but **ONLY** with a petition to stewards that has been agreed upon ahead of time.

Coxswain Weigh-Ins:

Coxswains must weigh in 1-2 hours before their first race each day on which they compete. *NOTE: coxswains will still be asked to check in before all races.*

Progression System:

Events with fewer than four entries will be cancelled. Events with seven or fewer crews will be held with a final only format. Events with eight to fourteen crews will be held with two qualifying heats. The first, second, and third place crews in each heat will advance to the final. Events with fifteen to twenty-one crews will be held with three qualifying heats. The first and second place crews in each heat will advance to the final. Seeded crews will be placed in lanes working from lane 1 (top seed) to lane 7 (lowest seed). Heat winners will be randomly assigned to lanes 1 and 2 (8-14 entries) or lanes 1,2, and 3 (15-21 entries). If more than 21 entries are received for an event the Board of Stewards will decide what to do. There will be petite finals for all events with more than 9 entries. Participation in the appropriate level of final (grand, petite, or third) is required. Failure to participate in a petite or third level final may result in the program's crews being excluded from the regatta.

Racing for Shirts:

All competitors in men's events are expected to race for shirts. The overall event winner will collect shirts from all other crews entered in the event. Competitors in women's events may race for shirts on an ad hoc basis.

Awards:

An awards presentation will follow the conclusion of racing. All crews and coaches are strongly encouraged to attend. All crews and coaches are expected to present themselves in manner and appearance in a fashion befitting a championship occasion.

Medals:

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded in all events. Each event winner will receive a banner. Gold medals will be awarded to the coach of each winning crew.

All-WIRA Teams:

There will be nine men and nine women on the All-WIRA First Team. Three athletes each, from the top three placing crews in the Varsity Eight event, will be selected by their respective coaches. There will be nine men and twelve women on the All-WIRA Second Team. One athlete each, from the top three placing crews in the Lightweight Eight, Second Varsity Eight, and Varsity Four events, will be selected by their respective coaches. Additionally, one athlete each from the Women's Varsity Eight DII/III event top three crews.

Coaches of the Year:

A coach of a men's rowing team and a coach of a women's rowing team will be selected by the WIRA head coaches. Head coaches of a men's rowing team may vote for the men's rowing team coach of the year. Head coaches of a women's rowing team may vote for the women's rowing team coach of the year. Each coach may vote however they wish. Recommended criteria to consider include the performance of the coach's crews at the WIRA Championship, the improvement that a program has made under the coach's guidance, and any hardships that the coach's program has had to overcome.

Points Competition:

There will be a WIRA Points Championship. Separate trophies will be awarded in the following categories:

Cumulative Points: Women

Cumulative Points: Men

Efficiency Award: Women

Efficiency Award: Men

Revised 10/07/07

POINTS SYSTEM FOR CUMULATIVE POINTS TROPHY AND EFFICIENCY TROPHY

Boat class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	
Varsity 8	100	94	90	87	85	83	81	
Varsity 8:2/3/C	94	90	87	85	83	81	79	Women
2nd Varsity 8	86	84	82	80	78	76	74	
Varsity 4	86	84	82	80	78	76	74	
Novice 8	80	74	68	64	62	60	58	
Lightweight 8	60	54	48	44	40	36	32	
Lightweight 4	40	38	36	32	28	24	20	
Novice 4	40	36	32	28	24	20	20	
2nd Novice 8	40	36	32	28	24	20	16	
Novice Light 4	24	20	16	12	8	4	4	
Pair	24	20	16	12	8	4	4	

CUMULATIVE TROPHY

goes to the team with the greatest number of points

no minimum number of entries

no minimum number of athletes

EFFICIENCY TROPHY

minimum of 13 athletes participating (including coxswains)

minimum appearance in the top 7 in at least 2 races (either in grand final or as winner of a petite final)

Efficiency trophy goes to the team with the greatest *efficiency percentage*

Efficiency Percentage = total actual points divided by the total possible points.

(total possible points would be first place finishes for all boats entered)

POINT DISTRIBUTION

If an event has less than 7 entries, point values awarded will be shifted to the right on the grid such that the last place boat will receive 7th place points, and preceding finishers will receive 6th, 5th, 4th place points, etc.

e.g., a 5 crew boat race would score as: 1st place-3rd place points; 2nd place-4th place points, etc. until the 5th (last) boat received 7th place points. The corresponding MAX possible for the event is shifted as well.

THERE ARE FOUR SEPARATE POINTS TROPHIES

1) Cumulative for women 2) Cumulative for men 3) Efficiency for women 4) Efficiency for men

Constitution
Bylaws
Dues Invoice
Entry Fee Invoice
Crew Entry Form
Proposed Schedule
Crew Lineup Form
Athlete All-WIRA Award Form
Coach of the Year Award Form
Points Trophies Scoring System Document