

# **EVSRA Regional Championship Regatta Guidelines**

## **Revision 9: 3.2023**

The EVSRA Championship Regatta shall be competed in accordance with the current USRowing Rules of Rowing, with the following additions/clarifications:

- VASRA has rules (similar to these) that identify how they diverge from the USRowing Rules of Rowing. A crew that qualifies for EVSRA cannot be assumed to qualify for VASRA events of the same name.
- Revisions to these rules
  - Proposed changes and associated justification/reasoning must be submitted in writing.
  - Changes for the next championship must be proposed for consideration by the competition committee no later than 20 January.
    - After deliberation, the competition committee may, if desired, update the written rules with a refined form of the proposed change.
    - Both the original proposed change (plus justification) and the refined form (if produced) will be sent to all EVSRA member team head coaches for consideration no later than 6 February.
    - As a part of the distribution of proposals, the competition committee may list a vote tally for acceptance/rejection of each original and/or refined rules change.
    - As a part of the distribution, any competition committee member may submit written justification of their vote for consideration by the full coaches group.
  - Changes for the next championship must be approved no later than 15 March.
    - Changes are approved by group meeting. Attendance is limited to EVSRA coaches and board members.
    - Changes are accepted by a 2/3 majority of all EVSRA member teams (one vote per team). Votes may be cast by any coach associated with the team, but must be cast in-person, over the phone, or by video conference during the approval meeting.
    - EVSRA member teams are those that have paid membership fees in the current year.
    - This meeting is voting to approve/disapprove proposals only. Discussion/debate is allowed for clarity prior to the vote.
  - Changes for the next championship will not be considered after 15 March.
  - Deviation from these rules cannot be considered or approved by anyone.
- Events
  - Championship events are those listed in table 7 **or** table 8.

- Two sets of events are provided because the USRowing Rules of Rowing structure events by age, while VASRA rules currently structure events differently.
  - The appropriate table is confirmed each year as part of the changes approvals.
  - The Regional Championships event may be expanded (as race day time allows) to include exhibition events. These events have no progression beyond heats.
- Participation
- Grades/eligibility
    - Athletes must not turn 19 years of age on or before 1 Aug of the prior calendar year.
    - 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade athletes have 4 years eligibility to compete in high school events.
    - 8<sup>th</sup> grade athletes may participate as their club decides.
    - Middle school athletes may train in all aspects (on land and water) with high school crews and can participate in regattas in a middle school boat that races as a middle school or exhibition entry.
  - Scholastic/club status
    - Crews are not required to be scholastic to participate, advance, medal, and/or score points.
    - Boats containing athletes from multiple programs/teams are exhibition.
  - Guest programs (non-EVSRA teams) may be invited to race by a member team. The guest program must provide written proof they are covered by proper insurance (injury and liability) to the EVSRA. Guest program entries are exhibition.
  - Double-rowing
    - There will be no double-rowing in championship events.
    - Coxswains may cox in two championship events, or cox once and row once in two championship events.
    - Any championship entry not meeting the two previous guidelines will race exhibition. Specifically, the primary row is a valid entry. The secondary row is exhibition. The priority distinction must be identified by a team coach before the completion of the coaches meeting on the morning of the regatta.
    - This rule does not apply to non-championship events.
  - Neither coxswains nor rowers will be weighed.
  - Juniors
    - Junior crews are comprised of rowers and coxswains that are not seniors.
    - Athletes must not turn 18 years of age before 1 Sept of the prior calendar year.
  - Novices

- Novice crews are comprised of rowers and coxswains who:
  - have never competed as a high school athlete in a spring regatta season, and
  - have not raced on the water as a high school athlete more than 12 months before the date of the event.
- Any rower meets the requirements above if their prior participation/training was as a coxswain.
- Any coxswain meets the requirements above if their prior participation/training was as a rower.
- Middle School
  - Middle school crews are comprised of rowers in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Otherwise the crew is exhibition.
  - Middle school crews race other middle school crews, or may race against high school crews in exhibition events.
  - For all races, middle school crew rower makeup can be any gender combination/ratio, but crews must race in the same hull type as their competitors (4s vs. 4s, etc.).
  - Middle school crews may be coxed by a coxswain of any level.

#### □ Entries

- Entries are due by 2300 the Monday prior to the event and must be submitted by the means announce by the regatta director.
- Each team's entries can be adjusted prior to 2300 Tuesday night in consultation with the regatta scheduler to maximize the non-exhibition participation of their athletes. Following this deadline, the only entries adjustments allowed are those detailed below. These adjustments can be completed in a group setting, or separately.
- Exhibition entries in championship events do not progress through the regatta, earn medals/ribbons, or score points.
  - Entries known to be exhibition at submission must be designated as such via email to the regatta scheduler no later than one hour after the entry deadline. Uncertainty as to which entries will become exhibition is not an option. The designations must be made on time.
  - Entries that change to exhibition status can be designated as such at any time. On the day of the regatta, changes to exhibition status not yet designated as such must be communicated immediately to the regatta director.
  - Entries can change out of exhibition status back to normal, but only before the completion of the coaches meeting on the morning of the regatta.
- Progression of Entries
  - Teams must enter a Varsity (U19a) crew before entering a 2<sup>nd</sup> Varsity (U19b) crew for that same crew type. A 2V crew must be entered before a 3V entry can be made.

- Any program younger than three years (from date of first practice to date of regatta) may start their progression at the 2V (U19b) level.
- Progression must be verifiable through event results. A team's higher crew must race faster than their lower crew, or both entries will be disqualified. Only the fastest times posted by each crew during the entire championship regatta will be compared. This rule applies after all races are complete, and each crew's max effort has been recorded (heat times are unreliable, as max effort may not be required to advance). This rule can be nullified if the affected team can prove significant cause (injury, crab, weather, etc.) for the slower time in the upper boat. Faster times in the lower boat are not a valid explanation.
- Events outside Progression: A team may enter a lightweight, junior (U17), or novice (U15) crew without first making a varsity entry of the same crew type.
- Teams are only permitted one entry per championship event, except as noted below.
  - Second entries may be made, and will row exhibition.
  - In the 1x, a team may have two entries progress and medal (but not score).

#### □ Scheduling

- Initial heat and lane assignments will fall to the judgment of the regatta scheduler (the individual creating the original lane assignments from the online registrations). Decisions here will be informed by results this spring season.
- Schedule review meeting
  - The coaches will convene either Wednesday or Thursday prior to the event to review the schedule for accuracy and fairness.
    - The schedule will be adjusted as much as possible to accommodate hull conflicts.
    - Adjustments can also be made for coxswain double-participation in championship events. These shifts are secondary to hull conflicts.
    - Coaches may debate heat and lane assignments. The regatta scheduler has final say on any adjustments.
    - Should an event have less than three scoring entries (based on initial entries or due to scratches), the affected team(s) may adjust their entries to move athletes to other event(s).
    - Should an event in progression have only one remaining entry (and that entry cannot be moved per the prior bullet), that crew moves up to the higher event in progression (e.g. 2V8+ moves up to compete in V8+), becoming a second entry for their school. The second entry is allowed to progress and medal. Second entries created under this rule shall be placed in the same heat as the school's first entry. The crew is automatically awarded James Thomson Cup trophy points for winning a single-boat race in their original event. The crew cannot be counted as an entry/result for the Bill Evans cup, as no competition was defeated. Cup points for the event they joined are calculated as if they had not raced.
    - Should an event outside progression have only one remaining entry (and that entry cannot be moved per the fourth bullet), that crew moves to the lowest event in

progression for that boat type (e.g. J4+ moves to compete in 2V4+). This causes the moving crew to become a second entry for their school, and they are treated in the same way as a second entry in the previous bullet.

- Should the top-of-progression event have only one remaining entry (and that entry cannot be moved per the fourth bullet), all crews in the fastest non-progression event of the same type will be moved to that top-of-progression event.
  - If this is done, affected team(s) may adjust their entries to move athletes/crews to other event(s).
  - If the team that had no top-of-progression competition now has two entries in the merged event, the entry from the moved event will be treated as if they had no competitors and were moved from the other event to this one per the rule above.
- Following this meeting, the only permitted changes to the schedule will be scratches of entries, designation of those entries as exhibition, or retraction of exhibition designations. Events will not be expanded or created to accommodate changes.
  - Scratches or exhibition designations/retractions made more than 24 hours before the coaches' meeting on the day of the event impact scoring.
  - Scratches or exhibition designations made less than 24 hours before the coaches' meeting on the day of the event do not affect scoring. Exhibition retractions in this time frame do affect scoring.
  - All scratches or exhibition designations/retractions must be communicated to all EVSRA coaches as soon as the status is certain. In good faith, coaches are encouraged to communicate these potential changes ASAP, even if they are not certain.
- Morning coaches meeting on the day of the event
  - Schedule changes made at, or before this meeting affect medal/ribbon eligibility.
  - Reshuffling the schedule at this meeting to compress the entire event is allowed. Should there be disagreement on how to do this, the regatta director will consult the regatta scheduler and make the final decision.
- There are several circumstances in which open racing slots can be filled due to changes based on the rules above. The priority in taking open slots is:
  - A crew that will be eligible to earn points in that slot takes priority over a crew that will not earn points.
  - For 1x events where both crews may earn medals, schools with no entries take priority over schools with one boat already entered.
  - If no other priority rules apply, filling slots is first-come, first-filled.
  - Boats entered by the initial entry deadline cannot be bumped from their racing slot, even if they are exhibition.
- Event compression contingency plan – The event may be compressed for cause (weather, venue availability, etc.) by eliminating events in the following order:
  - Any exhibition events (mixed boats, coaches race, etc.) are first.

- Reps are second. Progression from heats to finals still apply. Advancement from reps to finals is done using heats times.
  - Petite finals are third. Rankings for points are determined using heat/rep times (reps take precedence).
  - Finals of only two boats are fourth. Sweep finals of only three boats are fifth.
  - If further events must be eliminated, this is done from lowest to highest 1<sup>st</sup> place cup points.
  - Should weather make it unsafe for a boat category (1x, novices, etc.) to race in finals, or if that final is cancelled using the rules above, heat/rep times will be used for final rankings.
  - Note: crews that cannot meet the compressed schedule due to equipment availability (and are unable to borrow) must forfeit.
- Rules Violations
- Concerns regarding potential rules violations are submitted to the regatta director by the head coach of any team.
  - Potential violations will be investigated and ruled on by the regatta director, in consultation with the head referee.
  - By signing the trophy points form for their team, each head coach confirms they have no concerns regarding rules violations.
  - Potential violations will not be addressed after the day of the event.
  - The regatta director will recuse from any decision affecting a team to which they are associated. The regatta commission chairperson will take on the responsibilities of making the ruling.
- Progression of Competition
- Varsity (U19) 4+ and 8+ events require Petite and Grand Finals to rank teams for scoring. These categories will use the progressions presented in tables 1-3. All other events will follow the progressions of tables 4-6.
  - Should a crew be unable, or choose not to race after they have advanced:
    - The crew's coach must immediately notify the regatta director of the withdrawal.
    - The next eligible crew (per progression rules) will be offered the open slot. This crew is eligible to progress, medal, and score points.
    - The crew withdrawing from competition will receive the first points value below all crews competing in the stage from which they withdrew if the withdrawal is for medical or emergency reasons.
  - Alternates (replacement athletes) may not be inserted into a crew between heat/reps/semis/finals. Once competition begins, the crew must compete in the same lineup.

<b>Table 1. Varsity 4/8 Events (6-10 entries)</b>						
<b>Event</b>	<b>Progression</b>	<b>Lane 1</b>	<b>Lane 2</b>	<b>Lane 3</b>	<b>Lane 4</b>	<b>Lane 5</b>
Heat A	1st, 2nd, better 3rd to GF, remainder to PF	Rank 9	Rank 5	Rank 1	Rank 4	Rank 8
Heat B		Rank 10	Rank 6	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 7
Petite Final		5th Ht B	4th Ht A	Slowest 3rd	4th Ht B	5th Ht A
Grand Final		Fastest 3rd	2nd Ht B	1st Ht A	1st Ht B	2nd Ht A

**Note:** When only 6-7 entries are made, petite finals will not be held. Finishing order for crews 6 and 7 will be determined using heats times

<b>Table 2. Varsity 4/8 Events (11-15 entries)</b>						
<b>Event</b>	<b>Progression</b>	<b>Lane 1</b>	<b>Lane 2</b>	<b>Lane 3</b>	<b>Lane 4</b>	<b>Lane 5</b>
Heat A	1st to GF, remainder to Rep	Rank 13	Rank 7	Rank 1	Rank 6	Rank 12
Heat B		Rank 14	Rank 8	Rank 2	Rank 5	Rank 11
Heat C		Rank 15	Rank 9	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 10
Rep A	1st to GF, 2nd, 3rd, & better 4th to PF	4th Ht A	3rd Ht B	2nd Ht C	3rd Ht A	4th Ht B
Rep B		Fastest 5th	3rd Ht C	2nd Ht B	2nd Ht A	4th Ht C
Petite Final		Fastest 4th	3rd Rep A	2nd Rep B	2nd Rep A	3rd Rep B
Grand Final		1st Rep B	1st Ht C	1st Ht A	1st Ht B	1st Rep A

<b>Table 3. Varsity 4/8 Event (16-20 entries)</b>						
<b>Event</b>	<b>Progression</b>	<b>Lane 1</b>	<b>Lane 2</b>	<b>Lane 3</b>	<b>Lane 4</b>	<b>Lane 5</b>
Trials	Advance to Semis by Time	Rank 17	Rank 9	Rank 1	Rank 8	Rank 16
Trials		Rank 18	Rank 10	Rank 2	Rank 7	Rank 15
Trials		Rank 19	Rank 11	Rank 3	Rank 6	Rank 14
Trials		Rank 20	Rank 12	Rank 4	Rank 5	Rank 13
Semi A	1st, 2nd, better 3rd to GF, remainder to PF	9th Time	5th Time	1st Time	4th Time	8th Time
Semi B		10th Time	6th Time	2nd Time	3rd Time	7th Time
Petite Final		5th Semi B	4th Semi A	Slower 3rd	4th Semi B	5th Semi A
Grand Final		Fastest 3rd	2nd Semi B	1st Semi A	1st Semi B	2nd Semi A

<b>Table 4. Other Events (6-10 entries)</b>						
<b>Event</b>	<b>Progression</b>	<b>Lane 1</b>	<b>Lane 2</b>	<b>Lane 3</b>	<b>Lane 4</b>	<b>Lane 5</b>
Heat A	1st, 2nd, better 3rd to F	Rank 9	Rank 5	Rank 1	Rank 4	Rank 8
Heat B		Rank 10	Rank 6	Rank 2	Rank 3	Rank 7
Final		Fastest 3rd	2nd Ht B	1st Ht A	1st Ht B	2nd Ht A

<b>Table 5. Other Events (11-15 entries)</b>						
<b>Event</b>	<b>Progression</b>	<b>Lane 1</b>	<b>Lane 2</b>	<b>Lane 3</b>	<b>Lane 4</b>	<b>Lane 5</b>
Heat A	1st, top two non-winning times to F	Rank 13	Rank 7	Rank 1	Rank 6	Rank 12
Heat B		Rank 14	Rank 8	Rank 2	Rank 5	Rank 11
Heat C		Rank 15	Rank 9	Rank 3	Rank 4	Rank 10
Final		Second Non-1 <sup>st</sup>	1st Ht C	1st Ht A	1st Ht B	Fastest Non-1st

<b>Table 6. Other Events (16-20 entries)</b>						
<b>Event</b>	<b>Progression</b>	<b>Lane 1</b>	<b>Lane 2</b>	<b>Lane 3</b>	<b>Lane 4</b>	<b>Lane 5</b>
Trials	Advance to Finals by Time	Rank 17	Rank 9	Rank 1	Rank 8	Rank 16
Trials		Rank 18	Rank 10	Rank 2	Rank 7	Rank 15
Trials		Rank 19	Rank 11	Rank 3	Rank 6	Rank 14
Trials		Rank 20	Rank 12	Rank 4	Rank 5	Rank 13
Final		5th Time	3rd Time	1st Time	2nd Time	4th Time

□ Medals & Ribbons

- Medals will be awarded in events with two or more entries.
  - Four crews, or more = gold, silver, and bronze.
  - Three crews = gold and silver.
  - Two crews = gold.
- Ribbons will be awarded to:
  - Mixed boat races (within each race), per breakdown above for medals.
  - Other exhibition races (within each race) per breakdown above for medals.
- Medals/ribbons will not be awarded outside the (grand) final.



- No post-event ceremonies will be held. All awards will be available for pickup once the associated results are official.
  - Only a coach may pick up awards; the coach signs for having received the medals and trophy (if applicable). By signing for the awards, the coach certifies agreement with the results.

- The pickup location is intended to offer an opportunity for celebration and photos, and will be announced at the coaches meeting
- Trophy Points
  - Second finishing entries in the 1x events do not score points, but their finishing order does impact the points scored by other crews.
  - Competition Coefficient (CC)
    - Prior to being used for any trophy calculations, the scores listed in table 7 will be multiplied by a decimal value set for the number of entries competing in the event.
    - Eights, quads, and singles events with 5 or more entries use  $CC = 1$ . With 4 or fewer entries,  $CC = \text{number of entries} \div 5$ .
    - Fours and doubles events with 10 or more entries use  $CC = 1$ . With 9 or fewer entries,  $CC = \text{number of entries} \div 10$ .
    - Exhibition entries are NOT included in the count to establish the competition coefficient.
    - Second entries in the 1x events are included in the count to establish the competition coefficient.
  - Points will be awarded to crews based upon finals finishing order. Crews not making finals will receive points based upon heats and rep times (crews advancing from heats outrank all non-advancing crews).
  - Crews tying on the river will both be awarded points for the higher finishing position.
  - Withdrawn crews (except those discussed above) get last-place points. Multiple withdrawals tie for last place.
  - Should a crew(s) be disqualified for any reason during a stage after heats, the finishing order for the event will be adjusted (for points purposes) using heat/rep/semi/petite final times. The disqualified crew gets no points.
  - Each team is awarded points from table 7 (adjusted using the competition coefficient).
  - Coaches will be given the opportunity to inspect cup results prior to that cup being awarded. Any coach that does not take advantage of this rule forfeits the ability to later dispute cup results. This inspection must be completed within 24 hours of the results calculations being finalized at regatta's end.
- The **James Thomson Cup** recognizes the most dominant team in the EVSRA and will be awarded by a calculation of points earned under the following guidelines:
  - A team's score is the sum of its SIX highest point-value finishes.
  - In the event of a tie score, the winner will be (use the first that applies):
    - The program that finished better in the highest valued event where the two teams both competed (if two events of equal point value cancel out, criteria does not apply).
    - The program that defeated the most competitors in their highest scoring event.
    - The program that defeated the most competitors in all their scoring events.

- The program with the fewest entries earning points.
  - Flip a coin.
- The **Bill Evans Cup** recognizes the team that competes the best (the most efficiently) in their events entered and will be awarded under the following guidelines:
- The winner of the James Thomson Cup will be removed as a competitor for the Bill Evans Cup.
  - Second entries in the 1x events: no matter the original designation of A/B entries, a team's higher finishing crew is included in the calculation.
  - A team must have a minimum of three entries, or two eights entries receiving scores (including scores of zero) to compete for this cup.
  - All of a team's scores are included. Crews earning no points, but eligible to score points are used for this cup, contributing to the denominator of the calculation. Teams with four or more scoring entries remove their crew that most negatively impacts the calculation.
  - The team score is the percentage of possible points earned. Total points awarded is divided by total points possible to be earned.
  - In the event of a tie score, the winner will be decided by the following criterion in order:
    - The program that defeated the most competitors in all their scoring events.
    - The program that defeated the most competitors in their highest scoring event; their second-highest scoring event; or if still needed, their third-highest scoring event.
    - The program that finished better in the highest valued event where the two teams both competed (if two events of equal point value cancel out, criteria does not apply).
    - Flip a coin.

<b>Place</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
V8+	100	75	56	42	32	24	18	13	10	8	6	4	3	2	1
J8+	75	56	42	32	24	18	13	10	8	6	4	3	2	1	
2V8+	65	49	37	27	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1	
V4+	55	41	31	23	17	13	10	7	6	4	3	2	1		
N8+	50	38	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1		
V4x	50	38	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1		
J4+	41	31	23	17	13	10	7	6	4	3	2	1			
J4x	37	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1			
2V4+	36	27	20	15	11	8	6	5	4	3	2	1			
V2x	28	21	15	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1				
N4+	27	20	15	12	9	6	5	4	3	2	1				
N4x	25	19	14	11	8	6	4	3	2	1					
2/J2x	21	15	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1					
V1x	15	11	8	6	5	4	3	2	1						
N2x	14	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1						
J1x	11	8	6	5	4	3	2	1							

Note: The grayed events are not offered for competition.

<b>Table 8. Alternate Points Distribution Chart</b>															
<b>Place</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
U19a 8+	100	75	56	42	32	24	18	13	10	8	6	4	3	2	1
U17 8+	75	56	42	32	24	18	13	10	8	6	4	3	2	1	
U19b 8+	65	49	37	27	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1	
U19a 4+	55	41	31	23	17	13	10	7	6	4	3	2	1		
U15 8+	50	38	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1		
U19 4x	50	38	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1		
U17 4+	41	31	23	17	13	10	7	6	4	3	2	1			
U17 4x	37	28	21	16	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1			
U19b 4+	36	27	20	15	11	8	6	5	4	3	2	1			
U19 2x	28	21	15	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1				
U15 4+	27	20	15	12	9	6	5	4	3	2	1				
U15 4x	25	19	14	11	8	6	4	3	2	1					
U17 2x	21	15	12	9	7	5	4	3	2	1					
U19 1x	15	11	8	6	5	4	3	2	1						
U15 2x	14	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1						
U17 1x	11	8	6	5	4	3	2	1							

Note: The grayed events are not offered for competition.

- NSRC Qualifications – EVSRA Regional Championships is a qualification regatta for the National Scholastic Rowing Championships. This section is reserved for inclusion of rules regarding qualification bids to the NSRC.