

Oyster Reef Regatta 2023; hosted by EVSRA

Contact: rowevsra@gmail.com

Regatta Overview:

The 10th annual Oyster Reef Regatta (ORR) will be held on the Lafayette River at Robertson Rowing Center in Norfolk Virginia on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

Course:

This year the course is @4200 Meters. The course map (changed from last year) and videos (new) can be found on the [EVSRA website](#). The course videos are comprehensive, and thus, they are long (1hr total).

Note: Based on the existence of these videos, the course will not be discussed at the coxswain meeting (unless there are questions not answered by the video). A small TV will show all 4 videos on a loop. It will start before sun-up and run the whole day. Anyone can come over and watch it any time.

Time-blocks for racing:

The regatta has racing sessions divided by a break period. Due to the short racing schedule, athletes cannot participate twice within a session. Rowing and/or coxing in more than one session is possible. The schedule also prevents any equipment from being used twice per session.

Note: Entries can race as exhibition if hull/human conflicts prevent them from racing in the same block as their competitors. Just make the note in your entries submission.

Events (Juniors, Collegiate, Masters) include:

- Block 1: Women's 8x/8+, Men's 4x/4+, Women's 2x/2+, Women's 1x
- Block 2: Men's 8x/8+, Women's 4x/4+, Men's 2x/2+, Men's 1x
- Block 3: Mixed 8x/8+, Mixed 4x/4+, Mixed 2x/2+

Note: The event is not large enough to divide juniors categories by age, but division will be made between novice and varsity if there are at least 4 of each type.

Entry Fees (Paid at Regatta Office; check or credit card):

- Eights/Octuples \$65
- Fours/Quads \$45
- Doubles/Pairs \$30
- Singles \$25

Note : Final billing will be based on the entries on file at the deadline listed below. Entries scratched before then will not be billed, but will be billed after that. Obviously, if last minute additional entries are negotiated after the deadline, you will be charged for those. If the race is cancelled, 95% of entry fees will be refunded.

Registration:

Izek Montebon will manage the registration process and distribute the schedule for the regatta. A registration link will be sent to coaches; entries should be added and uploaded by 2000 on Thursday, October 19. As this is a less formal regatta and the block system makes scheduling very easy, feel free to manipulate entries until the deadline. Any questions specific to entries, contact Izek (izek96@vt.edu).

All participants should have an EVSRA/US Rowing Combined Waiver on file. Waiver can be found on the EVSRA.org website.

Regatta Day Schedule:

- The regatta site opens at 6:00 AM and check-in is at the Regatta Office Tent. Coaches meeting: 7:20 AM. Coxswains meeting: 7:40 AM.
- Block 1 launch: 0810 – 0830. Block 1 race starts: 0900 – 0925.
- Block 2 launch: 1010 – 1030. Block 2 race starts: 1100 – 1125.
- Block 3 launch: 1210 – 1230. Block 3 race starts: 1300 – 1325.

Launch/Race order:

Within each block, the events will launch in racing order (faster hull types first). Coaches, please help the event get the entire block on the water as fast as possible. Event 2 should be launching immediately after event 1, and so forth. With slower hulls leaving later, this limits any on-water mixing between events.

An entire event (e.g. Junior M8+, both varsity and novices) will only be allowed to launch once all competitors in the event are waiting in line to go down the launch docks. If one boat in the group is unready, the entire group will wait (within reason). We will have plenty of slings out in the field for waiting crews to set their boats down.

Within each specific event (e.g., Masters W2x, all), crews will launch in reverse-bow-number order. The highest-number boat goes out first once all shells have been checked for readiness (heel ties, etc.). Then at the start line all crews should arrive at similar times and race in bow number order.

Crews will be sent through the start line with 20sec gaps. Events will be divided by 1min gaps. The schedulers will attempt to put the faster crews higher in the order, but will always prioritize grouping similar levels (all novice crews race after all varsity hulls of the same size).

Trailers and Parking:

Please email rowevsra@gmail.com with your trailer information by October 18th. Trailer parking, tents, tables, boat rigging can be set-up in designated area. There is a park restriction on the size of tents: maximum size is 10x10.

There are several options for vehicle parking at or near Lakewood Park. Soccer games are scheduled in the morning at the front of the Park; plan your arrival accordingly.

Spectating and Spectator Parking:

Spectator areas are noted on the course map. There will not be room for large tents and tables as these areas are on public right-of-way. Both bridges over the race course can be reached with not-too-long of a walk. Mayflower Road should be reached by carpool, as parking in that location is limited. Vehicles must comply with local parking regulations.

Directions:

From Interstate 64 take Tidewater Drive South. About 1 mile, turn right onto Willow Wood Drive. The entrance to Lakewood Park is @ two tenths of a mile on the right. Address: 1650 Willow Wood Drive. Trailer drivers, beware of striking your sterns on the telephone pole and street sign on the south side of the road.