
SPORT – BY – SPORT REGULATIONS & POLICIES

WOMEN'S ROWING REGULAR SEASON

Regular Season Format, Policies & Regulations, Awards

Not Applicable

Regular Season Services

A publicity release naming a Women's Rowing Boat of the Week is compiled and distributed by the Conference staff.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Format

1. The Conference will sponsor a BIG EAST Women's Rowing Championship of six (6) events as follows:
Second Varsity Four Varsity Four
Third Varsity Four Second Varsity Eight
Third Varsity Eight Varsity Eight

2. The Conference Championship will include competition exclusively among the eight (8) varsity women's programs.

3. Championship Schedule:

Morning – Time Trials

Time trials will begin with the following order of events:

1. Varsity Eight
2. Second Varsity Eight
3. Varsity Four
4. Third Varsity Eight
5. Second Varsity Four
6. Third Varsity Four

Afternoon – Petite/Grand Finals

Finals begin with the following order of events:

If there were no trials in any particular event, the final in that event will go off first.

1. Third Varsity Four
2. Second Varsity Four
3. Third Varsity Eight
4. Varsity Four
5. Second Varsity Eight
6. Varsity Eight

Team Awards Ceremony follows Varsity Eight

Petite Finals: Shall be held just prior to Grand Finals of the given event.

- There will be at least a two-hour break between time trials and finals.
- Where possible, multiple lanes will be utilized for the time trials in the event of an accident or broken oar (i.e. lanes 3 and 4).
- Time trials will take place in 30-second centers.

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WOMEN'S ROWING (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Format (continued)

4. Cancellation/Delay Procedures

Only the Race/Fairness Committee can make decisions to suspend or resume racing. The Race/Fairness Committee will consist of Regatta Director, Competition Director, Chief Official and a BIG EAST Representative. The names of those serving on the Race/Fairness Committee will be shared in advance of any racing.

- a. Race/Fairness Committee may call for a delay or cancellation of racing due to conditions endangering the safety of rowers, staff or spectators.
- b. Following a decision to delay racing, the Regatta Director will announce a revised racing schedule.
- c. Races that must be canceled will be designated in the following order:
 - 1) Third Varsity 4 – Petite
 - 2) Second Varsity 4 – Petite
 - 3) Third Varsity 8 – Petite
 - 4) Varsity 4 – Petite
 - 5) Second Varsity 8 – Petite
 - 6) Third Varsity 4 – Grand
 - 7) Second Varsity 4 – Grand
 - 8) Third Varsity 8 – Grand
 - 9) Varsity 8 – Petite
 - 10) Varsity 4 – Grand
 - 11) Second Varsity 8 – Grand
 - 12) Varsity 8 – Grand
 - 13) Cancellation of Championship/Regatta

NOTE: In order for a Team Champion to be declared, the following three (3) races must be completed:

- Varsity 4 – Grand
- Second Varsity 8 – Grand
- Varsity 8 – Grand

Championship Entry & Seeding Requirements/Procedures

1. The Rowing Committee, coaches' representatives (president/vice president) and a BIG EAST representative will make up the Seeding Committee and will seed all events as they deem appropriate. The President of the Coaches' Association will facilitate the process as noted below:
 - a. All head coaches, or their delegates, will conduct a conference call at Noon (EDT), Tuesday, May 1, 2012 to declare initial entries.
 - b. Each institution will submit a poll for each event to the Conference office by Noon, Thursday, May 3, 2012. The Conference office will compile each institution's poll, and then e-mail both the overall results and each institution's individual event polls to all head coaches.
 - c. Final entries are due to the Conference office by Noon, Tuesday, May 8, 2012.
 - d. The Seeding Committee will conduct a conference call at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 to review final entries.

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WOMEN'S ROWING (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Entry & Seeding Requirements/Procedures (continued)

- e. The placement and start time for each boat in the respective time trial will be determined by the Seeding Committee. This information will be shared with head coaches and the host organization at the conclusion of the Seeding Committee conference call. Multiple lanes will be utilized during the time trials (i.e. lanes 3 and 4). Time trials will take place in 30-second centers.
2. The following is recommended to aid in the polling process:
 - a. Provide two results from their top three boats (Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8 and Varsity 4).
 - b. The results should come from a crew that would race in the Championship.
 - c. The results can either come from one day from two separate opponents or two races during the season.
 - d. One of those race results should fall within four weeks prior to the Championship.
3. Seeding for Grand/Petite Finals:
 - In events with eight (8) entries, two finals will be conducted. The four fastest will compete in the Grand Final for places 1-4 and the three slowest will compete in the Petite Final for places 5-8.
 - In events with seven (7) entries, two finals will be conducted. The four fastest will compete in the Grand Final for places 1-4 and the three slowest will compete in the Petite Final for places 5-7.
 - In events with six boats or less, all boats will compete in the Grand Final.
4. The “slant” seeding pattern will be utilized for the determination of lanes. In practice, with input from the Regatta Director, the “slant” direction for the time trials and finals will be established at the Technical Meeting on the evening prior to the start of competition (i.e., 1-6 or 6-1). However, the final decision may not be made until the morning of racing with input from the Race/Fairness Committee. Prior to the Finals (Grand and Petite), lane determination will be reevaluated, based upon weather conditions, by the Race/Fairness Committee.

Championship Policies & Regulations (NCAA and United States Rowing Association rules and guidelines are followed unless otherwise noted)

1. Institutions must enter the following boats in priority order based on athlete availability: Varsity Eight, Second Varsity Eight and Varsity Four.
2. Once the top three boats are entered in priority order, the remaining three boats may be filled based on coach's discretion.
3. Institutions may only enter one (1) boat per event.
4. Athletes may compete in one event only. If there is a need to row an athlete twice due to illness or injury, the coach must petition the BIG EAST Rowing Committee and BIG EAST Coaches Association. The athlete doubling up must only move up into a higher-ranked event, not down to a lower-ranked event.

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WOMEN’S ROWING (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Policies & Regulations (continued)

5. “Good Faith” Policy: In order to prevent ‘stacking’, coaches are required to submit the best athletes in the following events: Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8 and Varsity 4. Failure to comply will result in the Coaches Association President and Vice-President addressing the issue with the respective coach(es). Conference Staff/Sport Committee will assist, as needed.
6. A meeting will be conducted the evening prior to the start of the competition to review Championship procedures. The Women’s Rowing Coaches’ Annual Business meeting will immediately follow the Technical Meeting.

7. Weigh-ins will take place for the Varsity 8 boats ONLY and will follow NCAA procedures and protocols. Institutions may weigh in their Varsity 8 boat on Saturday (practice day) or Sunday (competition day) morning prior to competition. Weigh-ins prior to the event are not mandatory.

Upon conclusion of the morning time trials (at least 1 boat per time trial, but not more than 2 boats), will be randomly selected to weigh in at the discretion of the meet referee. The penalty for an underweight boat will be disqualification from the event.

8. All coxswains are required to attend a meeting with the Head Referee to cover pertinent event-specific details. Time and location to be determined by Conference staff.

9. Championship scoring will be as follows:

Event	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Varsity 8	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15
2nd Varsity 8	30	27	24	21	18	15	12	9
Varsity 4	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6
2nd Varsity 4	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
3rd Varsity 8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
3rd Varsity 4	4	3	2	1	0	0	0	0

- There must be a minimum of four (4) institutions entered for that event to count toward the scoring.
- An event that has a minimum of six (6) institutions entered will score the full amount of points.
- Events with only four (4) or five (5) institutions entered will not score the first place points. These events will score from sixth to second or third place points, depending on the number of entries.
- The Conference Rowing Champion shall be the institution with the most points, as determined by the order of finish at the finals of the Rowing Championship in each of the six (6) events.
- In the event of a tie, placement in the Varsity Eight race shall be the tiebreaker.

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WOMEN'S ROWING (continued) CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Awards, Gifts & Services

1. The 1st place team in each event receives a Cup.
2. The top three teams in each event receive medals. (In non-scoring events with either three (3) or two (2) entries, only 1st place medals will be awarded.)
3. The Championship team receives a trophy and individual awards.
4. The runner-up team receives a trophy.
5. First Team All-Conference (11 spots) *
6. Second Team All-Conference (11 spots) *

* Selection Process

- All-Conference honorees will be based on overall team finish from events scored towards the Championship (see chart below).
- Coaches' will submit nominees in rank order at the technical meeting (nominees from events that do not score will not be considered).
- No changes will be allowed to nominees, or rank order, after the technical meeting concludes (i.e. race-day adjustments).
- All-Conference teams will be announced on site after the team awards presentation has concluded.

Team Finish	First Team	Second Team	#
1 st	3	3	6
2 nd	2	2	4
3 rd	1	2	3
4 th	1	2	3
5 th	1	1	2
6 th	1	1	2
7 th	1	0	1
8 th	1	0	1
Total #	11	11	22

7. Coaching Staff of the Year ^
^ A vote of all head coaches with final approval by the Conference staff determines award recipients. Voting is conducted at the championship site.
8. A press release previewing the Championship is distributed a week prior to the event.
9. Each Women's Rowing student-athlete competing in the Championship receives a gift from the Conference office, which is shipped to each head coach after the Rowing Championship.