

2025 World Rowing Under-19 Championships Media Guide August 6-10 Trakai, Lithuania

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About the 2025 World Rowing Under-19 Championships

The 2025 World Rowing Under-19 Championships will take place in Trakai, Lithuania, from the 6th of August to the 10th. The racing will happen over these five days at the Galve Lake rowing venue. Athletes may compete in an Under 19 event until the 31st of December of the year in which they reach the age of 18.

Website: https://worldrowing.com/event/2025-world-rowing-under-23-championships

About the Venue

The 2025 World Rowing Under-19 Championships is taking place on Lake Galvé in the heart of Trakai. Lake Galvé is a UNESCO Historical Heritage Site with the famous Trakai Island Castle only meters away from the race course. The lake covers almost 900 acres and has a depth of over 150 feet. The venue also boasts an 8 lane rowing course, a finish tower, a boathouse, grandstands, a hotel, a conference hall, a fitness room, and showers and sauna. Trakai has been hosting regattas on the lake since 1928 including the World Junior Rowing Championships in 2002, 2013, and 2017.

Event List

JM1x	Men's Single Sculls
JW1x	Women's Single Sculls
JM2x	Men's Double Sculls
JW2x	Women's Double Sculls
JM2-	Men's Pair
JW2-	Women's Pair
JM4x	Men's Quadruple Sculls
JW4x	Women's Quadruple Scull
JM4-	Men's Four
JW4-	Women's Four
JM8+	Men's Eight
JW8+	Women's Eight

General Schedule of Events

Wednesday, August 6th- Practice, spares races, and heats for single and double sculls Thursday, August 7th- Heats

Friday, August 8th- Quarterfinals for single and double sculls, Placement finals for single and double sculls

Saturday, August 9th-Semifinals and Placement finals Sunday, August 10th- A and B finals for all remaining boats

The most up-to-date schedule and heat sheets can be viewed at https://worldrowing.com/event/2025-world-rowing-under-19-championships/?tab=information

How to Follow the Event

- 1. All press releases, athlete bios, photos and videos, and news will be featured on the <u>U.S.</u>
 Rowing website
- 2. Live audio commentary, live race tracker, and live streaming will be available on www.worldrowing.com. Exact schedule to be announced.
- 3. Startlists, exact schedule, results, news, photos, and a live blog including quotes from athletes will also be on the World Rowing website
- 4. News and results will be shared on the social media accounts of both U.S. Rowing and World Rowing
- 5. Join the conversation ...
 - Use the hashtag #WRU19Champs

2025 World Rowing Under-19 Championships Roster

Name (Boat Position) (Hometown/club/Affiliation)

(Lineups subject to change)

Men's Single Sculls

Tony Madigan (Arlington, Va./Potomac Boat Club)

Men's Quadruple Sculls

Alexander Auth (s) (New York, N.Y./Deerfield Academy)

Donovan Moses (3) (Greenwich, Conn./V-Sculls)

Andrew Vizecky (2) (Arden Hills, Minn./Lake Phalen)

George Kapp (b) (Greenwich, Conn./Brunswick School)

Women's Quadruple Sculls

Mira Meek (s) (Arlington, Va./Potomac Boat Club)

Clare Junius (3) (Greenwich, Conn./RowAmerica Greenwich)

Emma Kirk (2) (Boston, Mass./Cambridge Boat Club)

Claire Copko (b) (Portland, Ore./Jesuit High School)

Men's Four

John Piersma (s) (Cincinnati, Ohio/ Cincinnati Juniors)

Nolan Hamm (3) (Santa Cruz, Calif./ Los Gatos RC)

William Heaton (2) (Chicago, Ill./ Chicago Rowing Foundation)

George Dolce (b) (Rye Brook, N.Y./ Row America Rye)

Women's Four

Claire Van Praagh (s) (New York, N.Y./ Row America Rye)

Lauren Dubois (3) (New York, N.Y./ Groton School)

Lia Nathan (2) (Washington D.C./ Sidwell Friends School)

Teagan Farley (b) (New York, N.Y./ Deerfield Academy)

Men's Eight

Rhea Kaycee (c)(Princeton, N.J./PNRA Mercer)

Isaac Rabinowitz (s) (Rye, N.Y./RowAmerica Rye)

Liam Feeney (7) (Buffalo, N.Y./Canisius High School)

Augustine Freijo (6) (Long Beach, Calif./ Newport Aquatic Club)

Grant Shore (5) (Princeton, N.J./PRNA Mercer)

Ben Ewer (4) (Seattle, Wash./ Pocock Youth Rowing)

Charlie Winder (3) (Boston, Mass./ Community Rowing, Inc.)

Matthew Dopkin (2) (Philadelphia, Pa./St. Joseph's Prep) Isaiah Aljuwani (1) (Buffalo, N.Y./Canisius High School)

Women's Eight

Avery Harries-Jones (c)(San Rafael, Calif./Marin Rowing Association)
Stefania McMasters (s) (Boston, Mass./Community Rowing, Inc.)
Katie Dahl (7) (Long Beach, Calif./Newport Aquatic Center)
Alexis Gormley (6) (Margate City, N.J./Atlantic City High School)
Eden Alfi (5) (Miami, Fla./Gulliver Prep/Miami International RowHouse)
Zara Taylor (4) (Radnor, Pa./Radnor Girls Crew Club)
Madeline Glover (3) (Oklahoma City, Ok./OKC Riversport)
Caitlin Cecere (2) (Montclair, N.J./Montclair High School)
Ana Ciechanover (b) (Hissborough, Calif./ NorCal Crew)

Alternates

Porter Collins (Houston, Texas/Greater Houston Rowing Club)
Angela Johnson (Alpharetta, Ga./St. Andrew Rowing Club)
Beatrix Lay (Bryn Mawr, Pa./Conshohocken Rowing Center, Inc.)
Olivia Lindemann (Chicago, Ill./Chicago Rowing Foundation)
Parker Mansfield (Greenfield Center, N. Y./Saratoga Rowing Association)
Spencer Morinigo (Narberth, Pa./St. Joseph's Prep)

Coaches

Eric Gehrke, Men's four
Caitlin McClain, Women's four
Sarah Gehrke, Women's eight
Matt Grau, Women's quadruple sculls
James Hamp, Men's eight
James Konopka, Men's quadruple sculls
Matt Madigan. Men's single sculls

Support Staff

Nick Haley, Team Leader Kathryn Rizzone, Team Doctor Kerry Simmonds, Team PT Wendy Wilbur, Team Leader

Event Preview

The 2025 World Rowing Under-19 Championships will take place on Lake Galvé beginning on Wednesday, August 6th and continuing until Sunday, August 10th.

The team consists of 41 athletes from across the country representing 17 states with the most athletes hailing from New York. Out of these athletes, 23 are making their national team debut on the race course in Lithuania and 12 are returning from last year's under-19 world championships in St. Catherine's, Canada. Last year the team came home with one gold, one silver, and two bronze medals

The United States will be racing in seven out of the twelve events offered at the regatta. These events include the men's single sculls, the men's and women's quadruple sculls, the men's and women's four, and the men's and women's eight.

The women's four is a highly anticipated race as all four of the women in the boat are returners from last year's team. Claire Van Praagh, Lauren Dubois, and Lia Nathan all won gold in the women's eight while Teagan Farley came ninth in the women's quadruple sculls. The foursome are set to make a dominating impression on the race course.

In the women's quadruple sculls, Claire Sopko returns to the U19 lineup and is joined by Mira Meek, Clare Junius, who won bronze at the 2025 Youth National Championships, and Emma Kirk, who placed fourth in the women's youth single sculls at the same event. In the women's eight, four athletes, Avery Harries-Jones, Katie Dahl, Alexis Gormley, and Eden Alfi, return from the 2024 U19 World Championships bronze medal-winning crew in the women's four with coxswain.

On the men's side, the four include George Dolce, who placed seventh in the pair at last year's U19 world championships, and Nolan Hamm, the 2025 Youth National Champion in the men's quadruple sculls. In the men's quadruple sculls, George Kapp and Donovan Moses reunite in the men's quadruple sculls after finishing 14th together in the 2024 men's double, joining Alexander Auth and Andrew Vizecky.

The men's eight features all-new talent to the international stage but boasts strong results from the Youth National Championships. The lineup includes Newport Aquatic Center's Augie Freijo, the 2025 men's pair winner; RowAmerica Rye's Isaac Rabinowitz, who won the 2025 men's eight; Pocock's Ben Ewer, 2025 champion in the men's four with coxswain; and Canisius High School's Isaiah Aljuwani and Liam Feeney, 2024 winners of the men's pair.

Making his debut in the men's single sculls is Tony Madigan, who won the 2025 U19 Time Trial and captured the national title at the Youth National Championships. He is coached by his father, Matt Madigan, a former national team rower and two-time Olympic coach.

Rowers by State



California (5)

Ana Ciechanover Katie Dahl Augustine Freijo Nolan Hamm Avery Harries-Jones

Connecticut (3)

George Kapp Clare Junius Donovan Moses

Florida (1)

Eden Alfi

Georgia (1)

Angela Johnson

Illinois (2)

William Heaton Olivia Lindemann

Massachusetts (3)

Emma Kirk Stefania McMasters Charlie Winder

Minnesota (1)

Andrew Vizecky

New Jersey (4)

Caitlin Cecere Lexi Gormley Rhea Kaycee Grant Shore

New York (9)

Isaiah Aljuwani Zander Auth George Dolce Lauren Dubois Teagan Farley Liam Feeney Parker Mansfield

Isaac Rabinowitz Claire Van Praagh

Ohio (1)

John Piersma

Oklahoma (1)

Madeline Glover

Oregon (1)

Claire Sopko

Pennsylvania (4)

Matthew Dopkin Beatrix Lay Spencer Morinigo Zara Taylor

Texas (1)

Porter Collins

Virginia (2)

Tony Madigan Mira Meek

Washington (1)

Ben Ewer

Washington D.C. (1)

Lia Nathan

Under-19 National Team Athlete Bios

Eden Alfi

Women's Eight Birthdate: 8/7/2007 Hometown: Miami, Fla.

Height: 6'0" Weight: 165

Pronouns: she/her

School: Gulliver Preparatory

Current Club Affiliations: Miami RowHouse

Current Coach: Francisco Viacava **Training Location:** Miami, Fla.

National Teams: Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Won bronze in the four with coxswain at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Won bronze in the single at the 2024 FSRA Sculling Championships. Finished eight in the U17 single at the 2023, USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fourth in the single at the 2023 SRAA National Championships. Won the single at the 2023 Southeast Youth Championships. Won bronze in the U17 single at the 2022 Southeast Youth Championships. Won silver in the U15 single at the 2021 Head of the Hooch. Won bronze in the U15 single at the 2021 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Personal: Eden was voted her rowing team captain the past two years. She received the Excellence in Engineering III award and is a two-time National Honor Society member and the Math National Honor Society and is a member of the Science National Honor Society. She is president of the environmental branch of Together We Innovate. As part of this, she educates middle schoolers about STEM. She is president of Future Society of Women Engineers, encouraging and empowering all the girls in the engineering classes at her school. She is in the robotics club and solar powered go-kart club at her school. She loves yoga. She is Israeli and Jewish. She started rowing when she was 9 years old. Both her mom and her older brother rowed in high school. She plans to keep rowing for the rest of her life while pursuing a career in biomedical engineering. Her favorite movies are Harry Potter and Twilight. She is dyslexic and wrote The Elefant In The Room, a children's book about dyslexia for dyslexic children.

Isaiah Aljuwani Men's Eight

Birthdate: 3/7/2007

Hometown: Kenmore, N.Y.

Height: 6'3"

Weight: 180 Pronouns: he/him

School: Canisius High School

Current Club Affiliations: Canisius High School/RowBuffalo

Current Coach: Jacob Filby Training Location: Buffalo, N.Y. National Teams: One-U19, 2025

International Results: Won gold in the men's varsity eight at the 2025 Canadian Scholastic Championships. Won gold in the men's U19 eight at the 2024 Canadian Henley Regatta. Won

gold in the men's U19 four with coxswain at the 2024 Canadian Henley Regatta.

National Results: Won gold in the men's varsity eight at the 2025 Scholastic National Championships. Won gold in the men's pair at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the men's U17 four with coxswain at the 2023 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Personal: Isaiah began rowing in his freshman year of high school, and he dreams of rowing at the Olympics. He is committed to row for Boston University in the fall.

Zander Auth

Men's Quadruple Sculls Birthdate: 7/24/2007

Hometown: New York, N.Y.

Current Residence: Deerfield, Mass.

Pronouns: he/him

School: Deerfield Academy

Current Club Affiliations: Deerfield Academy

Current Coach: Spencer Washburn Training Location: Deerfield, Mass. National Teams: One- U19, 2025

National Results: Won silver in the Men's Youth Eight at the 2025 USRowing National Championships. Finished 17th in the Men's Youth Eight at the 2024 USRowing National

Championships.

Caitlin Cecere Women's Eight

Birthdate: 8/17/2009

Hometown: Montclair, N.J. **School:** Montclair High School

Current Club Affiliations: Montclair Rowing

Current Coach: Lorna Rundle **Training Location:** Montclair, N.J.

National Teams: One- U19, 2025

National Results: Won gold in the women's youth pair and finished ninth in the women's youth eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fifth in the Women's U17

eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Ana Ciechanover Women's Eight Birthdate: 10/1/2007

Hometown: Hillsborough, Calif.

Height: 6'1" Weight: 150

Pronouns: she/her

School: Lick-Wilmerding High School Current Club Affiliations: NorCal

Current Coach: Laura Simon

Training Location: Redwood City, Calif.

National Teams: One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished tenth in the women's varsity four with coxswain at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished seventh in the women's varsity four with

coxswain at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Porter Collins Men's Alternate Birthdate: 8/1/2008

Hometown: Houston, Tex.

Pronouns: he/him

School:

Current Club Affiliations: Greater Houston Rowing Current Coach: Robert Hearn and Porter Collins

Training Location: Houston, Tex. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished sixth in the men's youth single sculls at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won bronze in the men's U17 single sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Personal: Father, Porter Collins, is a three-time world champion for the US national team and finished fifth in the Men's eight at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

Kathryn (Katie) Dahl Women's Eight

Birthdate: 7/27/2007

Hometown: Long Beach, Calif.

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 165
Pronoun: she/her

School: Millikan High School

Current Club Affiliations: Newport Aquatic Center (NAC)

Current Coach: Weston Cole

Training Location: Newport, Calif. **National Teams:** Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Won bronze in the four with coxswain at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Won silver in the eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won silver in the eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National

Championships. Won bronze in the U17 four with coxswain at the 2023 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fifth in the eight at the 2023 Head of the Charles. Won the junior varsity eight at the 2024 San Diego Crew Classic. Won the quadruple sculls at the 2024 Southwest Regional Championships. Won the eight at the 2024 Southwest Regional Championships.

Personal: Katie was named to the Principal's Honor Roll. She enjoys spending time with her friends and family, baking, as well as spending time in nature. After rowing, she looks forward to earning a sports medicine degree. She loves racing the Head of the Charles.

George Dolce Men's Four

Birthdate: 5/29/2007 **Hometown:** Bronx, N.Y.

Height: 6'1" Weight: 160

School: Fordham Preparatory

Current Club Affiliations: RowAmerica Rye

Current Coach: Aleksander Radovic

Training Location: Rye, N.Y.

National Teams: Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Finished eight in the pair at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Won gold in the eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the eight at the 2023 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the U17 Eight and the U17 single sculls at the 2023 USRowing Club Nationals. Won bronze in the U16 eight at the

2022 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the U17 Eight and the U16 four with coxswain at the 2022 USRowing Club Nationals.

Matthew Dopkin

Men's Eight

Birthdate: 11/27/2007

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

Height: 6'3" Weight: 185

Pronouns: he/him

School: St. Joseph's Prep

Current Club Affiliations: St. Joseph's Prep

Current Coach: John Fife

Training Location: Philadelphia, Pa. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished fourth in the men's eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National

Championships. Won silver in the men's eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National

Championships

Lauren Dubois Women's Four

Birthdate: 5/11/2007

Hometown: New York, N.Y.

Current Residence: Groton, Mass.

Height: 5'9" Weight: 162

Pronouns: she/her **School:** Groton School

Current Club Affiliations: Groton School

Current Coach: Cola Parker and Andy Anderson

Training Location: Groton, Mass. **National Teams:** Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Won gold in the eight at the 2024 U19 World Rowing Championships **National Results:** Finished ninth in the women's youth four with coxswain at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won bronze in the eight at the 2023, US Rowing Summer Nationals. Won the U17 eight at the 2023 US Rowing Summer Nationals. Won silver in the four with coxswain at the 2024 NEIRA Championships.

Personal: Lauren is the varsity crew captain. She enjoys hiking, cooking, and photography. She backpacked the last 200 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Maine. She is fluent in Bulgarian. She used to compete internationally for fencing. She began rowing the spring of her freshman year at

Groton School. Her mom is her hero because of her unwavering love and support and endless sacrifices. She is Lauren's rock. She has shaped her into the person she is today. One of Lauren's favorite movies is Mamma Mia, she adores the soundtrack. She is fueled by the support of her big Bulgarian family.

Benjamin (Ben) Ewer

Men's Eight

Birthdate: 3/5/2008

Hometown: Seattle, Wash.

Height: 6'5"
Weight: 215
Pronouns: he/him

School: Cedar Park Christian School

Current Club Affiliations: Pocock Rowing Club

Current Coach: Helen Tilghman Training Location: Seattle, Wash. National Teams: One-U19, 2025

National Results: Won gold in the Men's Youth four at the 2025 USRowing Youth Nationals.

Teagan Farley Women's Four

Birthdate: 4/10/2008

Hometown: New York, N.Y.

Current Residence: Deerfield, Mass.

Height: 5'8" Weight: 170

School: Deerfield Academy

Pronouns: she/her

Current Club Affiliations: Deerfield Academy/New York Athletic Club

Current Coach: Parker Washburne Training Location: Deerfield, Mass. National Teams: Two-U19,2024-2025

International Results: Finished ninth in the quadruple sculls at the 2024 U19 World Rowing Championships. Finished second in the Phillip Challenge Trophy at the 2023 Royal Henley. **National Results:** Won silver in the double at the 2023 Head of the Charles. Finished seventh in the eight at the 2023 Youth National Championships. Won the U17 double and finished second in the U19 double at the 2022 Head of the Charles. Won the U17 single at the 2022 USRowing Summer Nationals. Won gold in the U17 event at the 2023 US Rowing Indoor National Championship. Won gold in the U15 event at the 2020 US Rowing Indoor National

Championship. Holds the 14 age group World Records on the Concept 2 Rower and SkiErg machines.

Personal: Teagan is the Deerfield Academy Cross Country Captain. She has a twin. She loves funny nightgowns, and has a dog named McGillicuddy Benji Danger Kitchen Charger Gornergrat Conchito Johnson Farley. During covid, her dad bought an erg, became an erg coach, and introduced her to the sport. A personal hero of hers is one of her coaches, Jim Dietz. She would like to go skydiving with fellow teammate Claire Van Praagh. Her favorite place to compete is the Charles because steering a good course matters just as much as going fast, and she has lots of family and friends in the Boston area who come to watch her compete. She enjoys the Ocean's 11 franchise and her favorite musicians are Taylor Swift, Mt. Joy, Noah Kahan and Zach Bryan.

Liam Feeney Men's Eight

Birthdate: 2/7/2007

Hometown: West Seneca, N.Y.

Pronouns: he/him

School: Canisius High School

Current Club Affiliations: Buffalo Scholastic

Current Coach: Jacob Filby **Training Location:** Buffalo, N.Y. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

International Results: Won gold in the men's varsity eight at the 2025 Canadian Scholastic Championships. Won gold in the men's U19 eight at the 2024 Royal Canadian Henley Regatta. Won gold in the men's U19 four with coxswain at the 2024 Canadian Henley Regatta. **National Results:** Won gold in the men's varsity eight at the 2025 Scholastic National

Championships. Won gold in the men's pair at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the men's U17 four with coxswain at the 2023 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Augustine (Augie) Freijo

Men's Eight

Birthdate: 3/27/2007

Hometown: Long Beach, Calif.

Height: 6'4"
Weight: 195
Pronouns: he/him

School: St. John Bosco High School

Current Club Affiliations: Newport Aquatic Club

Current Coach: Marcel Stiffey

Training Location: Newport Beach, Calif.

National Teams: One-U19, 2025

International Results: Won gold in the men's four and the men's eight at the 2024 CanAmMex

Championships.

National Results: Won the men's youth pair at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished eighth in the men's youth eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished third in the men's youth four at the 2024 USRowing Youth National championships. Finished seventh in the men's youth "B" eight at the 2023 USRowing Youth National championships. Finished fifth in the men's youth quadruple sculls with coxswain at the 2022 Head of the Charles.

Madeline Glover Women's Eight

Birthdate: 4/4/2008

Hometown: Oklahoma City, Ok.

Height: 5'9" Weight: 170

Pronouns: she/her

School: Westmoore High School

Current Club Affiliations: OKC Riversport

Current Coach: Sarah Gherke

Training Location: Oklahoma City, Ok.

National Teams: One-U19, 2025

International Results: Finished second in the U19 pair at the 2024 Canadian Henley. **National Results:** Finished 28th in the women's youth eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth

National Championships.

Alexis (Lexi) Gormley

Women's Eight

Birthdate: 7/29/2007

Hometown: Margate City, N.J.

Height: 5'11" Weight: 185

Pronouns: she/her

School: Atlantic City High School

Current Club Affiliations: Atlantic City High School

Current Coach: Sean Duffey

Training Location: Atlantic City, N.J. **National Teams:** Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Won bronze in the four with coxswain at the 2024 U19 World Rowing Championships.

National Results: Won the varsity eight at the 2024 SRAA National Championships 2024. Won bronze in the eight at the 2023 Stotesbury Cup Regatta. Won bronze in the single at the 2023 Head of the Schuylkill.

Personal: Lexi holds her school record in 2k and 6k tests. She is on the Academic Honor Roll. She enjoys working out, spending time with friends and family, biking, surfing, baking, and journaling. She played basketball for eight years before rowing. Her dad rowed in college and always urged her to row. Her parents are her heroes and her biggest supporters in whatever she decides to pursue. Whether it was basketball a few years ago, or rowing now, they are at every event cheering her team on. They constantly make an effort to be there for her, even if it's an inconvenience for them at the moment. They always remind her to keep her chin up and look at the positives. She would like to continue her education and explore careers. Her favorite music artists and bands are Fleetwood Mac, Lana Del Rey, Frank Ocean, Dominic Fike, Empire of the Sun, Tyler, the Creator, and Labrinth.

Nolan Hamm Men's Four

Birthdate: 12/17/2007

Hometown: Santa Cruz, Calif.

Height: 6'2" Weight: 200

Pronouns: he/him

School: Los Gatos High School

Current Club Affiliations: Los Gatos Rowing Club

Current Coach: Channing Walker Training Location: Los Gatos, Calif. National Teams: One-U19, 2025

International Results: Won gold in the men's eight and finished fourth in the men's four at the

2024 CanAmMex Championships.

National Results: Won gold in the men's quadruple sculls at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the men's 2v quadruple sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Avery Harries-Jones

Women's Eight Birthdate: 6/1/2007

Hometown: San Rafael, Calif.

Height: 5'4" Weight: 114

Pronouns: she/her

School: The Branson School

Current Club Affiliations: Marin Rowing Association **Current Coach:** Sandy Armstrong, Rodrigo Rodrigues

Training Location: Larkspur, Calif. **National Teams:** Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Won bronze in the four with coxswain at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Finished 13th in the eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National championships. Won bronze in the eight at the 2024 Youth National Championships. Won the U16 eight at the 2022 Youth National Championships

Pronouns: Avery won the MVP and Captain Awards on her team and won Most Improved. She enjoys playing chess, baking, watching tv shows, going on long walks, and playing pickleball. Her dad is from South Africa. When she was in 4th grade, she was the point guard of her CYO basketball team. Avery was a pretty talkative point guard so her coach went up to her parents and recommended that she became a coxswain. Her parents did some research and found Marin Rowing. Her personal hero is her Aunt Melissa Phillips because of how much she has persevered through her life and her determination. She was recruited to George Washington University to play D1 basketball. Her success and athletic drive has influenced and inspired Avery to try and go as far as she can in Rowing. She loves comedies and mystery movies, especially Murder Mystery and Knives Out.

William (Will) Heaton

Men's Four

Birthdate: 6/25/2007 **Hometown:** Chicago, Ill.

Pronouns: he/him

School: Latin School of Chicago

Current Club Affiliations: Chicago Rowing Foundation

Current Coach: Matt Dignan, Mike Wallin

Training Location: Chicago, Ill. **National Teams:** One- U19, 2025

National Results: Finished 23rd in the men's youth eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished 18th in the men's youth eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished ninth in the men's U17 eight at the 2023 USRowing Youth National

Championships.

Angela Johnson Women's Alternate Birthdate: 7/29/2010 Hometown: Alpharetta, Ga.

Height: 6'1" Weight: 165

Pronouns: she/her

School: Rivers Academy

Current Club Affiliations: St. Andrew Rowing Club

Current Coach: Erin Hayes **Training Location:** Roswell, Ga. **National Teams:** One- U19, 2025

National Results: Finished 22nd in the women's youth eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished eighth in the women's youth eight at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished third in the women's U17 eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National

Championships.

Clare Junius

Women's Quadruple Sculls

Birthdate: 6/14/2008

Hometown: Greenwich, Conn.

Pronouns: she/her

School: Sacred Heart Greenwich

Current Club Affiliations: RowAmerica Greenwich

Current Coach: Costel Mutescu

Training Location: Greenwich, Conn. **National Teams:** One- U19, 2025

National Results: Won bronze in the women's single sculls at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fourth in the women's youth single sculls at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished fifth in the women's U17 single sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished 11th in the women's youth single sculls at the 2023 Head of the Charles. Won silver in the women's youth single sculls and bronze in the women's youth double sculls at the 2023 USRowing Summer National Championships.

George Kapp

Men's Quadruple Sculls Birthdate: 4/27/2008

Hometown: Greenwich, Conn.

Current Residence: Greenwich, Conn.

Height: 6'2"
Weight: 155

Pronouns: he/him

School: Brunswick School

Current Club Affiliations: Brunswick School/V-Sculls

Current Coach: John Martin, Amadeusz Pietrzak

Training Location: Greenwich, Conn. **National Teams:** Two- U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Finished 14th in the men's double sculls at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Finished ninth in the men's single sculls at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the men's youth four at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Won gold in the U17 single sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won silver in the men's youth four at the 2023 Head of the Charles.

Rhea Kaycee Men's Eight

Birthdate: 4/27/2007

Hometown: Princeton, N.J.

Pronouns: she/her

School: Princeton High School

Current Club Affiliations: PNRA Mercer

Current Coach: Jamie Hamp Training Location: Princeton, N.J. National Teams: One-U19, 2025

International Results: Finished fifth in the men's U19 eight at 2024 Royal Canadian Henley

Regatta.

National Results: Finished fifth in the men's eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fourth in the men's youth eight at the 2024 Head of the Charles.

Emma Kirk

Women's Quadruple Sculls

Birthdate: 11/12/2007

Hometown: Cambridge, Mass

School: Buckingham Brown & Nichols School
Current Club Affiliations: Cambridge Boat Club

Current Coach: Abby Knight

Training Location: Cambridge, Mass. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

International Results: Won the women's under-19 quadruple sculls, women's under-19 four

with coxswain, and the women's under-19 eight at the 2024 Royal Canadian Henley.

National Results: Finished fourth in the women's single sculls at the 2025 USrowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the women's youth single sculls at the 2024 Head of the

Charles. Finished fifth in the women's double sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished sixth in the women's youth single at the 2023 Head of the Charles.

Beatrix (Bea) Lay Women's Alternate Birthdate: 7/14/2007 Hometown: Radnor, Pa.

Height: 6'0" Weight: 155

Pronouns: she/her

School: The Grayson School

Current Club Affiliations: Conshohocken Rowing Center

Current Coach: Joe Sullivan

Training Location: Conshohocken, Pa.

National Teams: One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished 13th in the women's quadruple sculls at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished 31st in the women's youth single sculls at the 2024 Head of

the Charles.

Olivia Lindemann

Women's Alternate Birthdate: 11/1/2007 Hometown: Chicago, Ill.

Height: 5'11" Weight: 170

Pronouns: she/her

School: Latin School of Chicago

Current Club Affiliations: Chicago Rowing Foundation

Current Coach: Mike Wallin, Maida Wallin

Training Location: Chicago, Ill. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished 17th in the women's eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished tenth in the women's second varsity eight at the 2024 USRowing

Youth National Championships.

Michael (Tony) Madigan Men's Single Sculls

Birthdate: 11/11/2007 Hometown: Arlington, Va

Height: 6'4"

Weight: 195

Pronouns: he/him

School: Wakefield High School

Current Club Affiliations: Potomac Boat Club

Current Coach: Matt Madigan, Carol Dinion, Jamie Whalen, Kevin Bedell

Training Location: Washington, D.C. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

International Results: Won gold in the U19 single sculls, double sculls and quadruple sculls at

the 2024 Canadian Henley.

National Results: Won gold in the single sculls at the 2025 Youth National Championships. Won the U19 2000 meter 2025 Mid Atlantic Erg Sprints. Won gold in the senior single sculls at the 2024 SRAA Nationals. Won silver in the single sculls at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Won gold in the single sculls at the 2024 Head of the Schuylkill.

Personal: Tony is an Eagle Scout with a Silver Palm and a Gold Palm. He enjoys spending time with his brothers. He loves to play with his two dogs. His parents signed him up for a learn-to-row camp in the summer before 7th grade, and he really enjoyed it. He didn't fall in love with the sport though until he beat his older brother in a race that fall. He wants to be a rowing coach. Preferably a college team, but a junior team would be cool too. Both of his parents made the U.S. national rowing team. His mom placed second at the Pan-Am Games. His dad was on the national teams, held a Head of the Charles record, and coached multiple national team boats at World Championships and Olympics. Some of his favorite musical artists are George Michael and Wham!, Bruce Springsteen, and The Beach Boys. Fun Fact: he watched La La Land during every race trip this spring.

Parker Mansfield Men's Alternate

Birthdate: 2/26/2009

Hometown: Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Height: 6'4"
Weight: 215

Pronouns: he/him

School: Saratoga Springs High School

Current Club Affiliations: Saratoga Rowing Association

Current Coach: Mike MacMinn, Madeline Lebed

Training Location: Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

National Teams: One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished 15th in the men's eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championship. Finished 13th in the men's youth eight at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished tenth in the men's eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championship. Won bronze in the men's U15 quadruple sculls with coxswain at the 2023 Youth National Championships.

Stefania McMasters

Women's Eight

Birthdate: 12/26/2007

Hometown: Brookline, Mass.

Current Club Affiliations: Community Rowing Inc.

Current Coach: Violet Collier Training Location: Boston, Mass. National Teams: One- U19, 2025

International Results:.

National Results: Finished eighth in the women's eight at the 2025 Youth National

Championships.

Mira Meek

Women's Quadruple Sculls

Birthdate: 2/6/2007

Hometown: Arlington, Va.

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 150

Pronouns: she/her

School: Wakefield High School

Current Club Affiliations: Wakefield/Potomac Boat Club

Current Coach: Russell Topp and Carol Dinion **Training Location:** Arlington, Va./Washington D.C.

National Teams: One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished fifth in the girls senior eight at the 2025 SRAA Scholastic National Championships. Finished tenth in the women's youth singles at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished fifth in the girls senior eight at the 2024 SRAA Scholastic National Championships. Finished ninth in the girls senior eight at the 2023 SRAA Scholastic National Championships.

Spencer Morinigo Men's Alternate

Birthdate: 12/14/2007

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

Height: Weight:

Pronouns: he/him

School: St. Joseph's Preparatory School
Current Club Affiliations: St. Joseph's Prep

Current Coach: John Fife

Training Location: Philadelphia, Pa. **National Teams:** One- U19, 2025

National Results: Finished fourth in the men's eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fifth in the men's youth eight at the 2023 Head of the Charles. Won silver in the men's eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished tenth in the men's youth eight at the 2023 Head of the Charles.

Donovan "Van" Moses Men's Quadruple Sculls

Birthdate: 4/27/2007

Hometown: Greenwich, Conn.

Height: 6'6"

Pronouns: he/him

School: Greenwich High School
Current Club Affiliations: V-Sculls
Current Coach: Dmitri Vlasov

Training Location: Old Greenwich, Conn. **National Teams:** Two- U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Finished 14th in the men's double sculls at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Finished seventh in the men's youth double sculls at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished sixth in the men's youth single sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Lia Nathan

Women's Four

Birthdate: 7/21/2007

Hometown: Washington, D.C.

Height: 5'11" **Weight:** 170

Pronouns: she/her

School: Sidwell Friends School

Current Club Affiliations: Sidwell Friends School Rowing

Current Coach: Ted Bristol, Maggie Taylor, Cecilia Laguarda, Colette Nortman

Training Location: Washington, D.C. **National Teams:** Two- U19 2024-25

International Results: Won gold in the eight at the 2024 U19 World Rowing Championships. **National Results:** Won the U17 eight at the 2023 Summer Nationals. Won silver in the U19 eight at the 2023 Summer Nationals. Won the U17 events at the 2023 Mid-Atlantic Erg Sprints.

Personal: In her free time, she enjoys doing ceramics and photography, baking, walking her dog, playing soccer, surfing, and skiing. She hates bananas. She has a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever named Clio. She found rowing through her mother who suggested it to me because I needed a spring sport for school. Her dad is her hero because he is smart, hardworking, kind, and resilient. Her favorite TV shows are Ted Lasso and Slow Horses.

John Piersma Men's Four

Birthdate: 1/18/2008

Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio

Pronouns: he/him

School: St. Xavier High School

Current Club Affiliations: Cincinnati Juniors

Current Coach: Gregory Hull, Daniel Puttman, Paul Schmid

Training Location: Newport, Ky. **National Teams:** One- U19, 2025

National Results: Finished sixth in the men's eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished sixth in the U17 men's eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National

Championships.

Isaac Rabinowitz

Men's Eight

Birthdate: 9/23/2008 **Hometown:** Rye, N.Y.

School: Rye Neck High School

Current Club Affiliations: RowAmerica Rye

Current Coach: Aleksander Radovic

Training Location: Rye, N.Y. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

National Results: Won gold in the eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won silver in the U17 eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the eight at the 2023 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Grant Shore Men's Eight

Birthdate: 10/24/2007 **Hometown:** Princeton, N.J.

Height: Weight:

Pronouns: he/him

School: Princeton High School

Current Club Affiliations: PNRA Mercer

Current Coach: Jamie Hamp

Training Location: Princeton, N.J. **National Teams:** One-U19, 2025

International Results: Finished fifth in the men's U19 eight at 2024 Royal Canadian Henley

Regatta.

National Results: Finished fifth in the men's youth eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fourth in the men's youth eight at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished fifth in the men's youth eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships.

Claire Sopko

Women's Quadruple Sculls

Birthdate: 5/10/2007

Hometown: Portland, Ore.

Height: 5'8" Weight: 175

Pronouns: she/her

School: Jesuit High School

Current Club Affiliations: Oregon Rowing Unlimited

Current Coach: Plamen Petrov, Nadia Petrov

Training Location: Portland, Ore.

National Teams: Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Finished ninth in the quadruple sculls at the 2024 U19 World Rowing

Championships.

National Results: Finished sixth in the women's pair at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won bronze in the quadruple sculls at the 2024 Youth National Championships. Won the U17 quadruple sculls at the 2022 Youth National Championships. Won the quadruple sculls at the 2023 Youth National Championships.

Personal: Claire received the Jesuit High School's History and French awards in 2022, Mathematics award in 2023, and French, Theology, Mathematics, and Science Awards in 2024. She was inducted into the National Honors Society in 2024. She enjoys hiking, thrifting, and napping. Her older sister's best friend was a rower, and she convinced Claire to try it out during quarantine. She loves racing at the Brentwood International Regatta in Mill Bay, Canada. She is incredibly grateful for the tremendous support her family, friends, coaches, and teammates have given her. From always pushing her to be just a little bit faster to waiting for hours in the wind and rain to cheer her on, it means the world to Claire.

Zara Taylor Women's Eight **Birthdate:** 4/23/2007 **Hometown:** Radnor, Penn.

Height: 6'4" Weight: 185

Pronouns: she/her

School: Radnor Senior High School

Current Club Affiliations: Radnor Girls Crew

Current Coach: Travis Schilling Training Location: Radnor, Pa. National Teams: One- U19, 2025

National Results: Finished tenth in the Girls Senior Four at the 2025 Stotesbury Cup Regatta.

Claire Van Praagh Women's Four

Birthdate: 2/9/2007

Hometown: Pelham, N.Y.

Height: 6'2" Weight: 160

Pronouns: she/her

School: Riverdale Country School

Current Club Affiliations: RowAmerica Rye

Current Coach: Marko Serafimovski

Training Location: Rye, N.Y.

National Teams: Two-U19, 2024-2025

International Results: Won gold in the eight at the 2024 U19 World Rowing Championships.

Finalist in the Prince Philip Challenge Trophy at the 2024 Henley Royal Regatta.

National Results: Won the eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won the eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won the eight at the 2023 Head of the Charles. Won the eight at the 2022 Head of the Charles.

Personal: Claire is committed to row at Stanford. She enjoys running and traveling. She looks forward to skydiving with teammate Teagan Farley.

Andrew Vizecky

Men's Quadruple Sculls Birthdate: 1/23/2009

Hometown: Arden Hills, Minn.

Height: 6'0" Weight: 195

Pronouns: he/him

School: Mounds View Senior High School

Current Club Affiliations: Lake Phalen

Current Coach: Mike DuPont, John Cavanaugh

Training Location: St. Paul, Minn. **National Teams:** One- U19, 2025

International Results: Won gold in the men's quadruple sculls and bronze in the men's single

sculls at the 2024 CanAmMex Regatta.

National Results: Finished fourth in the men's U17 single sculls at the 2025 USRowing Youth National Championships. Won gold in the men's youth double at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished fourth in the men's U17 single sculls at the 2024 USRowing Youth National

Championships.

Charles (Charlie) Winder

Men's Eight

Birthdate: 6/21/2008

Hometown: Boston, Mass.

Pronouns: he/him

School: Brimmer and May School

Current Club Affiliations: Community Rowing, Inc.

Current Coach: Kevin McCarthy Training Location: Boston, Mass. National Teams: One-U19, 2025

National Results: Finished 12th in the men's youth eight at the 2025 USRowing Youth National

Championships. Finished tenth in the men's youth eight at the 2024 Head of the Charles. Finished sixth in the men's 2V eight at the 2024 USRowing Youth National Championships. Finished fifth in the men's U16 eight at the 2023 USRowing Youth National Championships.

United States Under-19 World Championships Finishes: 1970-2024

Junior Men								
Year	4+	2x	2-	1x	2+	4-	4x	8+
2024	3	14	7	10	/	-	12	2
2023	5	-	16	13	/	8	12	7
2022	7	12	14	15	/	10	10	3
2021	4	14	8	3	/	9	15	1
2020	Eve	nt Ca	ncele	d Du	e to (COV	ID-1	19
2019	8	16	7	11	/	6	15	2
2018	2	21	17	1	/	10	10	2
2017	6	23	11	1	/	16	7	2
2016	2	13	4	12	/	4	3	2
2015	4	15	10	7	/	5	15	2
2014	11	17	17	6	/	10	10	9
2013	8	17	9	10	/	6	6	7
2012	9	8	12	17	/	12	14	5
2011	8	18	8	21	/	12	10	5
2010	5	19	17	3	/	12	15	1
2009	9	25	13	4	/	9	9	4
2008	8	12	4	15	/	-	21	3
2007	7	-	-	14	/	8	23	5
2006	7	26	-	13	/	-	24	5
2005	4	21	-	20	/	-	-	1
2004	10	19	-	9	-	15	-	5
2003	4	18	-	19	-	10	-	2
2002	7	23	_	21	-	9	-	3
2001	8	19	-	19	8	-	-	7
2000	3	19	_	11	2	-	-	4

1999 111 - 10 15 8 17 - 7 1998 2 - - 5 11 - - 4 1997 6 - - 7 7 - - 2 1996 14 10 - 13 - - 4 1995 7 - - 13 10 3 - 7 1994 5 - 14 18 11 - - 7 1993 5 - 14 18 11 - - 13 1991 - - - 4 9 - - 5 1990 10 - - 4 9 - - 5 1990 10 - - 4 9 - - 5 1990 10 - - 4									
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	1973	7	12	dnq	11	8	8	/	-
1971 6 dnq dnq 8 10 12 / 8	1972	10	dnq	5	8	12	-	/	10
	1971	6	dnq	dnq	8	10	12	/	8

1970	4	-	-	4	-	-	/	4
Junior Women								
	4-	4+	2x	2-	1x	4x/ 4x +	8+	
2024	-	3	-	-	-	9	1	
2023	-	1	16	9	11	5	4	
2022	4	1	17	9	12	4	1	
2021	4	1	19	7	16	6	1	
2020	Event	Canc	eled I	Due to	CO	VID	-19	
2019	6	4	9	9	3	12	4	
2018	1	3	7	2	22	10	2	
2017	3	/	17	9	13	5	7	
2016	3	/	1	3	7	9	6	
2015	1	/	7	3	10	3	3	
2014	2	/	12	3	10	7	6	
2013	1	/	13	5	14	2	5	
2012	2	/	6	2	15	2	2	
2011	1	/	9	6	15	4	3	
2010	2	/	14	7	10	6	2	
2009	6	/	13	6	15	9	1	
2008	6	/	12	7	2	13	1	
2007	8	/	16	6	9	-	3	
2006	7	/	12	8	3	18	2	
2005	6	/	15	5	13	-	4	
2004	4	/	15	6	10	-	7	
2003	-	/	12	7	15	-	2	
2002	8	/	17	5	16	-	3	
2001	2	/	15	6	13	-	5	
2000	1*	/	-	8	-	-	4	

* First gold medal for a U.S. Junior Women's Crew								
1999	4	/	20	7	12	12	2	
1998	7	/	-	7	14	-	5	
1997	-	/	-	10	-	-	3	
1996	7	/	-	5	-	-	4	
1995	-	/	-	7	-	-	9	
1994	7	/	-	7	20	-	6	
1993	4	/	15	8	-	-	-	
1992	5	/	-	6	-	-	3	
1991	8	/	-	6	-	-	5	
1990	7	/	-	-	-	-	5	
1989	4	/	-	-	-	-	5	
1988	/	8	-	7	-	-	4	
1987		4	-	-	-	-	4	
1986		-	-	-	-	-	-	
1985		-	-	5	-	-	6	
	JW4x		omes					
1984		8	-	6	-	-	4	
1983		-	-	-	-	10	4	
1982		-	-	-	-	-	-	
1981	/	-	-	6		-	-	
1980		7	-	-	10	-	7	
1979	/	-	-	9	-	-	-	
1978	/	8	11	dnq	-	7	6	

(-) USA did not enter boats in this

event
(dnq) USA crews did not qualify for placement
(/) Event not included in schedule

About USRowing

USRowing is the national governing body for rowing in the United States, dedicated to promoting and developing rowing at all levels, from juniors to elite competition. With a membership base of 1,400 member organizations and 77,000+ individuals, USRowing provides theoretical and practical education programs that strengthen and grow rowing while helping members achieve their goals. The national governing body works closely with international rowing bodies to represent the United States at the highest levels of competition, including the World Rowing Championships, Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Glossary of Rowing Terms

Bow: The forward section of the boat. The first part of the boat to cross the finish line. Also, the person in the seat closest to the bow, who crosses the finish line first.

Button: A wide collar on the oar that keeps it from slipping through the oarlock.

Coxswain: The person who steers the shell and is the on the water coach for the crew.

Deck: The part of the shell at the bow and stern that is covered with fiberglass cloth or a thin plastic.

Ergometer: Rowers call it an "erg." It's a rowing machine that closely approximates the actual rowing motion. The rowers' choice is the Concept2, which utilizes a flywheel and a digital readout so that the rower can measure his "strokes per minute" and the distance covered.

Gate: The bar across the oarlock that keeps the oar in place.

Lightweight: Refers to the rowers, not the boats; there is a maximum weight for each rower in a lightweight event as well as a boat average.

Oar: Used to drive the boat forward; rowers do not use paddles.

Port: The left side of the boat, while facing forward, in the direction of the movement.

Power 10: A call for rowers to do 10 of their best, most powerful strokes. It's a strategy used to pull ahead of a competitor.

Repechage: The second-chance race, which ensures that everyone has two chances to advance from preliminary races since there is no seeding in the heats.

Rigger: The triangular-shaped metal device that is bolted onto the side of the boat and holds the oars.

Run: The run is the distance the shell moves during one stroke. You can figure it out by looking for the distance between the puddles made by the same oar.

Sculls: One of the two disciplines of rowing, where scullers use two oars or sculls.

Shell: Can be used interchangeably with boat.

Slide: The set of runners for the wheels of each seat in the boat.

Starboard: The right side of the boat, while facing forward, in the direction of movement.

Stern: The rear of the boat; the direction the rowers are facing.

Straight: Refers to a shell without a coxswain, i.e., a straight four or straight pair.

Stretcher or Foot stretcher: Where the rower's feet go. The stretcher consists of two inclined footrests, which hold the rower's shoes. The rower's shoes are bolted into the footrests.

Stroke: The rower who sits closest to the stern. The stroke sets the rhythm for the boat; others behind them must follow their cadence.

Sweep: One of the two disciplines of rowing, where rowers use only one oar. Pairs (for two people), fours (for four people), and the eight are sweep boats. Pairs and fours may or may not have a coxswain. Eights always have a coxswain.

Swing: The hard to define feeling when near perfect synchronization of motion occurs in the shell, enhancing the performance and speed.

Viewer's Guide & Frequently Asked Questions

The Race

All events at the World Rowing Championships are 2,000 meters, or approximately 1.25 miles. The racecourse is divided into six lanes, and each 500- meter section is marked with buoys.

The race begins with all boats aligned at the start in the lanes they've been assigned. Individuals in each lane hold the stern of each boat steady while an official, known as the aligner, ensures that each boat is even with the others and squarely facing the course.

Each crew is allowed one false start; two means disqualification. If within the first 100 meters, there is legitimate equipment breakage (*e.g.*, an oar snaps in two), the race will be stopped and restarted with repaired equipment.

The *stroke rate* (the number of rowing strokes per minute that a crew is taking) is high at the start – maybe 45 to even 50 for an eight, 38 to 42 for a single scull. Then, the crew will "settle" into the body of the race and drop the rating back – 38 to 40 for an eight, 32 to 36 for a single. The coach and the way the race is going determine when the crew will sprint, but finishing stroke rates of 46+ in the last 200 meters aren't unheard of. However, higher stroke rates are not always indicative of speed. A strong, technically talented crew may be able to cover more water faster than a less capable crew rowing a high stroke rate.

Unlike canoe/kayak competitions, rowers are allowed to leave their lanes without penalty, so long as they do not interfere with anyone else's opportunity to win. An official follows the crews to ensure safety and fairness.

Despite the exhaustion that follows each race, the crew will row for five to 10 minutes afterwards in order to cool down. In rowing, the medal ceremonies include the shells. The three medal winning crews row to the awards dock, climb out of their shells and receive their medals before rowing away.

The Stroke

The whole body is involved in moving a shell through the water. Although rowing tends to look like an upper body sport, the strength of the rowing stroke comes from the legs.

The stroke is made up of four parts: *catch, drive, finish and recovery.* As the stroke begins, the rower is coiled forward on the sliding seat, with knees bent and arms outstretched. At the *catch*,

the athlete drops the oar blade vertically into the water. At the beginning of the drive, the body position doesn't change – all the work is done by the legs. As the upper body begins to uncoil, the arms begin their work, drawing the oar blades through the water. Continuing the drive, the rowers move their hands quickly into the body, which by this time is in a slight "layback" position, requiring strong abdominal muscles.

During the finish, the oar handle is moved down, drawing the oar blade out of the water. Then, the rower "feathers" the oar – turning the oar handle – so that the oar blade changes from a vertical position to a horizontal one. The oar remains out of the water as the rower begins *recovery*, moving the hands away from the body and past the knees. The body follows the hands and the sliding seat moves forward until, knees bent, the rower is ready for the next catch.

The Equipment

Oars

Oars move the boat through the water and act as balancers. Sweep oars are longer than sculling oars and may have wooden handles instead of rubber grips. The shaft of the oar is made of extremely lightweight carbon fiber instead of the heavier wood used years ago. The popular "hatchet" blade – named because of its cleaverlike shape – is about 20 percent larger than previous blades. Its larger surface area has made it the almost universal choice among elite level Rowers.

The Boats – Sculls and Shells

All rowing boats can be called shells. Rowing boats with scullers in them (each person having two oars) are called sculls, *e.g.*, *single scull*, *double scull*, *quadruple scull*. So, all sculls are shells but not vice versa. Originally made of wood, today's boats – especially those used in competition – are made of honeycombed carbon fiber. They are light and appear fragile but are crafted to be strong and stiff in the water.

The smallest boat – the single scull – is approximately 27 feet long and as narrow as 10 inches across. At 58 feet, the eight is the longest boat on the water. The oars are attached to the boat with riggers, which provide a fulcrum for the levering action of rowing. Generally, sweep rowers sit in configurations that have the oars alternating from side to side along the boat. But sometimes, the coach will rig the boat so that two consecutive rowers have their oars on the same side in order to equalize individual athlete power.

Rowing Quick Facts

Rowing is one of the original sports in the modern Olympic Games. Baron Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the modern Olympics, was a rower.

Eight oared shells are about 60 feet long, about 20 yards on a football field.

Rowing was the first intercollegiate sport contested in the United States. Yale College founded the first collegiate boat club in the U.S. in 1843.

Physiologically, rowers are superb examples of physical conditioning. Cross-country skiers and long-distance speed skaters are comparable in terms of the physical demands the sport places on the athletes.

An eight, which carries more than three quarters of a ton (1,750 pounds), may weigh as little as 200 pounds. The boats are made of fiberglass composite material.

Singles may be as narrow as 10 inches across, weigh only 30.86 pounds, and stretch nearly 27 feet long.

World Rowing, the international governing body of the sport, requires all eights used in international competition to be sectional, so that crews who must disassemble and ship their boats overseas in standard shipping containers will not be at a disadvantage.

The first amateur sport organization was a rowing club, Philadelphia's Schuylkill Navy, founded in 1858.

From 1920 through 1956, the United States won the gold medal in the men's eight at every Olympic Games.

The first national governing body for a sport in the United States was for rowing. Founded as the National Association for Amateur Oarsmen in 1872, it was changed in 1982 to the United States Rowing Association. World Rowing, the first international sports federation, was founded in 1892.

Dr. Benjamin Spock, the famous doctor, was an Olympic rower in 1924 and won a gold medal in the eight. Legendary Hollywood actor Gregory Peck rowed at the University of California in 1937.

Physiologists claim that rowing a 2,000-meter race – equivalent to 1.25 miles – is equal to playing back to back basketball games. All Olympic events are contested over a 2,000-meter course with six lanes.

Two Olympic rowers are in the USOPC Hall of Fame: Jack Kelly Sr., the father of Grace Kelly and the first rower to win three Olympic gold medals, and Anita DeFrantz, Olympic bronze medalist, activist and the first female vice-president of the IOC.

The U.S. women's eight went on an 11-year winning streak from 2006 to 2016, winning 3 Olympic gold medals and 8 World Championships.

The win in the U.S. men's four in 2024 was the first Olympic gold in the event since 1960.