

Head of the Riverfront Regatta Risk Mitigation Plan

Safety remains a top priority, and the Head of the Riverfront organizers have reviewed current COVID guidance and regulations from the State of Connecticut, the City of Hartford, USRowing, and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. Recognizing that this guidance is subject to change, the following best practices have been established as a baseline for the 2021 Head of the Riverfront. Each registered participant and attendee is encouraged to follow any additional protocols for sanitizing, face coverings, and distancing that allow them to participate in the event in a way that is enjoyable and maximizes their safety and the safety and health of all. Please do not place our volunteers and race personnel in the position of having to remind people to be respectful.

USRowing's Medical Commission is encouraging all members to get vaccinated as soon as possible in order to protect each other as we can get back to usual boathouse activity and return to large-scale regattas. Note that the The Connecticut Interscholastic Conference 2021 Fall Sports COVID-19 Guidance August 12, 2021: Vaccination Joint Statement Issued by CT DPH (July 20, 2021) states "The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), and many youth sports organizations in our state are joining together in this message to encourage interscholastic Athletic Directors and other youth athletic team administrators to help all of their athletes 12 years and older stay on the field and in the classroom this fall by helping them get vaccinated."

If you are feeling unwell or have any of the symptoms associated with Covid-19, do not come to the regatta! If you have been notified that you are to be quarantined due to potential COVID exposure, honor that and do not attend the Head of the Riverfront.

The Head of the Riverfront is confident that the majority of those participating in the 2021 regatta have followed the recommendations of public health officials. We ask that everyone establishes a respectful physical distance between themselves and our volunteers, the race officials, and participants from other schools and clubs. If you are interacting directly with volunteers, race officials, or Riverfront Recapture staff we ask that you wear a mask (whether indoors or outside). Examples would include crews interacting with dock control, coaches picking up race packets, or athletes claiming medals. Masking is mandatory in indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status, per the City of Hartford.

The Head of the Riverfront will be putting additional space between trailers to the best of our ability and the constraints of the venue. We have no doubts that participants will be considerate of others as they rig their equipment and move around the venue. Coaches and athletes should be aware that in an effort to create a responsible distance between crews in the queue to the dock or other traditionally congested areas that additional time should be planned to ensure delays are minimized. Cooperation with these basic health and safety guidelines will allow us all to enjoy a full slate of competitive events and welcome the support and encouragement of families and supporters.

Registered Regatta Risk Mitigation Plan Guidance

1. Regatta name, location, race date(s), practice date(s) (if applicable) and list of events/boat classes being offered.

Head of the Riverfront, Riverside Park, Hartford CT 06120. Sunday, October 3, 2021. youth, collegiate, masters 1x, 2x, 4+/x, 8+

2. Name and contact information for the Regatta Director.

Christopher R. Hayes, Riverfront Recapture 860-966-1504, chayes@riverfront.org. also, regatta@riverfront.org

3. Describe your venue mask policy.

Per order of CT Governor Ned Lamont, face masks will not be required at outdoor events in Connecticut. Per USRowing Regatta Planning Guidelines, Unvaccinated individuals should wear a mask and always make an effort to maintain physical/social distancing of at least six (6) feet. This includes coaches, athletes and staff. In addition, the City of Hartford has mandated the wearing of face coverings by all individuals indoors. As a result, the upstairs area, including the restrooms, of the boathouse will be closed during the Head of the Riverfront.

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4. Describe your policy on attending the event including spectator and media policies. If you are allowing spectators and/or media, please explain the measures you are taking to ensure their safety. Safety remains a top priority, and the Head of the Riverfront organizers have reviewed current COVID guidance and regulations from the State of Connecticut, the City of Hartford, USRowing, and the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference. Recognizing that this guidance is subject to change, the following best practices have been established as a baseline for the 2021 Head of the Riverfront. Each registered participant and attendee is encouraged to follow any additional protocols for sanitizing, face coverings, and distancing that allow them to participate in the event in a way that is enjoyable and maximizes their safety and the safety and health of all. Please do not place our volunteers and race personnel in the position of having to remind people to be respectful.

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5. Provide the Event Medical Plan.

Emergency services for the Head of the Riverfront are provided by the City of Hartford Fire Department, Police Department, and Marine Division. The Capital Region Dive Team, GMR Ambulance, and Town of East Hartford Police Department and Fire Department are all also providing medical coverage.

Two GMR paramedic staffed ambulances will be onsite at Riverside Park, where all teams are launching and returning from. The Hartford Fire Department will be deploying a First Aid tent in Riverside Park as well for any walk-up medical situations. The Hartford Fire Department will also have two mobile medical teams. One will be monitoring the Finish Line viewing area and path to the finish. The other mobile medical team will be moving throughout Riverside Park.

The East Hartford Fire Department will be providing paramedics for on-water emergencies.

All of these medical providers will be in radio contact with Regatta Officials.

The two local area hospitals are Hartford Hospital at 80 Seymour St, Hartford, CT 06106, which is 3.6 miles from Riverside Park, and Saint Francis Hospital at 114 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT 06105, which is 3.7 miles from Riverside Park.

If there is a potential case of COVID at the venue, the individual will be brought to the medical tent where they will await evaluation from GMR Ambulance Services. If it is determined that the individual needs to be isolated until appropriate transport to a medical provider can be arranged, there will be an isolation tent onsite.

Medical grade nitrile gloves, masks and disinfectant wipes will be available in every safety and referee launch, as well as the registration tent, medical tent, isolation tent, and boathouse.

All necessary disinfecting supplies will be stationed in the Boathouse.

If there is a potential case of COVID at the venue, the team who the individual is associated with will be contacted and any close contacts will be asked to leave the venue and will be urged to quarantine until testing results are known.

6. Provide prevention measures that the LOC/venue will take prior to and during the regatta. The Head of the Riverfront will be putting additional space between trailers to the best of our ability and the constraints of the venue. We have no doubts that participants will be considerate of others as they rig their equipment and move around the venue. Coaches and athletes should be aware that in an effort to create a responsible distance between crews in the queue to the dock or other traditionally congested areas that additional time should be planned to ensure delays are minimized. Cooperation with these basic health and safety guidelines will allow us all to enjoy a full slate of competitive events and welcome the support and encouragement of families and supporters.

7. Explain how the regatta/LOC will address the following items.

a. What additional safety and sanitation precautions are in place?

Masks will be provided to all volunteers. Masks and medical grade nitrile gloves will be available for attendees in each safety launch, registration tent, medical tent, and in the boathouse. We ask that everyone establishes a respectful physical distance between themselves and our volunteers, the race officials, and participants from other schools and clubs. If you are interacting directly with volunteers, race officials, or Riverfront Recapture staff we ask that you wear a mask (whether indoors or outside). Examples would include crews interacting with dock control, coaches picking up race packets, or athletes claiming medals. Masking is mandatory in indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status, per the City of Hartford

b. Does the venue have separate access/egress routes?
Yes, launch and return docks are separated.

c. Does the venue have enough dock space and trailer space to properly ensure physical/social distancing?
Wherever social distancing cannot occur masks will be required.

d. What is the venue's medical setup?
See Event Medical Plan

e. Does the regatta have the required number of referees to ensure the safety and fairness of the regatta?
Yes, the Chief Referee has arranged for an adequate number of experienced referees as well as two referee candidates to support this US Rowing registered regatta.

f. What is the plan to provide appropriate Personal Protection Equipment for referees, volunteers, etc.
Face covering/masks, medical grade nitrile gloves and disinfectant wipes will be available in safety launches, at registration and at volunteer check in. If regatta participants have not provided their own face covering, one will be supplied for them when interacting directly with regatta volunteers or race officials.

g. What signage and other means of communication that provide information on what to do if an individual begins to feel sick or there is suspicion of possible COVID infection at the venue will be provided?
Anyone requiring medical assistance of any kind will be referred to emergency services personnel on site at the regatta. If able, they will go to the medical tent. Regatta personnel are in radio contact with Emergency Services throughout the event and will be able to direct them to a particular location if the person is unable to get to the medical tent.

h. Please review the Modified Referee Procedures for COVID-19 document and indicate which of the procedures you are implementing.
The Head of the Riverfront does not require athlete, coxswain or equipment weigh-ins. The C&C is held outdoors in an area where distancing may be maintained. The boat for starting officials has quite substantial outdoor spaces where distancing may be maintained. The two wakeless launches used in the event of the need for recovery of an athlete in the water or transport of crews in the case of needing to remove athletes from the event will carry masks to be provided if needed during transport.

In addition, we ask that everyone establishes a respectful physical distance between themselves and our volunteers, the race officials, and participants from other schools and clubs. If you are interacting directly with volunteers, race officials, or Riverfront Recapture staff we ask that you wear a mask (whether indoors or outside). Examples would include crews interacting with dock control, coaches picking up race packets, or athletes claiming medals. Masking is mandatory in indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status, per the City of Hartford.