



What Can I Expect at a Regatta?

REGATTAS IN GENERAL

- Prior to each regatta, we will share the line-ups along with the projected race schedule for the day. This will help you know what time(s) your rower races. Most regattas limit the number of races your rower can be in for the day.
- We will share a link to view race results on the day of the regatta.
- Regattas are full day events. Just like a volleyball tournament, swim meet or large track meet, your rower will be expected to be there all day.
- We ask that all spectators (including parents) let the coaches and rowers do their work in the boat staging area and dock area during regattas. Coaches will come get a parent for any medical emergencies. Your rower needs to stay with the team.
- If there is a thunderstorm, rowers are asked to shelter in vehicles and other safe places until it passes. We wait for the weather to improve to resume racing. This often results in the racing day lasting longer because organizers try to get as much racing in as possible. Please do not leave the event location with your rower unless you are told to do so. Races resume right after the bad weather passes.
- The host team often sells merchandise like t-shirts or sweatshirts. Bring cash for these items if you want to purchase them. Some vendors accept Venmo or credit cards too.

FALL REGATTAS

- Longer distance racing as compared to Spring; typically, over 2,500 meters.
- Boats row individually in a staggered-start pattern.

SPRING REGATTAS

- Shorter distance racing; typically, 1,500-2,000 meters.
- Boats race side-by-side.

RACE DAY

Before Racing:

- Rowers and families provide their own transportation to all regattas. Rowers are asked to arrive before the regatta starts to prepare to race. While rowers and coaches take care of the boats and prep for racing, parents/volunteers get the food tent ready, prepare breakfast for serving and assist with other necessary tasks.
- Breakfast is served for the rowers and coaches.
- Parents and other spectators set up chairs or blankets to view the race.

During Racing:

- We often sit together to cheer on our team.
- You will see parents looking up results on their cell phones since they are posted shortly after each race throughout the entire day.
- If you take photos, we appreciate you sharing them on our team Shutterfly page at: <https://northvilleroxingclub.shutterfly.com/pictures> and via social media.
- Lunch is served for the rowers and coaches.

After Racing:

- Rowers will need to either put the boats and oars away (home regatta) or load the boats and oars on the trailer (away regatta).
- **Every rower** will need to participate in clean-up and taking care of the boats. If they do not focus, this process takes up a lot of time.
- After boats are ready and the location is cleaned up, we have a team medal ceremony. Individual medals are awarded by the host to rowers from winning boats. Coaches distribute the medals. Trophies are also sometimes awarded for best sculling team for the day, etc., depending on the regatta.
- After the medal ceremony, rowers are free to leave.

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

- We recommend you label your rower's belongings, including all items of clothing. With the volume of rowers, things get lost. At the end of the day, the tent is littered with socks, towels, bags, water bottles, uniform pieces, etc. We gather up anything left behind and, if it's labeled, you have a better chance of it being returned to your rower.
- Rowers should bring twice as many layers as they think they will need. Your rower **will** get wet during racing. Water comes up over the side of the boat and drips over them when they lift the boats off the water. Having extra socks and layers to keep warm is essential.
- Have your rower bring a trash bag in the event of rain. It's super helpful to have a waterproof trash bag for the rower to place their bag and clothing in if the weather turns wet during the regatta. Waterproof clothing is also essential on rainy days.

WHAT ROWERS MUST BRING

- Every rower must have their full uniform on during racing.
- If a rower wears a hat, it must be a Northville high school hat. It doesn't have to match everyone on the boat, but it must be a Northville hat. As an alternative, all rowers on the boat can wear the same hat.
- Water bottle filled with water. We will provide a station for rowers to refill their water bottles throughout the day.
- Rowers must dress for the weather. There is downtime between races and rowers can get cold if they are not properly dressed.
- During warm days, rowers should apply sunblock several times throughout the day.

WHAT SPECTATORS MAY WANT TO BRING

The following is a list of items that parents/spectators may want to bring to a regatta:

- Folding chairs
- A cooler with drinks and food unless you plan on leaving during the day
- Binoculars
- Umbrella
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellant
- Layers of clothing
- Rain boots – sites can get muddy
- Blanket – in case it gets chilly – who are we kidding? – *when* it gets chilly ☺
- Camera

That about sums up a regatta day. Now let's

ROW MUSTANGS!!!!!!!!!!!!