

PASSAIC RIVER ROWING ASSOCIATION



Est. 1999
www.PRRA.org

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE 2016

OFFICERS

President: Ben Delisle
Vice President: Anthony Scarpelli
Secretary: Rainer Martini
Treasurer: Sandra Ward

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Janet Raphael
Joanne Victorio
Mustafa Asali

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE
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WELCOME TO THE PASSAIC RIVER ROWING ASSOCIATION



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www.PRRA.org

I. Introduction

The Passaic River Rowing Association (“PRRA”) is a community-based, not-for-profit rowing club located in Lyndhurst, New Jersey. PRRA promotes youth and community rowing, while providing various programs for all skill levels of rowers, from a signature Learn-to-Row program to development camps for major competitions. The club membership reflects a positive balance of youth rowing and masters rowing. PRRA additionally strives to achieve a balanced program comprised of sweep rowing and sculling.

PRRA’s Mission Statement

*Call together and support a community of rowers of every age and ability
with primary emphasis on youth rowing within the local community;
Promote the highest values of rowing in international, national and local arenas;
Promote the stewardship of the Passaic River environment; and
Strive for excellence in all that we do.*

II. Location / Facility

PRRA, in cooperation with Bergen County, operates a boathouse in the Riverside County Park - South along the banks of the Passaic River in Lyndhurst/North Arlington, New Jersey called “The Bergen County Rowing Center.” The boathouse is in the section of the park which uses an entrance off of Riverside Ave, just opposite of Wilson Street. The boathouse is easy to get to, and is only minutes from major highways. Parking for members and visitors is available in the park’s large asphalt parking lot just a short walk away from the boathouse.

The rowing facility boasts a 110-foot long by 24-foot wide one-story structure, ideal for storing rowing boats. Additional storage outside in secure pens is also available for club boat storage and PRRA-affiliated boat clubs (i.e. high schools). PRRA is also proud to have a premium rowing dock located parallel to the shoreline of the Passaic River. The club’s state of the art 120-foot long rowing dock has been fully approved by all state regulatory agencies. It can accommodate the full length of two rowing eights end to end. The public is also encouraged to use the dock for other recreational small-boating activities (i.e., canoeing, kayaking, and rowing boats).

The Passaic River is a wide, tidal river in North Jersey offering club members the opportunity to row as far south as Newark, and as far north as Garfield. The rowable distance between those points normally is approximately 12 miles. The club reserves the right to restrict rowing depending on river conditions.

Bathroom facilities for club members and visitors are available in the clean and well-kept public bathrooms adjacent to the parking lot.



PRRA's club-owned equipment includes a wide variety of boats for both the sweep-rowing and also the sculling programs. The club also has both sweep and sculling oars for members' use.

III. General Membership Information

PRRA offers a multitude of annual membership options for sweep rowing (one oar) or sculling (two oars), to accommodate various levels of rowing experience from the beginner to the highly competitive rower. The membership calendar year runs from March 15th through March 14th of the following year. The minimum age for participants is 14 years old, **however unsupervised rowing is not allowed for Junior rowers in accordance with US rowing safety guidelines.**

As a not-for-profit organization, PRRA relies heavily on volunteerism to fulfill its mission. Club activities are managed by the PRRA Council and its various committees and subcommittees. We can encourage active involvement in the various committees, for information on the committees see the PRRA website. Members are also encouraged to volunteer occasionally throughout the year. Opportunities include help with the normal upkeep of the boathouse, improvements to the rowing facility, and regattas hosted jointly or separately by PRRA.

Prospective members must complete the registration form online on RegattaCentral.com and have a digitally signed waiver of liability on file in order to row. Members must know how to swim and complete the online statement of their ability to do so. Payment in full is preferred to be made electronically when registering on RegattaCentral.com. **Membership including rowing privileges will not start until payment has been received. No exceptions will be made.**

On occasion, members will be permitted to bring a guest to row. Before doing so, the club member must first receive approval from the appropriate coach and verify that there is an open seat to row for the guest. The guest must also complete a guest membership registration form online on RegattaCentral.com (no fees required) and sign digitally all the correspondent waivers before rowing.

IV. Rowing & Membership Programs

Beginning/novice rowers are required to take the Learn to Row program, and upon successful completion may join the Community Rowing Program on a discounted basis for the remainder of their first year.

A. Learn to Row Program:

Learn to Row classes are intended for new members who have little or no experience, or for those who would like to have a refresher course. The program is three weeks long, with three scheduled organized classes per week, for a total of nine lessons. Each class is approximately two hours long. Learn to Row classes are limited to a maximum of ten (10) rowers each on a first-come, first-served basis, in order to provide the best possible instruction as well as to maintain a high level of safety. Under the supervision of experienced rowers and coaches, participants will receive an introduction to the sport with ample personal attention. The class is designed to teach the basics of sculling and sweep rowing. Instruction includes orientation, rowing technique, safety, boat handling and coxing. All graduates receive an invitation to join the club under the Community Rowing Program after successful completion of the program. Payment and application must be received in advance to reserve a spot in the class. Refunds will only be issued if cancellation is received at least two weeks prior to the start of the first class or if the class is canceled.

Sessions: Check the website at PRRA.org for schedules.

B. Community Rowing Program:

This program is intended to be the next step for graduates of the Learn to Row classes, and for those members whose goals include rowing up to three times per week in a friendly, fun, and



social atmosphere. The rows are supervised on and off the water by properly licensed personnel. Rows occur at least three times a week, conditions permitting (typically Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm, and Saturday mornings at 10:00 am). Community rowers also are encouraged to enter the Carnegie Lake and Head of the Passaic Regattas and race under PRRA colors.

*Rowing Season: 05/21 – 10/23 (Saturday and Sunday rows only after 09/12)**

C. Recreational Rowing Program

This program is open only to experienced rowers and is intended for those members who plan to row most days of the week and do not intend to race competitively. Rowers in this program have access to club-owned boats. Ownership of your own equipment is not required. Recreational Rowing Members can request keys to the boathouse doors.

*Rowing Season: 04/09 - 10/23**

D. Competitive Rowing Program:

The Competitive Rowing Program is open to all experienced, adult rowers who are looking for intense training and coaching, and who will likely be participating in many of the year's regattas. Practice schedules, workouts, equipment use, and regatta entries are coordinated by the coach and the Competitive Rowing Committee. Regatta and trailer fees are required to be paid in advance. Competitive Rowing Members can request keys to the boathouse doors. The competitive rowing program typically practices at 5:00 AM, Monday through Friday. Competitive members have priority for equipment and regatta entries.

*Rowing Season: Daily 03/26 - 11/13**

E. Youth Rowing Programs:

PRRA offers a variety of youth programs ranging from learn-to-row, to spring, summer and fall competitive rowing sessions. Regatta fees and boat transportation costs are not included and are payable in advance of regatta application date. All youth rowers are required to receive coached supervision from a launch when on the water.

Rowing Season: June through October (Spring session is based on demand; youth rowers may also join the Community Rowing Program.)

F. Social Membership:

This membership option is for persons interested in supporting the activities of PRRA. Social members are invited to attend regattas and social events.

G. Equipment Storage:

Limited inside and outside storage of private equipment is available at the boathouse. The Equipment Committee will assign space. All private equipment must be insured by the owner and will not be covered by the PRRA's equipment insurance. **Members requesting storage must register either for the Recreational or the Competitive Rowing Programs.**

H. High School + College Rowing Programs:

To promote the development of youth rowing programs, PRRA works with local high schools and colleges interested in rowing programs. Please contact us to discuss options for rowing programs at programs@prra.org.

** All season dates are approximate, and dependent on conditions.*



V. Membership Terms and Conditions

- PRRA is a not-for-profit organization that depends upon volunteerism to maintain equipment, boathouse and functioning of the association. All members are requested to volunteer at a minimum of four activities per calendar year. Boathouse activities will be scheduled in advance and announced to the membership. Members also are encouraged to volunteer for one or more of PRRA's committees, see the website for more information. Scheduling of rowing programs is subject to the availability of volunteers.
- Members may not use any privately owned equipment without the prior, expressed permission of its owner(s). **No exceptions.**
- Priority in using PRRA's equipment will be given to scheduled programs.
- New rowers must gain proficiency in training boats before rowing in less stable boats. Rowing shells are expensive and readily prone to damage when misused. In addition, boats should be selected at the appropriate weight class and skill level.
- An Association Council governs the PRRA in accordance with its Constitution and Bylaws. **No individual member or group of members may obligate or represent the PRRA without the express consent of the Association Council.**
- All members are required to adhere to the rules, policies, regulations and mission of the PRRA as published on the club's website (www.prra.org). Members are required to conduct themselves in a responsible and civil manner towards all members and the general public. Failure to adhere to the rules and regulations may result in disciplinary action, as outlined in the Constitution, including termination of rowing privileges.
- All members are required to review and comply with US Rowing's and PRRA's safety rules at all times. Failure to adhere to the rules and regulations may result in disciplinary action, as outlined in the Constitution, including termination of rowing privileges. See the website at www.prra.org for details. A copy of the safety rules shall also be kept at the boathouse.
- All members and staff are required to review and comply with US Rowing's and PRRA's SafeSport policies. See the website at www.prra.org for details. A copy of the SafeSport policies shall also be kept at the boathouse.
- All members must submit a completed registration and waiver form and pay membership fees before being allowed to row.
- All Competitive rowers who intend to race must participate in an escrow account system, maintained by PRRA, for the payment of race and trailer fees. Rower contributions to the escrow account must be made prior to the race entry for that rower. A positive balance must be maintained at all times.
- Guest rowers may row up to three times in one calendar year provided that they have registered online at regattacentral.com for a PRRA Guest membership and signed all corresponding waivers. After three rows, the rower will be asked to pay the appropriate membership fee.
- A key deposit of \$25 will be charged to Recreational and Competitive rowers that requested a key to the facility, the deposit will be refunded upon return of the key.



VI. Membership Fees

FEE SCHEDULE

Program:	Type	Annual Fee:
A. Learn to Row Program:	all	\$250.00
B. Community Rowing Program:	all	\$300.00
C. Recreational Rowing Program	adult	\$400.00
D. Competitive Rowing Program:	adult	\$475.00
E. Youth Rowing Program	youth	\$300.00 [Fall]
F. Social Membership:	all	\$ 50.00
G. Indoor Equipment Storage:	per seat	\$300.00
Outdoor Equipment Storage:	per seat	\$200.00

Due Date for Fees: March 31, 2015

Fees are non-refundable, and a fee will be assessed for returned checks. Reductions of membership fees are available under the following circumstances:

- Family Discounts: The first family member pays the highest member fee; each additional family member receives a 25% reduction in membership fee. A family member is defined as any immediate family member living in the same household with the individual member.
- Credit for Learn to Row: Learn-to-Row graduates who join Community Row in their first year will pay an additional \$150.00 to join the Community Rowing Program for the remainder of that rowing year.
- Credit for Multiple Sessions: Youth members who pay for a full session will receive a \$50 discount per session for subsequent sessions in the same year. (Not to be combined with the Credit for Learn to Row).
- College Student Discount: Members enrolled at a college will receive a \$150 discount of the membership fee. (Not to be combined with other discounts).
- Full-time coxswains: Membership is free.
- Prorated Fees: After August 15th, new members will only pay 50% of the relevant annual program fee, and storage fees may be prorated on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Council.

Please note: Participants may be required to pay additional fees for special programs held during the rowing calendar year, such as clinics or Development Camps.

For more information, please visit our web site at www.prra.org or e-mail us at programs@prra.org



For general information about the club, communications@prra.org

Interested in the Competitive Team? competitive@prra.org

Program information, programs@prra.org

Club management information, SafeSport or safety issues, council@prra.org

Problems or questions about the equipment, equipment@prra.org

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 440

Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

TO REGISTER ON LINE GO TO https://www.regattacentral.com/clubs/?org_id=377.

You will need to create a Regatta Central login and password if you do not already have one.

Alternatively, you can register through the PRRA website or request a printable copy of the Registration Form through an email to council@prra.org.

