

Rules of the Philadelphia Scholastic Rowing Association

1. General Rules

- a. Administrative By-Laws Rules (PSRA By-Laws adopted Dec. 30, 1997)
 - i. The PSRA Permanent Membership shall elect a 7-member Board at the January meeting in accordance with the (PSRA By-Laws adopted Dec. 30, 1997).
 - ii. The PSRA Executive Committee shall be appointed on an annual basis by the PSRA Board of Directors. The Executive Committee consists of the following positions.
 1. President
 2. Vice President
 3. Secretary
 4. Treasurer
- b. Membership Meetings
 - i. The PSRA Permanent Members shall meet three times annually: Fall (November), Winter (January), and Post-Season (June).
 - ii. The January meeting shall be designated our *General Meeting* and be open to all Associate Members and Guests.
 - iii. A "*Special Meeting*" may be called in accordance with and as set forth by our By-Laws (1997)
- c. PSRA Committees:
 - i. The Executive Committee shall form and appoint three standing committees: **Rules & Nominating, Membership, and Racing.**
 - ii. Each committee shall have no fewer than five members.
 - iii. Each committee member shall serve for two years.
 - iv. The Executive Committee at the June Membership Meeting shall appoint committees.
 - v. Committee members must be coaches from Permanent Member Schools, representatives from Permanent Member schools, or officials.
 - vi. Each committee shall elect one representative to serve as the Committee Chair.
 - vii. Responsibilities of each Committee:
 1. Rules and Nominating Committee:
 - a. The Rules Committee is charged with identifying new Board Members and Executive Committee Members.
 - b. The Rules Committee shall evaluate and appropriately disseminate all changes or recommendations originating from the Membership Committee or Racing Committee.
 - c. The Rules Committee shall on an annual basis review and amend the PSRA Charter for approval by the Board of Directors.

- d. The Rules Committee is charged, along with the President of the PSRA, with disciplining in an appropriate fashion any institution in violation of a PSRA rule or regulation.
- 2. Membership Committee:
 - a. The Membership Committee is charged with monitoring the process of membership including proposing new members to the PSRA Permanent Membership for a vote.
 - b. The Membership Committee shall oversee all Permanent Members to ensure that Permanent Members are fulfilling membership requirements as designated in Section 3.c.i.6.
 - c. The Chair of the Membership Committee will present new members for a vote at the November Meeting.
- 3. Racing Committee:
 - a. The Racing Committee is charged with developing and implementing all unique rules and regatta management not outlined in either the USRA Rules of Racing or this document.
 - b. The Racing Committee is charged with the seeding of races (Section 2.h.).
 - c. A subcommittee of the Racing Committee, including its Chairman or his/ her designee, will sit as jury along with each Regatta's Chief Referee (Section 1.g.i) to evaluate and rule on any protest.
 - d. At least one member of the Racing Committee and its subcommittee must be a Referee.
- d. Fee Structures
 - i. All fees including, but not limited to entry, membership, site, and vendor, shall be determined by the Executive Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- e. Points Trophy
 - i. The Board of Directors shall award Point Trophies in the following three categories at the City Championship based on the cumulative results of the Flick-Horvat Series of racing:
 - 1. **The Manny Flick Trophy** shall be awarded to the men's sweep program accumulating the most points.
 - 2. **The Horvat Series** trophy will be presented to the men's sculling program accumulating the most points
 - 3. **The Brigantine Trophy** will be presented to the women's sweep program accumulating the most points.
 - 4. **The Kate Godwin Trophy** will be presented to the women's sculling program accumulating the most points.
 - ii. Point eligibility.

1. Points will be awarded to first, second, and third place boats finishing in the event.
- iii. Points order as attached in Appendix I
- f. Season Length – Rowing on the water in any fashion including under the banner of any other organization is forbidden before the 3rd Saturday in February each spring.
- g. Regatta Rules:
 - i. The Executive Committee along with the Racing Committee will appoint a Chief Referee for each regatta. Time changes, weather delays, and cancellations will fall under the jurisdiction of the Chief Referee.
 - ii. The Regatta Committee for each regatta shall be defined as the Executive Committee of the PSRA as well as the Chief Referee for each regatta.
 - iii. All questions of eligibility, qualification, or interpretations of any rule shall be referred to the Rules Committee whose decision shall be made in coordination with the Executive Committee and the PSRA Board of Directors. This decision shall be final. No appeals process.
 - iv. A rower cannot have reached his or her 19th year prior to September 1 of that academic year.
 - v. JV – Junior events are restricted to competitors in the junior year (11th grade) or lower. Juniors, including coxswains, must not have attained the age of 18 years prior to September 1 of that academic year. Senior (12th grade) students may not compete in Junior events.
 - vi. Lightweight – Lightweight events shall be rowed by those male athletes weighing not more than 150 lbs. on the day of the regatta. Female athletes shall weigh not more than 130 on the day of the regatta with no crew average.
 - vii. Freshman Lightweight – Freshman Lightweight events shall be rowed by those male athletes in the 9th grade weighing not more than 135 lbs. on the day of the regatta.
 - viii. Competition is open for students in grades nine to 12. Four consecutive years of eligibility.
 - ix. Novice – Novice oarsmen shall be those male and female athletes in their first year of rowing or coxing.
 1. This rule shall apply equally with respects to both sculling and sweep rowing. (i.e. an oarsperson with two years of sweep experience but no sculling experience shall not be considered a novice and vice versa.)
 2. Athletes who cox a season(s) and who later become rowers in a subsequent season (or vice versa) will be considered novice rowers in their first year of rowing.
 - x. Freshman shall be designated as those athletes in the 9th grade as listed on their team roster.

xi. All races shall be a distance of 1500 Meters

xii. Entries:

1. Entries must be made on time and in the manner designated by the Executive Committee.
2. The Headmaster, Principal, or the Athletic Director of the entering school must sign written entries for championship regattas.
3. All entry fees must be paid at time of entry with no exception.
4. Entries for 8s may contain names of four substitute oarsman; one substitute coxswain. Entries for 4s may include two substitute oarsmen and one substitute coxswain. Doubles may contain one substitute oarsman.
5. Substitutions to the original boating must be reported to and sanctioned by the Executive Committee prior to the start of the race. If a substitution is deemed necessary, between a heat and a final, the Executive Committee as well as the coaches of all competing crews must approve such substitution.
6. All entries must contain the names of students listed on the original team roster submitted to the Executive Committee prior to the first race of the spring.
7. Composite crews shall not be permitted to enter.
8. Doubling up is not allowed. No rower/coxswain may compete twice in the same regatta.
9. Entry Fees
 - a. All Manny Flick Series races shall be rowed with no additional entry fee. Fees for this racing series shall be included in membership fees.
 - b. Scratches.
 - i. A scratch fee will be assessed for each scratch entry.
 - ii. The scratch fee for each event will equal the entry fee for that event at the Philadelphia City Championships of that year.
 - iii. Scratch fees will be assessed on a rolling basis through the Flick Series and paid in full as part of the City Championship regatta entry.
 - iv. The same scratch fee will apply to any scratch at the city championship in addition to loss of entry fee.
 - v. Fees for scratching at the City Championship will be assessed to the following years membership fees.

- ii. Use of stake boats at the starting line will come under the jurisdiction and option of the Racing Committee.
- iii. No coach may come within one hundred yards of the starting line as designated by the Racing Committee and Chief Referee. Any official may assess a false start and subsequent disqualification for violation of this rule.
- iv. Protests – All protests shall be submitted in writing to the Chief Referee and reviewed by said referee and a quorum of the Racing Committee at the conclusion of the day’s racing program.
- v. All USRA rules of racing apply to PSRA regattas.

2. Racing

- a. Gender-specific racing will be designated as such by the Executive Committee at the January Meeting.
- b. Gender-specific racing will be conducted in two sessions.
- c. The Genders will alternate sessions on a designated basis.
- d. Gender-neutral races will be designated by the Executive Committee in January and conducted by the “Rule of Sixes.” (i.e., a six-hour racing session and six minute centers.)
- e. Scheduling will be staggered to provide flexibility for schools using the same shell in more than one race and for ease in identification in the marshalling area and at the starting line.
- f. Any race with more than 12 entries will be conducted as a headrace. Headraces will be conducted at the start of the day for gender-neutral days. Head racing will be conducted between racing sessions for gender-specific racing days.
- g. No Varsity event shall be run in headrace fashion.
- h. Seeding
 - i. Commencing with the 3rd flick and continuing through the 5th flick the Racing Committee shall seed all Varsity events in order to ensure the most competitive and highest quality racing possible.
 - ii. However, the Philadelphia City Championship shall be seeded on a traditional progression basis.
 - iii. “B” boat entries will be allowed in all Flick Series races and the City Championship.

3. Membership

- a. The PSRA will have three levels of participation: Permanent Member, Associate Member, and Guest.
- b. All Permanent and Associate Members must be Organizational Members of US Rowing.
- c. Proposals for new members will be made at the designated Summer/ Post Season meeting when applicable.

- d. Voting of new Permanent Members will take place at the designated Fall Meeting when applicable.
 - i. Permanent Membership:
 1. Requirements for Permanent Membership include:
 - a. Program must field crews at the following levels Freshman/Novice, JV, and Varsity.
 - b. Five- Year continuous track record of PSRA participation.
 - c. Minimum of 10 Student-Athletes
 - d. Letter of Recognition from the School
 - e. Each school that is proposed for admission needs one, and only one, official sponsor school from the Permanent Membership.
 - f. In order to obtain membership the proposed school must receive an affirmative vote from 4/5 of all Permanent PSRA members, designated proxie votes included, present at the time of the vote. This vote will be conducted by secret ballot.
 - g. If more teams apply for permanent status than available positions, the Membership Committee shall propose a priority order of all teams requesting Permanent status for voting. In case of ties, the Rules Committee will oversee breaking any ties by using the priority criteria of longevity of previous participation in the Flick series. This means that if there is a tie for inclusion to permanent member status, the school that has the longest documented history of participation in the PSRA, based on the permanent membership requirement of competing in at least three races annually, shall be accepted first. Successive votes are to be cast based on priority until either full subscription is achieved or all requests have been voted on.
 - h. In the event that a school does not receive an affirmative vote for permanent member status, the associated sponsor school may request an open recount of all cast votes.
 2. Permanent Membership shall be deemed fully subscribed with 33 Permanent Members.
 3. Permanent Members shall have one vote per institution.
 4. Permanent Members may compete in any PSRA regatta.
 5. Permanent Members may receive priority consideration for inclusion in all racing where applicable.
 6. Permanent Members shall loose their status if they do not participate in at least three Flicks Series races and the City Championships in two consecutive years, or if they do not

uphold their volunteer obligation for two consecutive years. An initial Notice of Infraction shall be issued after one year of volunteer delinquency. After two years of volunteer delinquency, the *Notice of Revocation* of membership shall be given at the Post Spring (June) membership meeting.

7. Each Permanent Member must identify a designated minimum number of volunteers to serve in a variety of capacities. This number shall be designated on an annual basis by the Executive Committee based on each member's per capita participation in each of the previous two years.
- ii. Associate Membership:
 1. Letter of Recognition from the school.
 2. After five years of continuous participation Associate Members may petition the Membership Committee for Permanent Member Status.
 3. Associate Members may participate in all five Flick Series Races as well as the City Championships and The Robert White Regatta.
 - iii. Guest
 1. Guests must be sponsored by a Permanent Member.
 2. Guest entries will only be permitted in events where lanes are available. No new heats will be made for guest entries.
 3. Guests are only permitted to enter three Flick Races.
 4. Guests are not permitted to enter The Philadelphia City Championship Regatta or The Robert White Regatta.
 5. Guest entries are charged for each event entered. Each entry fee is equal to the fee charges for that event at the Philadelphia City Championships of that year.
 6. Guests must register with the designated Guest Coordinator at least two weeks prior to the regatta in which they wish to compete. The Guest Coordinator will be a permanent member coach or designee, appointed by the Racing Committee or the Board of Directors.
 7. Guests must submit the appropriate PSRA paperwork at least two weeks prior to the regatta in which they wish to compete. Required paperwork includes lightweight certification, swimming certification, waivers, and regatta entry fees. Once all paperwork has been received and approved by the PSRA, the Guest Coordinator will accept entries.
 8. Home-schooled athletes must prove that their course of study and academic status are accredited by a national board. They also must be sponsored by a PSRA school within their district and complete all required physicals and waivers.

4. Roster of Races:

- a. The Following Races will be offered by the PSRA:

8+	4+	1X	4X	2X
Novice	Novice	Gig/Novice	Novice	Novice
Freshman	Freshman	JV	Freshman	Freshman
Freshman Lgwt	JV	Varsity	JV	JV
2 nd	Varsity		Varsity	Varsity
Lightweight	Lightweight			Lightweight
JV				
Varsity				
Lightweight				
2 nd Lightweight				

- b. Schools wishing to enter a “2nd” event must also enter and row in the corresponding Varsity event.
- c. No oarsperson shall be eligible to compete in more than one event in any PSRA regatta. (Coxswains may compete more than once in those regattas and events designated by the Racing Committee)

These bylaws were last updated in January of 2009.

Appendix I

Varsity Eight	1 st place –	39
	2 nd place –	33
	3 rd place –	27
Junior Eight	1 st place –	26
	2 nd place –	22
	3 rd place –	18
Lightweight Eight	1 st place –	39
	2 nd place –	33
	3 rd place –	27
Second Eight	1 st place –	26
	2 nd place –	22
	3 rd place –	18
Second Lightweight	1 st place –	26
	2 nd place –	22
	3 rd place –	18
Freshman Eight	1 st place –	13
	2 nd place –	11
	3 rd place –	09
Novice Eight	1 st place –	13
	2 nd place –	11
	3 rd place –	09
Frosh Lightweight Eight	1 st place –	13
	2 nd place –	11
	3 rd place –	09
Varsity Four	1 st place –	27
	2 nd place –	21
	3 rd place –	15
Junior Four	1 st place –	18
	2 nd place –	14
	3 rd place –	10
Lightweight Four	1 st place –	27
	2 nd place –	21
	3 rd place –	15

Novice Four	1 st place –	09
	2 nd place –	07
	3 rd place –	05
Freshman Four	1 st place –	09
	2 nd place –	07
	3 rd place –	05
Novice Single	1 st place –	05
	2 nd place –	03
	3 rd place –	01
Junior Single	1 st place –	10
	2 nd place –	06
	3 rd place –	02
Varsity Single	1 st place –	15
	2 nd place –	09
	3 rd place –	03
Novice Double	1 st place –	06
	2 nd place –	04
	3 rd place –	02
Junior Double	1 st place –	12
	2 nd place –	08
	3 rd place –	04
Varsity Double	1 st place –	18
	2 nd place –	12
	3 rd place –	06
Lightweight Double	1 st place –	18
	2 nd place –	12
	3 rd place –	06
Novice Quad	1 st place –	08
	2 nd place –	06
	3 rd place –	04
Freshman Quad	1 st place –	08
	2 nd place –	06
	3 rd place –	04

Junior Quad

1 st place –	16
2 nd place –	12
3 rd place –	08

Varsity Quad

1 st place –	24
2 nd place –	18
3 rd place –	12