



# ROBINSON CREW

Quick Catch Newsletter #8  
December 10, 2023



## RCBC Board Officers

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**Brandon Booher, Treasurer**  
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**Evelyn Remaley Hasch, At Large**  
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## RCBC Virtual Membership Meeting

**What:** RCBC Monthly Membership Meeting (Virtual)

**When:** Wednesday, December 13, 7:30-8:30 PM

### Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/zij-voiq-efx>

Or dial: (US) +1 908-543-4577 PIN: 344 053 143#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/zij-voiq-efx?pin=3228622685035>

## SLACK COMMUNICATIONS

Join SLACK and keep up to date on all team announcements.

**SLACK IS THE PRIMARY WAY THE TEAM COMMUNICATES!**

Join all RCBC SLACK Channels, but especially **General & Fundraising!**

## New Rower Information

If you are a new family to Robinson Crew, we would like to extend a warm welcome and also point you to the following website: <https://www.robinsoncrew.org/newrowerinfo>. This site includes a wealth of helpful information for new rowers.

## Registration Fees: First Installment Due December 10

The first installment of the 2023-2024 registration fees is coming due in December. This year's registration fees and payment structure are as follows:

- Dec 10th - 1st Installment \$ 375
- Jan 10th - 2nd Installment \$ 300
- Feb 10th - 3rd Installment \$ 300
- Mar 10th - 4th Installment \$ 275
- Total Registration Fees \$ 1,250

All payments are made through the secure Quickbooks server. Lookout for an email from our treasurer for payment instructions.

## Robinson Crew Sponsorships - the Campaign is On!

Our Sponsorship campaign is off and running! Huge thanks to our Gold Sponsors - ITC Federal and Fitness Together - and our Bronze Sponsors - Ryan Landscaping and Dr. Cocolis, DDS - for helping us get started towards our \$12,500 goal.

Alas - we need your help! We are still in need of \$10,500 to help us purchase a new shell, erg and other equipment for our team. Our goal is to finish December strong.

Asking a local company to help Robinson Crew is easier than you think. Many companies are excited to have a low-cost, high impact marketing opportunity with the Robinson community. Plus, sponsoring Robinson Crew is a great way to do that and provide a tax deductible donation.

We have all the tools to help you make the connection and close the deal. Please reach out to [sponsorship@robinsoncrew.org](mailto:sponsorship@robinsoncrew.org) or contact Kate Mattice at 703-624-8706 if you need any help! More information on the sponsorship tiers and benefits can be found at [robinsoncrew.org/sponsor](http://robinsoncrew.org/sponsor). Thank you for your efforts!

**GOAL: \$12,500**



## Registration and Training

To attend Winter Training, all athletes must be registered through [robinsonrams.com](https://www.robinsonrams.com) with a VHSL physical form on file. See <https://www.fcps.edu/activities/student-athletics> for more information.

## Robinson Crew Coaching Team

Robinson Crew is on the lookout for talented coaches to help our team excel and our athletes to succeed and grow. If you know of any prospective coaches with an interest in coaching high school rowing, please put them in touch with any member of the RCBC Board for further information.

## Advance Screening of *The Boys in the Boat*

Get your tickets for *The Boys in the Boat*! Seating is limited — first come, first served.

### THE BOYS IN THE BOAT - ADVANCE SCREENING!

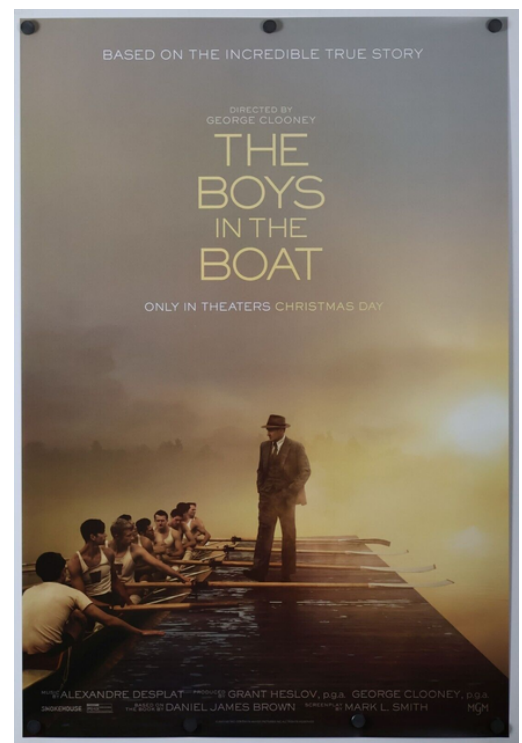
**Who:** Robinson Crew rowers and families -- first 63 people to pay using the donate button below.

**When:** December 14th, 7:15 PM

**Where:** Cinema Arts Theatre at Fair City Mall

**How to pay:** The RCBC is asking for rowers and families to provide a minimum donation to cover the cost of buying out the theatre. Minimum suggested donation: \$15 for rowers and siblings; \$20 for adults.

**Donate Here!:** <https://www.robinsoncrew.org/post/the-boys-in-the-boat-advance-screening>



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## ... A LITTLE ROWING TRIVIA ...

*The Boys in the Boat* is about the University of Washington eight-oared rowing crew that represented the United States in rowing at the 1936 Summer Olympics – Men's eight in Berlin.

The movie illustrates how all nine members of the Washington team came from lower-middle-class families and had to struggle to earn their way through school during the depths of the Depression. Along with the chronicle of their victories and defeats in domestic competition, the viewer learns the importance of the synchronization of the eight rowers as they respond to the commands of the coxswain and his communications with the stroke, consistent pacing, and sprint to the finish.

## New Approach to RCBC Volunteer Hours

At the June RCBC Membership Board Meeting, members voted on a new approach to earning volunteer hours for the team called, "Ten and Two for Our Crew." Please see the last two pages of the Quick Catch for a summary of the improved approach.

## 2023-2024 Volunteer Positions

For more information about any of the following open volunteer positions, **or if you would like to volunteer**, please contact [president@robinsoncrew.org](mailto:president@robinsoncrew.org) or any member of the RCBC Board. Select your choice position before the season begins and start earning points immediately. Each of these positions is absolutely essential for our crew team to operate and thrive. Please volunteer and help our rowers to succeed all season long!

- **Carpool Coordinator #2** (5 Points) - **OPEN**
  - With a partner, organizes the rower carpool once water practice starts.
- **Bridal Show Coordinator** (2 Points) - **OPEN**
  - Organizes volunteers for the January bridal show.
- **Food Tent Coordinator, Home Regattas** (5 Points) - **OPEN**
  - Organizes donations for our rower tent during regatta season.

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## 2024 Season: Key Dates

Saturday, March 16, 2024: **Polar Bear Regatta**

Saturday, March 23, 2024: **Regional Park Regatta**

Saturday, March 30, 2024: **Walter Mess Regatta**

Saturday, April 6, 2024: **Darrell Winslow Regatta**

Saturday, April 13, 2024: **Ted Phoenix Regatta**

Saturday, April 20, 2024: **Ryz Obuchowicz Regatta**

Saturday, April 27, 2024: **Al Urquia Regatta/Charlie Butt Regatta**

Saturday, May 4, 2024: **VSRC Day 1**

Saturday, May 11, 2024: **USRowing Mid Atlantic Championships Mercer NJ, VSRC Day 2**

Sunday, May 12, 2024: **USRowing Mid Atlantic Championships Mercer NJ**

Fri.-Sat., May 17-18, 2024: **Stotesbury Cup Regatta**

Fri.-Sat., May 24-25, 2024: **SRAA Championships - Cooper NJ**

Thur.-Sun., Jun 6-9, 2024: **USRowing Youth Nationals - Sarasota FL**

## ERG Sales

RCBC is selling several used ERGs. If you are interested, please send a SLACK to Sam Nicholson or Brian Hanley.

## Raise Right (Scrip)

The holidays are upon us! Sign up for RaiseRight (Scrip) gift cards and help us to raise money for the team. This is a simple process with high impact!

<https://www.robinsoncrew.org/scrip> \*\*\* <https://www.raiseright.com/>

### Scrip Gift Card Fundraising for Organizations • RaiseRight

Fundraising for organizations has never been easier. Join 50,000+ fundraisers who have exceeded their goals through gift card fundraising (aka scrip).

## Robinson Crew Sponsorship Program: 2023-24

Our new Robinson Crew Sponsorship season is underway. **Our goal is to raise \$12,500 by the end of the year.** Contact Kate Mattice on SLACK for more details, and find a sample letter to use for sponsorships at the end of the Quick Catch. Earn credits for "10 and 2."

Sponsorship Benefit	Gold \$1000	Silver \$750	Bronze \$500	Friend \$250
<b>General Membership Meeting Recognition</b> <i>held Monthly from August – June</i>	✓	✓		
<b>Robinson Crew Team T-shirts</b> <i>distribution includes all rowers and families/friends of Robinson Crew</i>	Large logo	Med logo	Small logo	
<b>Robinson Crew Banner</b> <i>posted at Robinson Secondary School and displayed at Regattas</i>	Large logo	Med logo	Small logo	Name
<b>Robinson Crew Website</b> <i>with link to corporate website</i>	Large logo on Home + Sponsors page	Med logo on Sponsors Page	Small logo on Sponsors Page	Name on Sponsors Page
<b>Weekly Quick Catch Newsletter to all Team Families</b> <i>with link to corporate website</i>	Large logo	Med logo	Small logo	Name

## Uniforms and Spirit Wear

It is time to order Robinson Crew Uniforms and Spirit Wear! Please see the directions on the next page to access the online store at Regatta Sports. You will need to make an iTeams account to complete the order. Please note the following important information about orders:

- All rowers must have the rower uniform, which consists of the Robinson Unisuit and Long Sleeve Drive Shirt.
- The online store will be open November 20th through December 17th at 9pm.
- Orders will be bulk shipped and delivered to rowers at practices.
- Most orders will be ready by early February, but splash jackets/catch windshells will be ready by mid to late February. The jackets are optional, but highly recommended.
- Spirit wear items are optional, but fun for the whole family to represent our team at regattas.

The size chart included is for unisuits and drive shirts. Size charts for all other items can be found on the Regatta Sport iTeam website.

If you are interested in purchasing a car magnet or team duffel bag, or have any questions, please contact Megan Counts at [megancounts@hotmail.com](mailto:megancounts@hotmail.com) or via Slack.

### Men

XS – 100 – 119 lbs

S – 120 – 139 lbs ( Over 5'7 – Tall size)

M – 140 – 159 lbs (Over 5'11 – Tall size)

L – 160 – 184 lbs ( Over 6'3 – Tall size)

XL – 185 – 209 lbs ( Over 6'6 – Tall size)

XXL – 210 – 230

### Women

XS – 100 – 114 lbs

S – 115 – 129 lbs ( Over 5'6 – Tall size)

M – 130 – 144 lbs ( Over 5'8 – Tall size)

L – 145 – 164 lbs ( Over 5'10 – Tall size)

XL – 165 – 189 lbs (Over 6' – Tall size)

XXL – 190 – 214 lbs ( Over 6' 2 – Tall size)

3XL – 214 – 239 lbs

Welcome to the Robinson Crew iTeams page! Please be advised of the closing date, as orders will not be accepted after the iTeams page has closed. Please note that we require a minimum of 8 units per item. Should any product in your cart not reach the minimum, that item will be removed from your cart prior to processing your order. If you have any questions, contact Gregg at [gregg@regattasport.com](mailto:gregg@regattasport.com)

Thank you for your order!



## iTeam order instructions

1. [www.regattasport.com](http://www.regattasport.com)
2. Click 'iTEAMS' link in the header & "Home" in the subheader.
3. Click "Register" then proceed to create your personal account.
4. Once step 3 is complete, click the "iTeams" header & "Home" link again.
5. Select Robinson Crew from the drop box.
6. Password: **Robinson23** (Robinson23)
7. Place order!

**The site will automatically close on December 17. All orders must be submitted by that time.**

## Robinson Crew Team Member Obligation

To keep Robinson Crew an elite Virginia Scholastic Rowing organization, we need every team member to contribute the following each season:

Accumulate 10 Volunteer Points  
Raise \$200 In Fundraising

***“Ten & Two for Our Crew”***

### 1. Volunteer your time to accumulate 10 points.

Sample volunteer opportunities:

- Carpool Driver - 0.5 points (per trip)
- Tag Day Cashier - 1 point
- Regatta Food Tent - 1 point (per set up or take down)
- Regatta Launch Boat Driver - 2 points (per regatta)
- Regatta Concessions Stand - 2 points (per regatta)
- Carpool Coordinator - 5 points each (two coordinators)



The Robinson Crew Booster Club (RCBC) assigns point values to each volunteer position based on expected level of effort and time commitment.

The RCBC will continuously track and report point totals and will assess team members a fee of \$50 per point for any shortfall at the end of the season to ensure every rower's membership remains "in good standing."

There is no "buy out" option for volunteering, as our team needs your time in these areas.

### 2. Raise at least \$200 profit through these two events:

- Letter Writing Campaign
- Bundt Cake Sales

If you are unable to participate, reach \$200, or prefer not to fundraise, you have the option to "buy out" and pay the remainder of the fundraising obligation. Team members can buy out, fundraise, or use a combination of both methods to reach the \$200 fundraising obligation. These fundraisers are necessary for our program to operate and to keep our registration fees relatively low.

Tag Day is a mandatory fundraising event (all rowers) and is not included in this \$200 individual goal. We also need your help finding and engaging corporate sponsors (more in the FAQs).

Please help us keep our proud tradition of Ram Rowing thriving by completing your share of the team member obligation.

Rowing is a team sport – the strength of a boat is the combination of our individual efforts.

**We need each of you** to row hard for our program.



## Robinson Crew Team Member Obligation FAQs

Q: Why is rowing so expensive?

A: Robinson Crew is completely self-funded and receives no money from Robinson Secondary School or Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). The RCBC has been able to keep registration fees relatively low compared to other local high school programs because of strong volunteering and generous contributions by our community and families like you.

Q: Why has the RCBC decided to change the current service hour structure?

A: The RCBC listened to feedback from members past and present and decided change was necessary. The RCBC had three goals when changing the structure: 1) That the requirement be less daunting, 2) That the requirement be transparent, and 3) That the requirement still meet the team needs.

Q: How did the RCBC determine that 10 points and \$200 is the right amount?

A: The RCBC used an average of both volunteer and fundraising needs over the past several seasons (considering inconsistencies during COVID) to keep the program operating at its highest levels and still keep registration fees relatively low. The RCBC feels that the resulting "Ten & Two for Our Crew" satisfies those needs and will continue to re-evaluate program needs each season.

Q: When does the season for accumulating points begin and end?

A: Beginning with the 2023-2024 season, the RCBC "membership season" will run from July to June.

Q: Will the hours I've accumulated this season carry over next year under this new point structure?

A: Yes – every 15 hours accumulated since February 2023 will count as 1 point toward the 2023-2024 season. Example: if you have accumulated 40 hours in the 2022-2023 season, you will start the 2023-2024 season with 3 points; 20 hours will count as 1.5 points (rounded up to the nearest half point).

Q: If I find a corporate sponsor, does that contribute to my fundraising requirement?

A: Yes – 10% of corporate sponsorships secured go towards a rower's \$200 requirement. Example: a single \$250 sponsor would equate to \$25 off your requirement, \$1000 would be \$100 off, \$2000 would be \$200, etc.

Q: What happens to any extra points I have at the end of next season?

A: Beginning with the 2023-2024 Season, points will not carry over to the next season. Points will reset each year in November. In addition, members cannot "gift" any extra points to other members.

Q: What does it mean to be a member "in good standing?"

A: Membership in good standing is defined in the RCBC Bylaws found [here](#).

Q: What is Tag Day? Why is my rower required to participate?

A: Tag Day (door to door soliciting) is a two-day event occurring annually in February. All rowers are required to participate in Tag Day. Tag Day is the single largest fundraising event of the season, averaging over \$15,000 of contributions annually.

Q: What is Letter Writing Campaign?

A: Letter Writing Campaign consists of team members sending letters to friends and family members soliciting donations. This is our second largest fundraising event of the season. Specific details regarding the letter writing fundraiser will be provided in the winter.



Robinson Crew is open to boys and girls in grades 9-12. It gives students the opportunity to be part of a team at Robinson, a team that values commitment and rewards effort.

**Our 2023-2024 Sponsorship Goal is \$12,500**



**Robinson Crew Boosters Club Inc.**  
 5616-i Ox Road #7086  
 Fairfax Station, VA 22039  
 EIN: 54-1648227  
 A 501(c)(3) Organization  
[www.robinsoncrew.org](http://www.robinsoncrew.org)



Look who sponsored us last year!

Dear valued member of the Robinson community:

We are asking for your help in supporting Robinson Crew, a self-funded club of Robinson Secondary School. Crew is a team sport that teaches commitment, dedication, and teamwork.

In the 2022-2023 season, Robinson Crew had 90+ team members and we expect the 2023-2024 to be just as strong. Our team begins winter conditioning at the end of November, but when water season starts at the end of February, practice will be on the Occoquan River six days a week. And every rower will have the opportunity to race in regattas against other high school and club teams.

This year is a big year for investing in Robinson Crew as we aim to purchase a new 4-person boat (shell), eight new rowing machines (ergs), and a new set of oars for our teams.

**We are seeking your support to help fund new equipment.**

Rowing is an expensive sport: each 'shell' or boat can cost \$40,000 to \$60,000, oars are nearly \$500 each, and rowing machines cost \$1,000 each. Our team is self-funded, meaning that it does not receive any funding from Robinson Secondary School. All costs including coaches' salaries and boat maintenance come from individuals, fundraisers, and sponsorships.

Your sponsorship will support an amazing team of talented youth while also helping us share your company's name, logo, and website with our community.

Sponsorships are available at all levels. As a sponsor, your company will be recognized on Robinson Crew's website, team t-shirts, weekly newsletters, and proudly displayed on a banner that will be posted at our team shed at Robinson Secondary School and at our out-of-town regattas.

**Can you help us reach our goal?**

Please see the attached flyer for details on sponsorship levels. Payment can be made via check to Robinson Crew Boosters Club or via Venmo. We are also available at (703) 624-8706 or at [sponsorship@robinsoncrew.org](mailto:sponsorship@robinsoncrew.org) to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your support!

*Kate Mattice*  
 Sponsorship Chair  
 Robinson Crew Booster Club

**Ready to sponsor?**  
 Scan the QR Code or [click here](#) to start the process.

