



ROBINSON CREW

Quick Catch Newsletter #22
April 29, 2024

RCBC Board Officers

Sherry Noud, President
president@robinsoncrew.org

Jim Martinez, VP, Membership
vpmembership@robinsoncrew.org

Paige Wroble, VP, Ways & Means
vpwaysandmeans@robinsoncrew.org

Ellen Valentine, VP, Administration
vpadministration@robinsoncrew.org

Rob Graveline, VP, Operations #1
vperations@robinsoncrew.org

Brian Hanley, VP, Operations #2
vperations_2@robinsoncrew.org

Karrie Kay, Secretary
secretary@robinsoncrew.org

Brandon Booher, Treasurer
treasurer@robinsoncrew.org

Evelyn Remaley Hasch, At Large
at-large@robinsoncrew.org

Jeanette Sonner, At Large - Finance
at-large-finance@robinsoncrew.org

Head Coaches

Phil Vargas, Program Director & Women's Head Coach
pavargas@fcps.edu

Matthew Petty, Men's Head Coach
matthewpetty12@gmail.com



Your Quick Takes

- **Virginia Scholastic Rowing Championship (VSRC) Regatta - Day 1:** Sat., May 4. Parking is at South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Rd., Lorton. See you at the Grandstands!
- **Board Elections @ next Membership Meeting and Stotesbury Regatta Information Session (In Person/Recital Hall):** Wed. May 01, 7:30 PM. See Board Slate on p. 3.
- **Senior Night:** Thurs., May 2, 4 PM @Sandy Run.
- **Five Guys Fundraiser:** Tues., May 7.
- Help feed the rowers at regattas! We need your cash, purchases, or sweat equity. See p. 6 for more info.
- Don't forget to sign your rower up for Carpool each Sunday by 5 PM. Post to the Carpool SLACK channel if you need to cancel.
- **Stotes.** Watch SLACK for information. We will need a quick turn on all documents. Also, many hands make light work at this event. If you are traveling to Philly, send a SLACK to Jim Martinez to see how you might support onsite ops.
- So many exciting races at Al Urquia last weekend. Great team momentum going into States!! Let's go, Robo!!

Active Sign-Up Geniuses

Carpool

- **Driver Sign Up:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0945A5A72AA2FD0-47909662-crew>
- **Rower Sign Up:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0945A5A72AA2FD0-47909670-rower>

Launch Boat Drivers for Regattas

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45A4AA22A7F8CF8-48027802-robinson#/>

VASRA

- **Regatta Volunteers:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA9AC2AA46-47986203-vasra>

Food Tent Support

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0448A8AC2AA5FF2-48476458-snack>

Al Urquia Regatta Results

Great rowing by all boats at the Al Urquia!

- **W-2-8:** 4th Place
- **W-1-8:** 4th Place
- **M-1-4:** 2nd Place
- **W-Jr-4:** 5th Place
- **M-2-4:** 2nd Place
- **W-N-4:** 1st Place
- **M-N-4:** 4th Place
- **M-Fr-8:** 2nd Place
- **M-Jr-8:** 3rd Place
- **W-Fr-8:** 3rd Place

Follow real time Regatta Results on X @VASRA_SRRP

2023-2024 Volunteer Positions

For more information about any of the following open volunteer positions, **or if you would like to volunteer**, please contact vpadministration@robinsoncrew.org or any member of the RCBC Board. 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!

- **PHOTOGRAPHERS - OPEN.** Take photos of the rowers during the regattas for the website, end of year slide show, and QC.

Join Us for the May Membership Meeting and RCBC Board Elections on May 1

Please join us for our General Membership meeting on **May 1 @7:30 in the Recital Hall @Robinson.**

We will elect our 2024-25 Robinson Crew Board Members and discuss all you need to know about the upcoming **Stotesbury Regatta**. We need you! A quorum of 19 members is needed to vote! Members in good standing shall have the right to vote in elections, with each family eligible to cast one (1) vote for each office per student athlete in the rowing program (Article 2.2). All Standard Memberships must be present to vote. Contributing Memberships and Non-members are not eligible to vote. In accordance with RCBC By Laws, the Slate is provided in advance of the General Membership Election meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor. The Slate is as follows:

- **President:** Sherry Noud
- **VP Membership:** Jim Martinez
- **VP Ways and Means:** Paige Wroble
- **VP Administration:** Ellen Valentine
- **VP Operations 1:** Rob Graveline
- **VP Operations 2:** OPEN
- **Secretary:** Karrie Kay
- **Treasurer:** Brandon Booher
- **At Large:** OPEN
- **At Large Finance:** OPEN

See you on May 1st!

Robinson Crew Spirit Wear

Show your Robinson Crew team spirit at States and Stotes! If you are in need of Spirit Wear, you are in luck ... there are still t-shirts, hats, and visors available. Send a SLACK to Megan Counts for all your gear and uniform needs.

Fundraising Shortfalls

If you didn't manage to raise \$200 through RCBC fundraising activities and received an invoice, please note that payments were due **April 20**. Please send a SLACK to Brandon Booher with any questions.

Carpool

Do not forget to use the sign up genius to register your athlete for carpool. Please SLACK Jeanette Sonner with any questions. Remember to cancel the sign up if your rower will not need carpool for the day.

Parents wishing to earn .5 points for driving carpool should also sign-up using the driver sign-up genius (see p. 2).

REMINDER: "Ten and Two"

Don't forget to consistently check your points and dollar count after each volunteer and fundraising opportunity. The Ten and Two points/fundraising tracker is pinned to the general SLACK channel. Send an email to vpadministration@robinsoncrew.org or DM @Ellen Valentine if you discover any discrepancies.

The RCBC will continuously track and report point totals and will **assess 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!

* * *

A Little Rowing Trivia ...

Can someone please explain this Stotesbury thing to me?

(So said every new rowing parent since the beginning of time. ...or at least since 1927!)

The Stotesbury Cup Regatta was first held in 1927 and has endured continuously ever since. What began as a local Philadelphia "Cup Race" quickly evolved into a full-fledged regatta that today stands as the largest high school rowing regatta in the world. Elite crews from all parts of the United States and Canada travel to the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia to participate. Over 5,000 competitors meet at the Athletes Village to experience both the spirit of rowing as well as the physical challenge of competing against the very best crews rowing at the high school level. Their achievements draw a crowd of nearly 10,000 spectators each year.

If you are planning to travel, don't fear, it's a lot of fun, even if just a little chaotic. There are a lot of seasoned families to show you the ropes. Just ask for tips. [Especially where they buy their cheesesteaks.] Enjoy!!

Summer ERG Rentals

Watch future issues of the QC and SLACK for information on summer ERG Rentals. We will offer pick up dates toward the end of the school year.

Summer Rowing Programs

If your rower is interested in keeping their level of training current throughout the summer, there are several local rowing programs available. Have your rower reach out to a Robinson Crew Coach for more information.

FIVE GUYS



COMMUNITY
.....EVENTS

**FIVE GUYS
WILL DONATE
20%
OF YOUR
PURCHASE**

**ROBINSON CREW
BOOSTER CLUB**

**NEEDS
YOUR
SUPPORT!**

.....

May 7, 2024
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Five Guys Burke
5761 Burke Centre
Pkwy
Burke, VA 22015**

Regatta Snack Tent Support

Please contribute snacks and/or money to support the rowers' snack tent. We also require assistance setting up the snack area early in the morning and taking it down after the last race.

- **Snack Food Donation:** Prepackaged snacks or fresh whole fruits such as bananas, oranges, tangerines, grapes, and apples. Please select an item to donate from this list: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hah0HlTbMg_PJC4i06zDeZHxoojdmySyPceJQcfHivs/edit?usp=sharing.
- Donations can be dropped off at the home of Ayan Noor, 10211 Glen Chase Ct., up to the Friday before the regatta. Please donate as large a quantity as you can.
- **Monetary Support:** For those who prefer to make a monetary donation, we are asking for \$25.00 per rower to support buying items in bulk. Any extra money will be used for the end of the season celebration. Send to the Robinson Crew Venmo at: @RobinsonCrewBoosterClub
- **Service Opportunities:**
 - **Pre-Regatta Snack Set-up:** Join at the lower parking lot to load snacks and drinks into wagons, deliver them to the boathouse, and set up for the day. The goal is to exit the parking lot by 7 AM. Your commitment of just one hour will earn you 0.5 service points!
 - **Post-Regatta Snack Pack-up:** At the end of the day help pack, load, and deliver remaining supplies. This involves organizing and reboxing snacks and drinks, cleaning up tables under the boathouse tent, and delivering leftover snacks to Ayan's house. This commitment won't take more than an hour and will earn you 0.5 service points.

Important Note for Pack-up: Please be aware that the times on the sign-up are approximate. We cannot clean up until the regatta is over and all our rowers have had a chance to grab a snack after their last race. If your rower is racing late in the day, please consider volunteering to pack up.

SIGN UP GENIUS: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0448A8AC2AA5FF2-48476458-snack>

If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to Ayan Noor on SLACK. Thank you for your ongoing support!

ROBINSON CREW



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR RCBC COACHES

Coach Sean Corcoran



How many years coaching rowing? **Started 1998 in Philadelphia; have also coached in Boston and DC.**
Did you row in HS/college? **Rowed in HS at Father Judge (Philadelphia) where we won Stotes in 1996; college as a member of the Boston University**

Heavyweight Men's Crew; club for Penn AC where I stroked the Men's 8 that saw wins at U.S. Nationals and Canadian Henley.

Favorite Book? **Les Miserables**

Favorite Movie? **The Big Lebowski**

Favorite Food? **Pizza**

Favorite Place to Travel? **Down the Shore, Sea Isle City, NJ to be exact!**

Favorite Rowing Memory? **First time going under the Weeks Bridge at the Head of the Charles. It was intense!**

Other hobbies/loves? **Hiking, family, time with my kids.**

Fun Fact: **Trained San Shou (Chinese kickboxing) with the Beijing National Team.**

The “In Case You Missed It” Archive ...

- **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!
- **Helpful Resources for New Rowing Families:**
 - <https://www.robinsoncrew.org/newrowerinfo>
 - https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1yEFEymmWTl2McH_VfwiNYQORlq5LhsuEediKRancwVI/edit?usp=sharing
- **REMINDER: US Rowing Membership.** If you haven't yet, please be sure to sign up your rower for U.S. Rowing. This is required for ALL rowers. The membership portal can be found here: <https://membership.usrowing.org/>. Use Club Code: 499QC
- **New Approach to RCBC Volunteer Hours.** At the June 2023 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.
- **Sandy Run Reminders.** A reminder that the speed limit is 25 MPH as you make your way down to Sandy Run on Van Thompson Road. Athlete parking is Lot D. Athlete drop off and pick up at the end of practice is in Lot C. Lot C is on your left once you pass the yellow gate, while Lot D is on your right. Do not drive past these two lots. Lot C should allow you to loop around and exit at the gate placing you back onto the main road.
- **RaiseRight (SCRIP).** RaiseRight gift cards help to raise money for the team and it is a simple process with high impact. See <https://www.robinsoncrew.org/scrip> & <https://www.raiseright.com/> for more information, or send a SLACK to Paige Wroble with any questions.

ROBINSON CREW REGATTA SCHEDULE



Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Regatta	Date	Parking
Polar Bear	March 16	South County HS
Regional Park	March 23	Commuter Lot
Walter Mess	March 30	South County HS
Darrell Winslow	April 6	South County HS
Ted Phoenix	April 13	Commuter Lot
Ryz Obuchowicz	April 20	South County HS
Al Urquia/Charlie Butt	April 27	South County HS
VSRC Day 1	May 4	South County HS
VSRC Day 2	May 11	South County HS

Shuttle to Sandy Run is \$15 roundtrip
\$CASH ONLY\$

South County High School	8501 Silverbrook Rd, Lorton, VA
Commuter Lot	1325 Old Bridge Rd, Woodbridge, VA

ROBINSON CREW CALENDAR

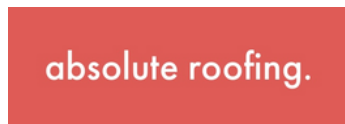


2024 SEASON

Event	Date
Nothing Bundt Cakes (NBC) Fundraiser	Sales: Mon., Jan. 8 – Mon., Jan. 29 Cake Deliveries: Sat., Feb. 10 (Tag Day #1)
Five Guys Fundraiser	Tues., Jan. 9
Membership Meeting	Wed., Jan. 10 (virtual)
Swim Test	Sat., Jan. 13
Wedding Experience at GMU (aka “Bridal Show”)	Sun., Jan. 21
ERG Sprints	Sat., Feb. 3
Membership Meeting	Thurs., Feb. 15 (virtual)
Tag Days	Tag Day # 1: Sat., Feb. 10 (mandatory) Tag Day # 2: Sat., Feb. 24 (mandatory)
OASIS - Robinson Basketball Tournament	Thurs.-Fri., Feb. 22-23
Boat Christening/Chili Cook-Off	Sat., Mar. 2
Chipotle Fundraiser	Tues., Mar. 5
Membership Meeting	Wed., Mar. 13 (in person)
Polar Bear Regatta	Sat., Mar. 16
Regional Park Regatta	Sat., Mar. 23
Walter Mess Regatta	Sat., Mar. 30
Darrell Winslow Regatta	Sat., Apr. 6
George’s Steaks & Things Fundraiser	Tues., Apr. 9
Membership Meeting	Thurs., Apr. 11 (virtual)
Ted Phoenix Regatta	Sat., Apr. 13
Ryz Obuchowicz Regatta	Sat., Apr. 20
Al Urquia Regatta/Charlie Butt Regatta	Sat., Apr. 27
Membership Meeting/Stotes Info Session	Wed., May 1 (in person – Board Elections)
Senior Night	Thurs., May 2
VSRC Day 1	Sat., May 4
Five Guys Fundraiser	Tues., May 7
USRowing Mid Atlantic Championships (Mercer, NJ) & VSRC Day 2	Sat., May 11
USRowing Mid Atlantic Championships (Mercer, NJ)	Sun., May 12
Stotesbury Cup Regatta	Fri.-Sat., May 17-18
SRAA Championships (Cooper, NJ)	Fri.-Sat., May 24-25
USRowing Youth Nationals (Sarasota, FL)	Thur.-Sun., Jun 6-9

Thank you to our 2023-2024 Sponsors!

GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



BRONZE SPONSORS



FRIEND SPONSORS



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 - 1 point (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.