VCU CREW CLUB

Richmond Chase Regatta 2025 Information

The document provides information pertaining to attending the 2026 Richmond Chase Regatta in Richmond, VA. Please read this document in its entirety to ensure proper preparedness prior to race day.

Questions about this regatta can be sent to crewteamatvcu@gmail.com

General Regatta Information
Richmond Chase Regatta will be held in Richmond, VA on Sunday, October 25th. The regatta is open to Collegiate, Open, and Masters categories. The event list and registration can be found on RegattaCentral. The address for the event is 3800 James River Rd, Midlothian, VA 23113.

Registration Dates and Costs
Standard registration is from September 26th to October 16th and late registration is October 16th to 21st. Scratches may be done September 26th to October 22nd.

Boat Type	Standard	Late
1x	$40	$55
2x, 2-	$65	$80
4+	$95	$110
8+	$105	$120

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Coaches and Coxswain Meeting

This meeting will occur by the dock approximately 1 hour prior to the first race start (likely to be around 8:00AM). In this meeting, the course, general race guidelines, and proper docking methods will be discussed, as well as answering any questions from teams.

Entry Information and Rules

Teams are expected to be compliant with *USRowing Waivers* as well as *USRowing SafeSport.* All crews will only race once for each event. All races will be head races with rolling starts. Each team may place multiple entries for the same event. Due to time constraints, teams with multiple entries in one event may have a boat placed in a new event or have that boat scratched. An event with fewer than 3 entries may be subject to cancellation or may be combined with an appropriate corresponding event if possible. VCU will confer with the coaches of teams impacted.

Eligibility

Open events do not have any restrictions regarding the club or athlete that chooses to participate. *Collegiate Novice* events are defined as any individual within their first year of collegiate competition. *Collegiate* events are intended for collegiate club varsity rowers.

Scratches

Teams may choose to scratch until October 22nd. Any changes to the registration will be reflected on the final schedule sent out on October 23rd.

Refunds

All refunds will follow Regatta Central Policies. Automatic refunds for scratches will not occur. You must contact us no later than October 26th if you are in need of a refund. Full refunds will be made for events cancelled by VCU. Refunds **will not** be made for teams who scratch after the October 22nd window, unless specified by VCU.

Regatta Schedule and Results

Regatta schedule and results will be sent out in an email as well as on Regatta Central. Racing will start around 9:00 AM and end around 2:00 PM. The schedule will be sent after late registration for the event closes, October 25th. Race results will be published as the day progresses.

Hot Seating Arrangements/Double Racing

Please communicate sooner rather than later if your group needs to be accommodated for hot seating or double racing. We ask that you communicate with us by October 24th if this is the case. We can be flexible with the schedule; however, communication with us is key! As a sufficient number of teams register, the schedule will be produced and these accommodations will be recognized. Each team must communicate with the dockmaster and will be responsible for ensuring crews launch at the appropriate times for racing.

Boat Police

There will be boat police patrolling the regions surrounding the course to minimize any influence from fishermen and other boaters on racing.

Trailer Parking can be found at 3101 Wharf St, the cobblestone parking lot. Enter from the Main/Wharf/Nicholson St. intersection.
Car parking will be in the parking lot on Orleans St. as well as additional parking labeled on the map below. Please keep in mind towing signs as the downtown area strictly enforces towing.

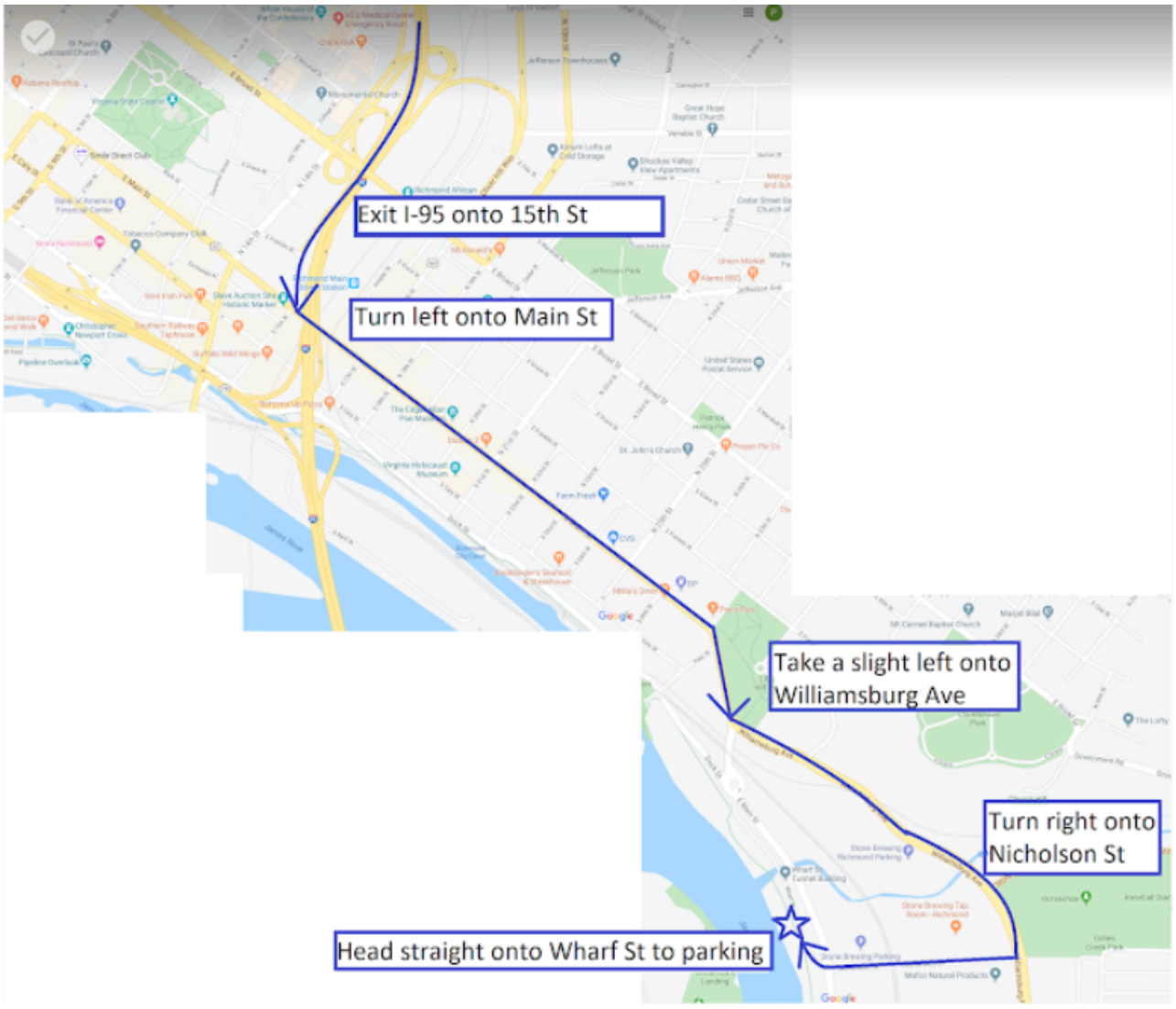
NOTE: Teams traveling from further areas may need to travel the day before. Please communicate via email to schedule a time to park the trailer. No trailer will be permitted to park earlier than 5:30PM on October 25th. Other events are being hosted along the trail, and we have only been permitted to park trailers after they have cleared the location.



Recommendations for Navigating Richmond with a Trailer:

From I-95S:

It is recommended to take exit 74b onto 15th street. Then you will then turn left onto E Main Street. Continue straight until taking a slight left onto Williamsburg Avenue. You will then continue down Williamsburg Ave until Nicholson street where you will take a right. Going straight down Nicholson Street will allow you to immediately enter the lot where trailers are parked.



From I-95N:

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It is recommended to take exit 46 south of Petersburg onto I-295N. Continue on I-295N for 27 miles and take exit 28 on I-64. Keep right onto US-60 West/ WIlliamsburg Road. Continue for 7 miles then turn left onto Nicholson Street. Continue and this will take you into the parking lot for the trailers.



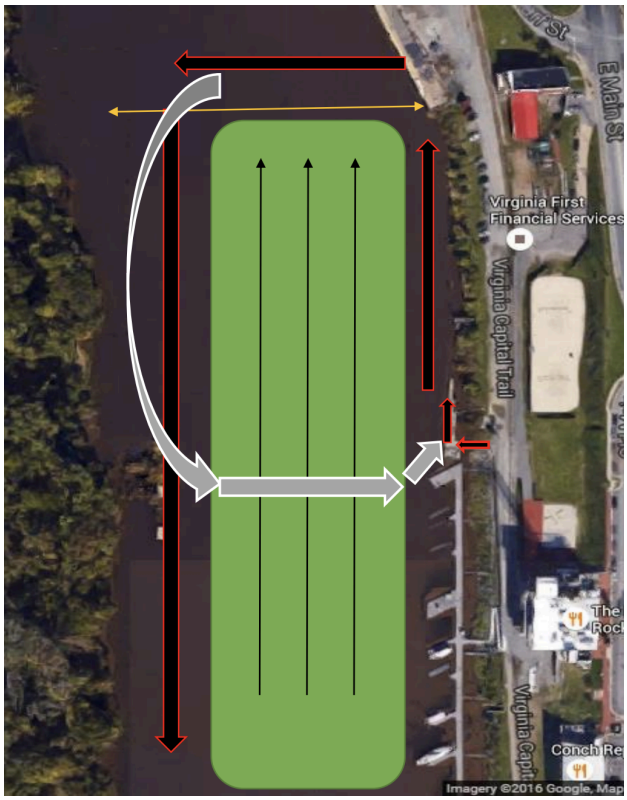
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Trail Usage

- Stay as far to the right side of the trail as possible when walking on the trail to make room for runners.
- Move off of the trail to the grass areas where possible while you are waiting in line.
- Check both ways down the trail for incoming traffic and light poles or other signs before maneuvering your boat.
- Listen to the dockmasters at the dock and the top of the stairs

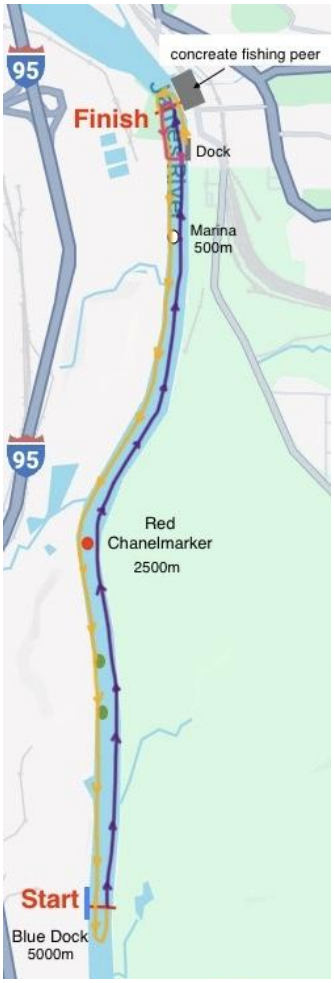
Launch and Recovery

- Large boats (4+, 8+) must be carried overhead before descending the stairs towards the dock and should stay overhead until the crew is ready to place in the water.
    - The same applies when recovering. Keep the boat overheads until your whole boat is up the stairs.
- Approach the dock at a shallow angle when recovering, but make sure your oars clear the large dock right before ours.
- Any crews wishing to hotseat must communicate with the dockmaster prior to launch and upon recovery.



Traffic on the Course

- The map includes roughly the last 750m of the race course.
- **Finish**: Yellow Line
- **Launching**: Path shown by black arrows w/red border. Go roughly 100m PAST the finish and hug the right side of the river (marked by buoys).
- **Race Course**: Green box
- **Recovering and Return to Dock**: Return to dock following the gray arrows
- Buoys divide the river into the racing lane and the travel lane. **Do not cross the buoy line** (keep all buoys to your port side).
- Pass boats on the left (you will pass between the buoy line and the other crew).
    - If you are being passed, shift right to yield to the passing crew.



River Conditions
Current and debris in the river depend on rainfall over the past week. Expect shallow water closer to the treeline; best to stay 15 ft from shore. Wind and chop pick up as the day goes on, so later races will experience rougher waters. The river is low right now, so be on the lookout for tree stumps and other debris sticking out of the water. The right side of the travel lane gets shallow near the bends in the river as you head to the start. We will be informing teams in a timely manner if races need to be scratched and schedule changes need to be made.

Race Course
The standard 5km course features bends throughout the course. The last bend is about 2000 meters from the finish. The course is a straight shot after this curve. There will be buoy markings throughout the course indicating how far through the course teams have progressed. Please ensure boats keep a relative distance and follow a straight line. Red buoys will represent the finish line.

Bow Numbers
Teams will be expected to have bow numbers to provide for their boats. In the event that there is no bow number for a boat, please speak to the dockmaster prior to launch.

Medals/Ribbons
The fastest crew in an event will receive a first place medal. A medal ceremony will be held after the conclusion of the last race.

First Aid and Safety
We are thankful to have the Henrico County Sheriff's Department for our Emergency and Water Rescue resource. Officers will have direct contact with local law enforcement and emergency personnel as needed. We encourage all teams to plan for weather, clothing, hydration, and first aid/athletic training needs for your teams. If you need assistance, immediately notify a race volunteer or VCU Coach.

Team Tents
Teams may set up tents by their trailer, alongside the concrete wall under the volleyball court, or in any open space. We ask that you **do not** set up tents on the hill directly in front of the steps going down to the dock. Teams will be using this space to spin their boats and take them on and off the dock. Space is limited, please be mindful of other crews and **do not** place tents in the way of other teams or on the path.

Photography
A photographer will be taking pictures of the different teams racing throughout the day. These pictures will be released after final edits are complete. At the conclusion of the medal ceremony a group picture of all present teams will be taken. Please notify VCU Crew at our email listed on the first page if your team has any conflicts with photography.

Concessions
There will be a concessions table by the white top selling drinks, as well as regatta apparel for people to purchase. Shirts are limited for those interested in purchasing them.

Regatta Shirt:



