



Catch the Spirit of Rowing!

Boat Selection Philosophy

In an effort to clarify the methodology with which the coaching staff makes boating decisions during regatta season, we have decided to outline the criteria used by ERA. Coaches take into consideration a variety of factors, both tangible and intangible, in an effort to choose lineups that will best represent ERA during the racing season.

These attributes include, but are not limited to; athletic ability, coachability, positive attitude, competitive spirit, power-to-weight ratio, sportsmanship, attendance, confidence, technical ability, team player mentality, and leadership.

The coaches take a holistic approach to boating decisions; excellence in only one aspect does not guarantee a seat in any boat. An athlete needs to try to excel in all areas, better in some, but striving for all areas.

We do not boat because of an erg score, or seat-race outcome, or solely due to an athlete's positive attitude. We, the coaching staff, use all of this information in order to make a completely informed decision when the time comes. Rowers and coxswains should strive to excel in every area possible if they wish to compete on behalf of the club.

Selection is a time consuming process, one that we take very seriously given the ever-changing nature of the season. Athletes improve in more areas than just their physical fitness, and boating decisions reflect this. No decision is final until Hands-On!

In addition to boating decisions; qualifying conditions for nationals have not changed for ERA as an organization. We will not be taking any 4th place boats to Nationals, despite the change in USRowing rules, and 3rd place boats will only be considered should their time be competitive enough with the 1st and 2nd place boats in their regional qualifying race. This will vary depending on the event, given the speed of the boats racing. (ie: 8+ 2k times vs. a 4+ or a 2- 2k time.)

In light of the changes USRowing has made to age categories that have the opportunity to qualify for Nationals from Regional Championship Regattas, at this time ERA will not be considering sending u15 boats, should they qualify, to the Youth National Championships.

This is intended to give the boats sent to the Nationals Regattas the greatest opportunity for successful racing and participating in a meaningful, competitive, and fulfilling manner. We do not take these decisions lightly. USRowing made more entries to events without adding more advancements of boats. Due to this, more boats will travel all the way to FL for a week to race down the course one time in a time trial. Our goal at ERA is to set up our boats for success. We also take into consideration the expense of this regatta when sending boats to Nationals. We do not find it beneficial for our crews to travel, miss school (or graduation for many seniors) to race a time trial and not advance.