

Berkshire Community Rowing



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Welcome to BCR!

Thank you for joining in the camaraderie and commitment to our community that defines Berkshire Community Rowing. We hope that you enjoy many great rows with us and that you help us to spread the word about what we do to bring rowing to the Berkshires.

Our 2023 Crew: BCR Summer Staff (as of May1)

- Boathouse Manager: Loren Paduano
- Head Coach: Becca Cadoff
- Assistant Coaches: there are many!

General Boathouse Information

The following information is very important and up to date as of June 2023. Conditions may change, so please help us by remaining flexible.

The staffed hours of operation for the boathouse are 6:00am to 10:00am, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Inclement weather such as high winds, fog and storms will affect boathouse hours.

Club notifications are sent out via Remind. Find instructions on how to sign up further down. You won't get spam by using the Remind...and it's free.

Information about our history, boats, special events and club news is available at berkshirecommunityrowing.org.

Please like us on Facebook for regular updates. Search for Berkshire

Community Rowing (Berkshire Rowing and Sculling Society a/k/a BRASS is our original name and a venerable identity no longer in general use, though we continue to race as Team BRASS).

Contacting Us

There are several ways to connect with the boathouse. The best way is to send us an email at berkshirerowingandsculling@gmail.com. Another channel, though notoriously unreliable, is by phone: (413) 442-7769. Staff cell numbers will be provided to members.

Membership Selection

All who use BCR facilities must have a current membership before they participate. Which membership should you choose?

- Provisional (\$25): This is for visitors from other clubs, those taking lessons, and members' guests.
- Sustaining (\$125):
This membership is for old friends of the club who want to row infrequently. It can also be used by vacationers who are visiting for a week and want to row while they're in the Berkshires.
This membership is required of rack renters but note that for rack renters it includes the same privileges as All Access membership, including the use of any club shells during boathouse hours.
- All Access (\$495): This is the category for most adult members. It includes unlimited rowing during boathouse hours throughout the season.
- Family (\$695): All Access for all members of a single household.
- Student (\$325): The same as All Access but for students 18 years or older currently enrolled in a school.

Members Bringing Guests

Members are encouraged to bring guests. Guests of members may use club equipment and facilities at no charge for a single visit per year (but members may bring up to four guests a year). Guests must sign our Activity Waiver and the boathouse manager and/or coaching staff should be apprised in advance so that any necessary plans can be made.

Registering for Memberships and Programs on RegattaCentral

1. RegattaCentral.com is our members' registration and boat reservation platform. Here's how to get started:
2. Go to RegattaCentral.com. Log in or create an account.
3. Click the "Clubs" tab and scroll down to select—Berkshire Sculling Association (BRASS).
4. Click the various categories to explore our offerings. Any free Learn to Row events are listed under Learn to Row. We also run a paid Learn to Row group class under Programs and Classes.
5. Click either the Join/Renew or the Register button for whichever item you

want and you will be taken to the next screen.

6. You should see a drop down that reads “Select Participant.” In most cases you will select yourself, but if you are registering an additional family member, click the “Add Participant” hyperlink and add their information.
7. Click the “next” button and fill out the information on the next screen. Hit the “next” button again.
8. On the payment page, you may pay via credit card or PayPal. You can also pay with by check by selecting the “check pay” option. We must receive your payment before your first row.
9. Make sure you receive a confirmation email!

Reserving Boats on RegattaCentral

1. Once you have a club membership on RegattaCentral, you can follow these steps to reserve boats:
2. Log into your RegattaCentral account. You should be on the home screen already, but if you aren't, click the “Home” tab in the navigation bar to get there.
3. Click on blue link entitled “Registrations”.
4. You will be taken to list of our boats with their weight class and skill level. Click the box that corresponds to both the boat and the date you would like to reserve.
5. Fill out the requested information.
6. Members reserving team boats must enter who they will be rowing with in the reservation notes.
7. You may only reserve a boat for one hour, and you may not reserve more than one boat per day.
8. PLEASE – if your plans change, cancel your reservation as soon as possible. If it is the morning of your row, please call the boathouse at 442-7769 or text Loren.
9. You may simply “show up” during boathouse hours without a reservation, but we cannot guarantee your shell of choice. But if the mood strikes and you think the house might be open, give us a try!

Text and Email Notifications via Remind

BCR uses a system called Remind to send notifications to its members. These may include boathouse closings, delays in opening, etc.

- To receive notifications via text, text @brass787 to 81010.
- To receive notifications via email, go to remind.com, click sign up and select the student option. Enter your email and register for our “class” using the code @brass787.

Boathouse and Lake Rules

- Reserve a boat before you arrive. Please arrive 5 or 10 minutes early as the one-hour boat reservation starts at the time you've reserved.
- When arriving at the boathouse for the first time, fill out our Activity Waiver. If

you are new to the club but have some rowing experience; prior to your first row you should take a tour of the lake with an experienced club member, as there are hazards and lake rules that we follow. Please drop us an email and we'll arrange for somebody to row with you.

- We follow the Hundred Degree Rule. If the combined water and air temperature is below 100°, life jackets (provided) must be worn or in the shell, and members may only go out in team boats. Any member may of course use a life jacket at any time if they choose to; the small orange vests are made specifically for rowers.
- Other seasonal rules may be in place, so please check in boathouse staff.
- Check in with boathouse staff before every row. They will enter your name and boat on the daily sign-in sheet.
- Get back within the hour.
- Row counterclockwise around the lake staying close to shore.
- Share the lake and be courteous to other boaters.
- Watch out for swimmers!
- Once you've finished your row, wash the boat and oar handles with soap. Rinse and towel them off.
- Help staff get your boat back in the house unless they tell you it's not necessary.

Volunteer Requirements; 10 hours per season per member

- On the large whiteboard in the front of the boathouse, there is a running list of items that the club could use help with. Or perhaps you'd like to run a fundraiser. Possibilities!
- We can always use help with boats and organization at regattas. This pertains mostly to the fall, but the juniors head to competitions all the time and could likely use your help. Ask the Boathouse Manager if you might be interested in this opportunity.
- National Learn to Row Day is an annual special event at BCR with volunteer jobs for members of every skill level. We are always looking for volunteers to help with introductions to the many who are curious and would like to check us out. You need not be fantastically skilled, simply willing!
- Towels almost always need to be washed. If you could take a few at a time to be washed and bring them back when you come for your next row, it is always appreciated!
- After volunteer service, please register your hours by sending an email to berkshirerowingandsculling@gmail.com.