



SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

REGATTA NOTICE & INFORMATION

SASRU invites its member schools to the 2026 SA Schools Rowing Championships.

The purpose of this premiere schools' event is to allow school rowers the opportunity - at the end of the rowing season - to experience racing that is fast, competitive and fun. The national school championships take place on an annual basis on the first full weekend in March and aims to provide an opportunity for member schools to compete in order to identify and recognise the champion school crews in each of the races offered on the three-day programme.

The regatta is organised and run by an organising committee which consists of a group of volunteers aligned to the South African Schools Rowing Union. The regatta - governed by the SASRU Rules of Racing and its Constitution - is a not-for-profit event and any money raised is allocated to the running of future regattas.

1. Venue & Dates

The 2026 South African Schools Rowing Championships will be held from 6 to 8 March 2026 at Roodeplaat Dam, Pretoria, Gauteng.

2. Entries

- 2.1. All entries must be made using the website www.regatta.co.za.
- 2.2. The regatta is open to participants from member schools affiliated to SASRU and to school rowers who are members of Junior Rowing Clubs. African and international schools are accommodated upon receipt of a written request.
- 2.3. Neither schools nor clubs are permitted to enter composite crews in any event, i.e. the crew members of each boat entered must all be enrolled at the same school or must be members of the same club.
- 2.4. Rowers enrolled at a rowing school may not compete for any other school. **Rowers enrolled at a non-rowing school may not compete for a rowing school and are required to be registered at a junior club.**
- 2.5. Only rowers whose personal details have been fully and accurately captured on www.regatta.co.za will be permitted to enter the event.
- 2.6. When capturing entries onto the Regatta Website, entries must be made in crew ranking order by event. If any event has more than 8 heats restrictions may be made to schools with the most entries.
- 2.7. No boy may be entered into or participate in a girls' event or girl in a boys' event. This rule includes coxswains.
- 2.6. The following events are **incompatible** in the Racing Programme:
 - 2.6.1 **Boys:** Eights & Doubles; Octuples & Doubles; Fours & Quads; Pairs & Single Sculls
 - 2.6.2 **Girls:** Fours & Doubles; Octuples & Doubles; Pairs & Single Sculls
 - 2.6.3 Schools may not enter the same crew in separate incompatible events.

- 2.7. Schools may only enter 4 single scullers in each age group, except for the Open age group where a maximum of 5 entries are permitted. There is no other restriction on the number of a school's entries per event. There is also no restriction on the number of events an individual rower may enter. The SASRU Executive reserves the right to reduce the number of a school's entries in all events if in its opinion this is warranted. Coaches should therefore enter scullers and crews in order of competence.
- 2.8. Schools may only enter Boys 2nd 8+ and Girls 2nd 4x+ events if they have a crew entered in the 1st Event.
- 2.9. Entries close on **Tuesday, 24 February, 2026 at 16:00**.
- 2.10. The preliminary draw will be published on **Thursday, 26 February 2026** and remain open for name changes and scratchings and late entries until **16:00 on Tuesday, 3 March 2026**, except for crews mentioned in 2.11 below. Late entries are not permitted in single sculls even if there are open lanes.
- 2.11. In U16 and Open events only 1 name in a double or quad may be changed after the publication of the first (preliminary) draw (except for medical reasons). If a rower withdraws from an event for any reason except medical, he/she will forfeit all seats in the regatta.
- 2.12. Late Entries made after the date for entries will only be allocated to an event where open lanes still exist. No new heats will be created as this would mean reseeding the draw. Entries will only be entered into open lanes on a first come, first served basis. Once all the lanes are full extra entries will not be considered.
- 2.13. The final regatta programme will be published on **Wednesday, 4 March 2026** after which time no changes will be made. Except for provisions made in point 2.11.
- 2.14. Any event attracting less than three entries from 3 different schools/clubs will be cancelled.
- 2.15. There will be no B Finals for any age group.
- 2.16. Entries will only be accepted from schools which are up to date with payments to SASRU.
- 2.17. Any problems experienced with your entries please contact Gaynor at row@rowsa.co.za
- 2.18. The entering of your school or members serves as an acceptance of Indemnity in this regatta, namely that you declare that you accept your own risk and indemnify the Regatta Organisers, Sponsors and Officials of this rowing regatta against any claim of whatsoever nature and howsoever arising, which may result from your schools, clubs and/or your rowers' participation.

3. Spectator Entry Tickets:

- 3.1. SASRU will be selling daily and weekend attendance via Quicket. Ticket prices are as follows:

- Friday, 6 March - R80.00
- Saturday, 7 March - R100.00
- Sunday, 8 March - R100.00
- Weekend Pass - R240.00

- 3.2. Only coaches and officials in possession of an ID card will be allowed free entry into the event.
- 3.3. Only SASRU officials, vendors and on-duty officials will be permitted entry into the VIP parking area.
- 3.3. All spectators, athletes, coaches and officials will be issued with wristbands upon entry. These must be worn at all times.

4. SASRU AGM:

All schools' heads and heads of rowing and coaches are invited to attend the SASRU AGM held as per the published AGM notice.

5. Athlete Transport:

- 5.1. All schools arrange their own transport to and from the regatta.

6. Seating and Trailer Parking:

Arrangements for parking and seating for both participants and spectators will follow.

7. Rules of Racing:

- 7.1. The Row SA Rules of Racing apply except where there is a specific or local SASRU rule.
- 7.2. Each member school must ensure that the data of each athlete is correctly filled in on the www.regatta.co.za database. This data will be checked online by regatta control during the course of the weekend.
- 7.3. All boats must have a number holder on the bow of the boat. The alpha numeric number system will be utilised for this regatta.
- 7.4. Boat Weighing: Boat weighing will take place. The scales will be available for pre-weighing.
- 7.5. Ballast: Crews should note that they are responsible for the ballast for their boats and coxswains. The latter is only applicable for J19 coxswains.
- 7.6. Crew changes: In conjunction with point 2.11., no more than 50% of the crew may change. No changes/substitutions will be allowed in the single sculls events.
- 7.7. The Traffic Patterns, Local Rules, Proposed Sequence of Events, Points and Progression Rules and List of Events applicable to the Championships are as published on www.sasru.co.za as at 31 January each year.
- 7.8. Should there be a conflict between the Rules, Points, or Progressions published on the website and this notice, those published on the website will prevail.
- 7.9. Any alteration to entries and/or scratching of crews must be reported to the Control Commission at least 1 hour prior to the published start time of the race.
- 7.10. Officials will only enter discussions with coaches wearing ID Cards.

8. Crew entry fees:

- 8.1. Eights and Octuples: R200 per crew
- 8.2. Fours and Quads: R100 per crew
- 8.3. Pairs and Doubles: R80 per crew
- 8.4. Single sculls: R60 per sculler
- 8.5. Entry fees are payable on presentation of invoice, at the regatta.

9. Medals & Prizegiving

- 9.1. Gold, silver and bronze medals are presented to the first, second and third placed A-finalists among South African school crews.
- 9.2. Additional medals are awarded to visiting non-South African school crews obtaining first, second or third places.
- 9.3. Non championship medals are awarded to the best Boys' "Second Eight" and the best Girls' "Second Quad" at the regatta. A school's "first crew" must have participated in the regatta to enter this event. The same crew may not enter both 1st Eight/Quad and Second Eight/Quad events.
- 9.4. The final prize giving will commence 1 hour after the final race on Sunday.

10. International Rowers

All International Schools requiring an invitation letter to the event are to contact: Michelle Kleer at kleerm@stbenedicts.co.za

11. Boat Racks and Trailers

Whilst there are sufficient boat racks available at Roodeplaat, schools are permitted to bring their own boat trestles for rigging and boat storage. Trailers must be parked in the designated area and may not enter or be parked in the spectator or competitor section.

12. Food, Refreshments and Liquor

- 12.1. Food and refreshments will be available throughout the day. Supporters must be discouraged to bring their own refreshments.
- 12.2. There will be a fully licensed bar available and therefore **NO LIQUOR may be brought onto the Roodeplaat Rowing Centre premises.**
- 12.3. The Regatta Organising Committee would appreciate it if you could remind your club members and supporters of the restrictions on liquor at premises of the Roodeplaat Rowing Centre Facilities.
- 12.4. Permission must be obtained from the organising committee for any functions taking place at the venue. Contact Michelle Kleer, kleerm@stbenedicts.co.za

13. VIP Refreshments

Heads of Schools will be permitted free access for two. Invitations to the VIP section will be mailed directly to the schools.

14. Regatta Event Rules and Regulations

- 14.1. Right of admission is reserved at the discretion of the South African Schools Rowing Union (SASRU) and its senior management.
- 14.2. Any person behaving in a manner deemed disruptive, unsafe, or in violation of these rules may be removed from the premises without refund.
- 14.3. All spectators must possess a valid ticket. No ticket, no entry.
- 14.4. Wristbands must be worn at all times by spectators, athletes, and coaches.
- 14.5. Lost or damaged wristbands will not be replaced.
- 14.6. The event is cashless. Only card or digital payments will be accepted.
- 14.7. As the event is fully licensed, no alcohol may be brought onto the premises.
- 14.8. No glass containers or bottles are allowed.
- 14.9. All athletes must report to the main gate upon arrival.
- 14.10. Access to the South African Schools Rowing Championship Regatta is only permitted for athletes who have already registered.
- 14.11. Parents/ Spectators are not allowed in the athlete area at any time or in any areas designated for participants
- 14.12. Only SASRU officials, vendors, and on-duty personnel will be permitted entry into the VIP parking area.
- 14.13. VIP parking is located at the top of the property and is only accessible via a valid ticket, which must be pre-issued.
- 14.14. Pedestrian access for ticket scanning is required before entering the VIP area.
- 14.15. The main gate is a pedestrian-only entrance. Vehicles must use designated parking areas.
- 14.16. No pets or animals are allowed, except for registered service animals.
- 14.17. Flying of drones is prohibited, except with written approval from SASRU and compliance with South African aviation laws.
- 14.18. No firearms, weapons, or hazardous materials are allowed onsite.
- 14.19. Smoking is only permitted in designated smoking areas.
- 14.20. Any unauthorised commercial activity, including ambush marketing, unauthorised branding, or sales, is strictly prohibited.
- 14.21. Loudblasters, air horns, vuvuzelas, or any noise-making devices that may interfere with races are not permitted.
- 14.22. Spectators may not obstruct official race marshals, volunteers, or emergency services.
- 14.23. All participants and spectators attend the event at their own risk. The organising committee, event sponsors, and affiliated organisations are not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage incurred during the event.

- 14.24. First aid and emergency services are available on-site. Please report any medical emergency to an event official immediately.
- 14.25. In the event of an evacuation, follow all instructions from security personnel and event staff.
- 14.25. Children under 12 must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult.
- 14.26. Please use designated bins. Littering is prohibited.
- 14.27. Tampering with event infrastructure, signage, or environmental areas is strictly prohibited.
- 14.28. By attending, all spectators consent to being photographed or recorded for promotional or broadcasting purposes.
- 14.29. Unauthorized live streaming or professional photography without event approval is prohibited.
- 14.30. Permission must be obtained from the organising committee for any functions taking place at the venue

Darryn Roff
SASRU President