

Varsity rowers compete in Saratoga Regatta

BY ALLEN NITSCHELM · MAY 4, 2017

The Bromfield Acton-Boxborough varsity rowing crew traveled to the 2017 Saratoga Invitational Regatta on Lake Saratoga in New York on Saturday and Sunday, April 29 and 30, a semiannual pilgrimage that brings together some of the fastest teams in the Northeast. The 1,500-meter, 10-lane racecourse is a sprint race (versus the fall races that are three to four times longer) with the boats competing head-to-head. This makes for a more exciting event for the spectators who can cheer on their teams as they race to the finish line right next to their opponents.

Preliminary races were held on Saturday, with warmer temperatures but a gusty wind. Sunday's finals saw temperatures in the 40s, a much stiffer wind from the back, and some light spotty rain. The finals were seeded by time and category, with many BA-B crews racing on Sunday in the "A" or grand finals of their respective categories.

"The boys raced well against some of the toughest competition in the region, testing their speed in both eights and fours," said head boys Coach Brian DeDominici. "We showed steady improvement, gaining time on some of the teams we previously raced and finishing most boats in the grand finals." The top boys finishes were the first varsity 8 and the lightweight (under 150 pounds) 4+, both finishing seventh in their grand finals. The second varsity 4+ placed fourth in its grand final.

Head girls Coach Holly Hatton is focusing on her lightweight (under 130 pounds for girls) crew this season. "This spring the crews showing the most speed have been our lightweight 4 and 8," she said. "Having an opportunity to race in designated lightweight events is really helpful in comparing our speed relative to other crews in our region." The lightweight girls 4+ had the top finish for the girls squad, placing third in the grand finals. The second varsity 8+ won its petite final.

Hatton said Sunday's finals were big improvements over Saturday's preliminaries. "Our sprints on Sunday were particularly effective, allowing the girls to move through a crew or two in the final 20 strokes," she said. "Each crew came off the water feeling good about their efforts, which is so important in building confidence as we get in the heart of the race schedule."

This weekend, both varsity and novice crews compete on Lake Cochituate in Wayland.

Varsity Boys Results

- **Boys third varsity 8+**, "A" final, 10th, 5:26. Rowers Patrick Stoffel, Talmage Lindsey, Jonathan McWhite, Mark Castaneda, Maxfield Mascarin, John Hart, Jack Kelley, Teague Neschke, and coxswain Vito Montesa.
- **Boys second varsity 8+**, "A" final, 5th, 4:45. Rowers Connor Reitler, Kyle Into, Matt Adams, Brian Fay, Jason Lancellotti, Spencer Tingle, Alex Nikopoulos, Kevin Yu, and coxswain Joshua Canning.
- **Boys first varsity 8+**, "A" final, 7th, 4:33. Rowers Joshua Hollenberg, William Thompson, Alexander Ewing, Jack Walsh, Connor O'Shea, David Shlimak, Dwight Fairchild, Kyle Veo, and coxswain Nilay Maity.
- **Boys first varsity 4+**, "B" final, 1st, 5:04. Rowers Joshua Hollenberg, William Thompson, Alexander Ewing, Jack Walsh, and coxswain Nilay Maity.

- **Boys varsity lightweight 4+**, “A” final, 7th, 5:10. Rowers Connor Reitler, David Shlimak, Kyle Veo, Kevin Yu, and coxswain Joshua Canning.
- **Boys varsity lightweight 4+**, “B” final, 6th, 5:37. Rowers Patrick Stoffel, Talmage Lindsey, Nikhil Kommineni, Liam Makosky, and coxswain Vito Montesa.
- **Boys second varsity 4+**, “A” final, 4th, 5:08. Rowers Matt Adams, Brian Fay, Connor O’Shea, Dwight Fairchild, and coxswain Anne Wesley.
- **Boys third varsity 4**, “B”, 3rd, 6:27 (Saturday final). Rowers Jon McWhite, Mark Castaneda, Alex Weaver, Zac Shamah, and coxswain Nilay Maity.

Varsity Girls Results

- **Girls second varsity 4+**, “A” final, 8th, 5:58. Rowers Emma Stoffel, Becky Nitschelm, Alice Pope, Ella Bull, and coxswain Cammy Farren.
- **Girls second varsity 4+**, “B” final, 4th, 6:16. Rowers Katherine Worden, Molly Bowers, Sierra Gomez, Emily Haviland, and coxswain Amy Zhu.
- **Girls first varsity 4+**, “C” final, 3rd, 5:55. Rowers Caroline Noyes, Grace White, Valentine Bulpin, Kat Fay, and coxswain Rachel Shrives.
- **Girls lightweight 4+**, “A” final, 3rd, 5:32. Rowers Erin Smith, Summer Maxwell, Kaylee Liu, Anna Shlimak, and coxswain Cammy Farren.
- **Girls first varsity 8+**, “B” final, 5th, 5:16. Rowers Erin Smith, Summer Maxwell, Zoe Flanzer, Anna Shlimak, Kaylee Liu, Alissa Kong, Courtney Robb, Taylor Tracey, and coxswain Cammy Farren.
- **Girls second varsity 8+**, “B” final, 1st, 5:23. Rowers Caroline Noyes, Grace White, Valentine Bulpin, Kat Fay, Emma Stoffel, Becky Nitschelm, Alice Pope, Ella Bull, and coxswain Amy Zhu.