

## 2026 Jefferson Dad Vail Regatta Eligibility Rules

Eligibility of rowers to participate in the Jefferson Dad Vail Regatta shall be dependent upon the eligibility rules of the Jefferson Dad Vail Regatta and the eligibility rules of the NCAA, IRA, ACRA, or CURA (Canadian University Rowing Association).

- A. All participants in the Jefferson Dad Vail Regatta must be full-time undergraduate students at the institution they represent. A student-athlete who has received a Baccalaureate or equivalent degree and who is enrolled in graduate school may participate in the Dad Vail Regatta provided the student-athlete has athletic eligibility remaining per their national governing body.
- B. Men's Varsity Eight Events
  - a. DI/DII Men's Varsity Eight – To row in this event a crew must be considered a varsity program by their institution. A competitor's eligibility is based on the Dad Vail Regatta Rules and the institution's national governing body (NCAA, IRA, or CURA).
  - b. Club/DIII Men's Varsity Eight – To row in this event a crew must be considered a club program by their institution or a varsity NCAA DIII program by their institution. A competitor's eligibility is based on the Dad Vail Rules and the institution's national governing body (NCAA, IRA, ACRA, or CURA).
- C. Freshman/Novice Events:
  - a. To row as a freshman, a competitor must be in his or her first year of attendance at the collegiate level and be considered an academic freshman by his or her institution.
  - b. To row as a novice, a competitor must not have participated in the sport of rowing prior to the present academic year. A student/athlete may compete as a novice for only one year. If the student/athlete competes after the novice year, it must be in a non-novice event. A novice need not be a freshman.
- D. A transfer student who has participated in a collegiate rowing program in the academic year current to or preceding his or her attendance at the new institution may row in his or her first year at the new institution as long the student is in good academic standing and meets the satisfactory progress requirements as set forth by their national governing body.
- E. Appeals for exceptions to these rules will be determined by the Jefferson Dad Vail Regatta Eligibility Committee. The appeal should be sent to Regatta Secretary, John Leonard at [scullerjohn@aol.com](mailto:scullerjohn@aol.com) prior to the deadline for entries. Appeals must contain validating evidence that may be helpful in achieving a fair decision.
- F. Doubling Up of Rowers & Scullers

a. Sweep

Doubling up is not allowed unless there are special circumstances that warrant consideration. The Eligibility Committee will consider any requests from institutions in which there is illness, injury, or special situations. Requests for eligibility exceptions are to be sent to Regatta Secretary, John Leonard at [scullerjohn@aol.com](mailto:scullerjohn@aol.com). Also, the Eligibility Committee will consider situations in which a crew is one person short of filling a boat, which would allow rowers in that program to participate who otherwise would miss out.

In doubling, if both crews advance and there is a conflict such that there is not enough time for the second crew to get to the starting line, it will be incumbent upon the coach to scratch one of the entries. Substituting will not be permitted as a remedy for a time conflict originating from an athlete who doubled up. There are no refunds for a scratch. There will be no petitioning to adjust the regatta schedule to allow for a team to make both events.

b. Sculling

- i. The Dad Vail Regatta allows unlimited doubling up into any of the three sculling events. This is allowed because sculling is an emerging intercollegiate sport. A sweep rower is also allowed to double up in a sculling event and vice versa. This doubling up provision will be reviewed after the first three years of the national intercollegiate sculling championship.

G. Violations of regulations may be the cause for crew and/or team-wide disqualifications. Unusually serious violations may be considered grounds for more severe sanctions.

H. Eligibility Questions, Regatta Inquiries, and Special Requests

- a. All questions regarding eligibility rules, regatta matters, or special requests should be directed to **John Leonard** at [scullerjohn@aol.com](mailto:scullerjohn@aol.com).