



USRA Southwest Regionals

Sunday, July 11, 2010

568 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, California

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone for participating in the 2010 USRowing Southwest Masters/Open Regional Championship regatta hosted by Lake Merritt Rowing Club. It was a beautiful day with calm water on the racecourse. We had over 800 athletes competing in 103 events making it our largest event yet! With the time between races reduced to 5 minutes, everyone did a fantastic job getting to the start line on time, and not a single boat missed its start. It was a wonderful day at the lake!

We would like to thank all the volunteers who worked so hard over the past few months and days to make this event a reality. This event was only possible with the support and volunteers from Lake Merritt Rowing Club, Marin Rowing Association, Jack London Aquatic Center and Los Gatos Rowing Club. Special thanks go to these local clubs for their hard work helping us with the course and on regatta day. Extra special thanks go to the friends and family members who came down and helped out as well!

Our sincere thanks to the USRowing and the Official Referees, without whom we never could carry out such an event. Special congratulations go to Paul

Wilkins, did a fantastic job organizing registration and the schedule. In particular I would like to thank Alice Henderson, our head USRA referee. Alice and her team were outstanding keeping the regatta on time and safe!

Special thanks to Oakland Swift Water Rescue, whose presence helped ensure everyone's safety during this event. Behind the scenes, we had the invaluable support and assistance of the Oakland Parks and Recreation Department, helping us out with docks, a beautiful lakeview office from which to compute the results, and provision of a launch and driver to help with the racing on the lake. Thanks also to Oakland Strokes who generously lent us launches and engines. Our hearty thanks go to Peet's Coffee, Noah's Bagels, Trader Joes, Whole Foods, Safeway, SemiFreddi's and Coca-Cola Bottling Company for their generous food and beverage donations!

Thanks go to Regatta Central, who handled registration; their support keeps an event this large manageable. A special recognition of appreciation goes to the Regatta Committee. This is a dedicated group that comes together every year to make the event seem so seamless and easy to host. This year's regatta was not possible without the energy and commitment of the entire Committee, which included Alan Kirschbaum, Ann Macdonald, Cam Sutter, Mary Mattingly, Dominique Channell, Jill McIntire, Jamie Flaherty-Evans, Pam Weimer, and Shirley Doell.

Again, thanks to everyone who made this event a pleasure to run, and we hope to see you all again next year!

Candace Swimmer, Regatta Director and The Regatta Committee