



USRA Southwest Regionals

Sunday, July 10, 2011

568 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, California

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone for participating in the 2011 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 600 athletes from 31 different organizations compete in 83 events, making it our largest regatta to date! Clubs traveled to Lake Merritt from all parts of California, Oregon, Colorado, Arizona, and even Tennessee.

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, East Bay Rowing Club, Los Gatos Rowing Club, and the Los Angeles 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 could not carry out such an event. Special congratulations go to Paul Wilkins, who did a fantastic job organizing registration and the schedule. In particular I would like to thank Stan Shawl, our head USRA referee. Stan and his team were outstanding at 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 Bicycle Coffee Company and SemiFreddi's Bakery for their coffee and food partnership, and to Coca-Cola Bottling Company for their generous beverage donation!

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 Kirshbaum, Ann MacDonald, Cam Sutter, Dominique Channell, Ida Linden, Jill McIntire, Jamie Flaherty-Evans, 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
The Regatta Committee