



Intercollegiate Rowing Association Annual Declaration of Adherence (2019-2020)

As required by Article IV, Section VIII, of the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Constitution (the “IRA Constitution”), the undersigned certifies that the institution and the varsity rowing programs identified below are and will remain in full compliance with the IRA Constitution, IRA Operating Bylaws and IRA Eligibility Regulations.

This Annual Declaration of Adherence must be completed each year for an IRA member institution to be eligible to enter a team or teams in the IRA Championships Regatta.

The following statements summarize some of important provisions and requirements of the IRA Constitution and Bylaws:

- It is each member institution’s obligation to read, understand and adhere to the IRA Constitution, IRA Operating Bylaws, IRA Eligibility Regulations and all other rules and regulations of the Association (see IRA Constitution, Article 4, Section VIII – copy enclosed).
- If a student-athlete is ineligible under the terms of the IRA Constitution, IRA Operating Bylaws or IRA Eligibility Regulations, the institution is required to enforce the applicable rule immediately and withhold the student-athlete from competition. The institution has the right to appeal for reinstatement of the student-athlete’s eligibility to the IRA Eligibility and Infractions Committee (see IRA Constitution, Article 4, Section VIII – copy enclosed).
- Possible disciplinary actions for violations of the IRA Constitution, IRA Operating Bylaws and IRA Eligibility Regulations are outlined in Article 4, Section IX of the IRA Constitution (copy enclosed). Disciplinary action for allowing an ineligible student-athlete to compete includes forfeiture of all victories earned in which the ineligible student-athlete participated.
- All member schools shall share equal proportional Association financial obligations.

THE FOREGOING IS ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED TO BY THE FOLLOWING:

Name of Institution: _____

Name of Director of Athletics: _____

Name of Sport Supervisor designated
by the Director of Athletics: _____

Institutional rowing programs to be governed by the IRA (please check all those that apply):

_____ Heavyweight Men's Rowing Program

_____ Lightweight Men's Rowing Program

_____ Lightweight Women's Rowing Program

Signature of Director of Athletics

Date

Signature of Sport Supervisor

Date

Scan and please return this form no later than November 4, 2019 by the following means:

Email: katie.boldvich@usrowing.org

EXCERPTS FROM THE IRA CONSTITUTION

Article 4 - Section VIII. Membership Responsibility

- A. By acceptance of election into membership of the Association, each member represents that it has read and is adhering to the Constitution, Bylaws, rules and regulations, principles and policies and resolutions of the Association, and will, in all its acts, conform in every way with the substance and spirit thereof, without exception.
- B. The Constitution, Bylaws and other legislation of this Association, unless otherwise specified therein, shall apply to the sport of rowing designated by the member institution in its annual IRA Declaration of Adherence as part of its varsity intercollegiate athletics program.
- C. If a student-athlete is ineligible under the terms of the Constitution, Bylaws or other legislation of the Association, the institution shall be obligated immediately to apply the applicable rule to the student-athlete and withhold him/her from all intercollegiate athletics competition. Subsequent to this action, the member institution may appeal to the IRA Eligibility and Infractions Committee in accordance with Article Three, Section IV, B, 2-d of the Bylaws, if the member concludes that the circumstances warrant such action.

Article 4 - Section IX. Violation and Disciplinary Action

- A. **EXPULSION**
Should a member violate any of the terms of Section XI of this Article, it may be expelled from membership in the Association only by vote of the members, provided, however, that no such vote may be taken without the prior recommendation of the Board of Stewards.
Note: A member shall not be expelled except by action of the members at an annual or special meeting, and such expulsion will require a two-thirds vote of all present at the meeting, provided those present constitute more than half of the membership.
- B. **FORFEITURE**
 - 1. When in violation of IRA regulations a member institution has participated an ineligible player on a rowing team sponsored by that institution's intercollegiate athletics department, and competing at the IRA Championships, said institution must automatically forfeit all victories gained, in which the ineligible player participated, and further, said member institution must report said participation to the respective secretaries of the IRA Eligibility and Infractions Committee for such further action as said committees may deem appropriate.
- C. **OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Any disciplinary action other than expulsion may be effected by the Eligibility and Infractions Committee subject to review on appeal to the Board of Stewards.

D. DUE PROCESS

Discipline under this Section shall not be imposed unless and until written specifications of the violation are delivered to the member against which a complaint is made, nor until the member charged had a reasonable opportunity to make written answer to the complaint.

1. The member charged may request to be heard at a meeting of the Eligibility and Infractions Committee or the Board of Stewards, which request will be accepted, and the member will be heard.
2. If expulsion is recommended by the Board of Stewards, the member charged may request to be heard at a meeting of the Association, which request will be accepted, and the member will be heard prior to the vote on the recommendation.