

MPYC Rowing Program Overview

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About MPYC Rowing

Home to Coastal Rowing on the Monterey Bay out of the Monterey harbor. Rowing at MPYC offers short and long-distance routes along the scenic Monterey and Pacific Grove waterfront all the way to the open ocean. While rowing, rowers will see the abundant wildlife habitat of the bay and experience a wide range of rowing conditions. MPYC Rowing is a recreational rowing club that strives to be inclusive. For competitive rowers, we do sponsor our own regatta and there are ample opportunities to compete along the West Coast, elsewhere in the United States, and internationally.

History

Founded in 1953 as a not-for-profit rowing, organization, the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club is a yachting and social club comprised of over 400 adult and junior members who have an interest in sharing boating, rowing, sailing, yacht racing and social activities. Club membership is not limited to boat owners.

In 2012, a member purchased a sliding seat rowboat double and reached out to other club members to experience rowing on the Monterey Bay. As interest grew, there was a desire to build a larger rowing community and in 2017 a coastal rowing boat double and two singles were purchased. MPYC officially started its rowing club in 2018.

Coastal Rowing in Monterey

Most competitive rowing takes place on protected courses under ideal, flat-water conditions. In contrast, an open-water rower rows across an unprotected, “open” body of water experiencing the varied conditions of the environment. Open water rowing was further developed in Europe with the advent of Coastal Rowing boats and these are the type of boats that MPYC owns.

Open water rowers enjoy the chance to experience nature while getting exercise. MPYC Rowing has courses that extend from the Monterey harbor to Lovers Point which is approximately 4 nautical miles, and to Point Pinos which is approximately 9 nautical miles. There are shorter courses that stay close to the harbor and are 2 nautical miles or less. While rowing, rowers will see Harbor Seals, Sea Lions, Sea Otters, and it is not unusual to see Dolphins and Whales.

Purpose

Serve the MPYC members and community by offering a rewarding on and off the water rowing experience.

Vision

Synergistically become an integral part of MPYC, making it THE best club on the Monterey Peninsula.

Values

Safety – A rewarding and fun rowing experience must be had safely. We will prioritize safety by doing the best we can to train our members and maintain our equipment.

Integrity – Members will have access to and be accountable for expensive equipment and facilities. This privilege of an open environment can only continue if we have responsible use and reporting.

Value – Equipment, facilities, and services must be at a quality and cost that members appreciate and feel is reasonable. As a non-profit club, members need to step forward and help make the club a great value for everyone by volunteering to do their part.

Fun – We exist to have fun and this should be in the forefront of all our interactions.

Governance

MPYC Rowing is a club within MPYC with the MPYC Board as its leadership and follows all MPYC rules and bylaws.

Boats are available to MPYC members under the following conditions:

1. That the member has demonstrated competency in boat handling and rowing, as deemed by an MPYC Rowing -approved Instructor.
2. That the member is current in his or her MPYC annual Club dues.
3. That the member reads, understand and agrees to follow the MPYC Rowing equipment rules.
4. That the member understands that he/she is financially responsible for any damages that occur while the member is in control of the equipment (from the point of log-out until the equipment is logged in).
5. That the member has completed a MPYC waiver.
6. That the member participates in 10 hours of volunteer activity during the year.

Membership and Boat Use

Membership into MPYC Rowing is the same as MPYC. All applications, referral forms, membership types and fees can be found on the MPYC website. To ensure that you want to be a member, new rowers will not have to commit until they have completed a new rower clinic.

Instruction and Certification

All rowers must be certified for the level of boat, course that they will be rowing, and independent rowing (though this is not advised). Each certification can be obtained by completing the associated clinic or written approval of a club instructor. We do this to make sure that you can safely enjoy rowing the Monterey Bay. Experienced rowers still must be certified but instructor judgement will be used to allow skipping intermediate certificates.

Novice Program – Learn to Row: Three 2 hour sessions over two weekends are offered once per quarter. The group will not exceed 3 people. Upon completion of this course you will be allowed to row with an experienced rower in one of the doubles or with another novice within the 1 mile buoy. The cost of this program is \$100.

Private coaching – To improve technique, or to be certified to use a single or to row longer distances such as Lovers Point or Point Pinos. Depending on experience and skill level this may take from 1 to 5 hours. The cost of Private coaching is \$25 per half hour. A normal session is 1 hour but a certification session can usually be obtained within a half hour.

There are certifications to be obtained to

- 1) Row without an experienced person in a double beyond the 1-mile marker to Lovers Point
- 2) Row in a double out to the Point Pinos buoy
- 3) Row in a single within the 1-mile buoy with other rowers
- 4) Row in a single out to Lovers Point with other rowers
- 5) Row in a single out to the Point Pinos buoy with other rowers
- 6) Row independently (though this is not encouraged).

Staff and Coaches

MPYC Rowing Committee – The role of the committee is to oversee and coordinate the activities of the rowing club. This includes 1) creating a business model to justify storage and maintenance fees, purchase of new boats when appropriate, and other expenses, 2) creating a membership plan and executing it, 3) creating an

operational plan (training, scheduling, maintenance, etc) and executing it, and 4) participating in the MPYC Board. (list members)

Coaches – (list coaches, credentials, and contact info)

Routes and Land Marks (list, show map of, and give coordinates of rowing routes)

Weather resources (links to sites to help with current conditions)

It is very important that rowers check the weather conditions before heading out. Rowers may vary the length of their row according to the conditions or cancel their row. Rowers are not allowed to row if there are small craft warnings. Rowers should also not row in winds over 12 MPH or if there is a heavy marine layer. A general rule of thumb is that you should not row in white caps. While the boats can go through rough seas, most rowers cannot make headway in winds over 12MPH.

Reservations (Link to scheduling package)

Reservations Policy

It is recommended to reserve boats to ensure you get the boat and time that you desire. If you do not reserve a boat, you must check the schedule to make sure that the boat and time you are using it is available. If a rower does not show up within 15 minutes of the scheduled time, the reservation is cancelled. Reservations are allowed up to 4 weeks in advance. The reservation system will be used to monitor usage and justify new boats.

The boats may be used for 2 hour increments from sunrise up to a recommended time of ten AM (returning by noon). While the boats can handle rough seas, it can be difficult to row in winds over 10 MPH. Rowers should check conditions and plan accordingly. All routes head NW into the prevailing winds to give rowers the wind advantage on the return. Winds do change and it is important to check conditions before heading out.

In addition to the reservation system, there will be a log for signing in and out. The log will be the communication vehicle to report any issues with the boat or dock.

Boats and Facilities

All members are full members of MPYC and able to take advantage of the wonderful clubhouse that includes 24-hour access to the clubhouse. Please look on the MPYC website or click here to get a full description.

Storage Facilities

The boats are stored on K dock and in the storage yard. Members will have combo and/or key access to the boats. There is a dolly to transport boats in the storage yard. The procedure of how to transport, launch, and return the boats will be covered during certification. A check-list is also included in the Appendix.

Boats

Little River Marine Heritage Classic 18 double (littlerivermarine.com) – Sturdy boat with wide beam and good heft that is used by MPYC Rowing to teach beginners how to row. A certified Trainer must be with you when this boat is used.

Euro Diffusion's (EuroDiffusions.eu) – French Coastal Rowing boat good for use by clubs. This is Eurodiffusion's original design and is simple and rugged. It is a good boat to perfect open water rowing skills and is relatively easy to maintain. MPYC Rowing has a Yolo 25 double and 2 Yolo 18 singles.

Equipment Care

Most of the equipment is pretty rugged if used and maintained properly. MPYC Rowing takes pride in its well maintained boats and equipment. Maintenance will be part of your training and certification. After that, you are responsible for all equipment that is not used or maintained properly. Check lists are provided in the appendix for equipment maintenance before and after you row.

Private Shells

Once a rower is an accomplished rower, many times they decide to have their own boats and/or oars. When you have your own equipment, you can customize rigor, oarlock, and oar settings for height, pitch, length, and grip. The MPYC Rowing storage is limited for the current time and rowers with their own boats will need to use the storage yard at current rates.

[Events \(Check here for the rowing event calendar\)](#)

**MPYC ROWING RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK
AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (“AGREEMENT”)**

IN CONSIDERATION of being given the opportunity to participate in any way in MPYC ROWING activities, I, for myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of rowing activities, including, without limitation, both on water and land based, and that I am qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in the SCRC rowing activities.
2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that: (a) ROWING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS of serious bodily injury, including permanent disability, paralysis, and death (“Risks and Dangers”); (b) these Risks and Dangers may be caused by my own actions, or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating, the condition in which the rowing activities takes place, or the negligence of the Releasees named below; (c) there may be other risks and social and economic losses either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND DANGERS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES I incur as a result of my participation in Rowing activities.
3. AGREE AND WARRANT that I will examine and inspect each activity of the rowing activities in which I take part and that, if I observe any condition which I consider to be unacceptably hazardous or dangerous, I will notify the proper authority in charge of the rowing activities and will refuse to take part in the rowing activities until the condition has been corrected to my satisfaction.
4. HEREBY RELEASE, discharge, and covenant not to sue the Club, host organization, North American Rowing Association, LLC (NOARA), their administrators, directors, agents, officers, members, volunteers, and employees, other participants, regatta organizers, any sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the rowing activities takes place, (each considered one of the “Releasees” herein) from all liability, claims, demands, losses, or damages on my account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise, including negligent rescue operations; and I further agree that if, despite this release and waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the Releasees, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS each of the Releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim to the fullest extent permitted by law.
5. HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE and by my signature below, or that of my parent or guardian, attest that I have read this agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it and have signed it freely and without any inducement or assurance of any nature and intend it to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law and agree that if any portion of this agreement is held to be invalid the balance, notwithstanding, shall continue in full force and effect.
6. PARENTAL CONSENT AND I, the minor’s parent and/or legal guardian, understand the nature of rowing activities and the minor’s experience and capabilities and believe the minor to be qualified to participate in the rowing activities and to understand and abide by the Safety Rules for Participants. I hereby release, discharge, covenant not to sue, and AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS each of the Releasees from all liability, claims, demands, losses, or damages on the minor’s account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the Releasees or otherwise, including negligent rescue operations, and further agree that if, despite this release, I, the minor, or anyone on the minor’s behalf makes a claim against any of the above Releasees, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS each of the Releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss liability, damage, or cost which any Releasee may incur as the result of any such claim to the fullest extent permitted by law.

A WAIVER MUST BE READ AND AGREED TO BY EACH INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATING IN THE ROWING ACTIVITIES. I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS WAIVER.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Rowing Checklist

Rower's Name: _____ Date: _____

Checkout Checklist

Check-Out Time: _____

Life jackets for each rower	
Marine radio	
Flashlight	
Compass	
Logged out	
Drain plug is screwed in	
Oars look good (handles, oar collars, sleeves, shaft, blade)	
Seat checked and slides easily	
Foot stretches in good condition and adjusted appropriately	
Scupper (if there is one on your boat) secured	
Oar locks screws and rigor screws tight	
Oars are in the oarlocks correctly and oarlock screwed shut	
Drinking water	

Check-in checklist

Check-In Time: _____

Oars washed down	
Oars, life jackets, other club equipment returned to oar locker	
Boats washed down	
Boats tied down securely in the rack	
Boats locked	
Oar locker locked	
Log in, note any issues	