



Quinsigamond Rocket Regatta Sunday August 9, 2026

Preparation:

Virtual **Coaches and Coxswains** Meeting

FRIDAY 8/7/26 at 7:00 PM

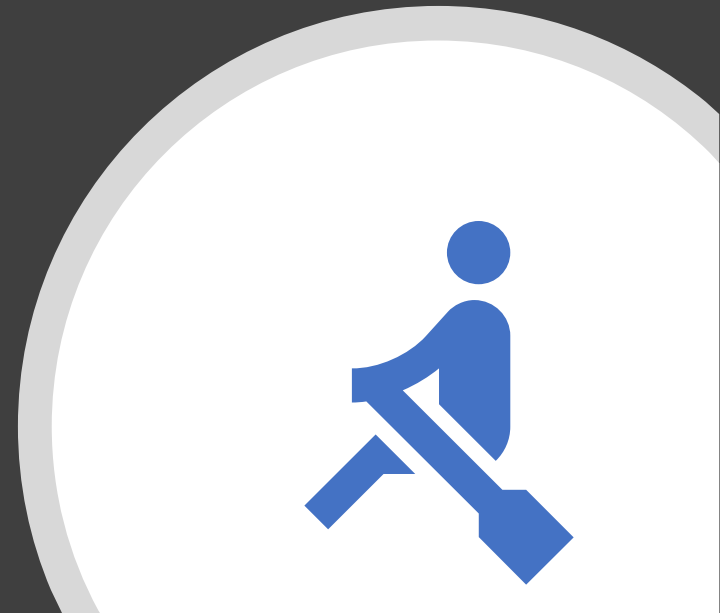
Celebrating the 100th
Anniversary of Dr. Goddard's
First Rocket Launch



Welcome to the Coaches & Coxswains Meeting!

Thank you for joining us, we
are looking forward to a great
day of racing

We are also looking to our
Coaches and **Coxswains** to
help us run a safe and fair
event

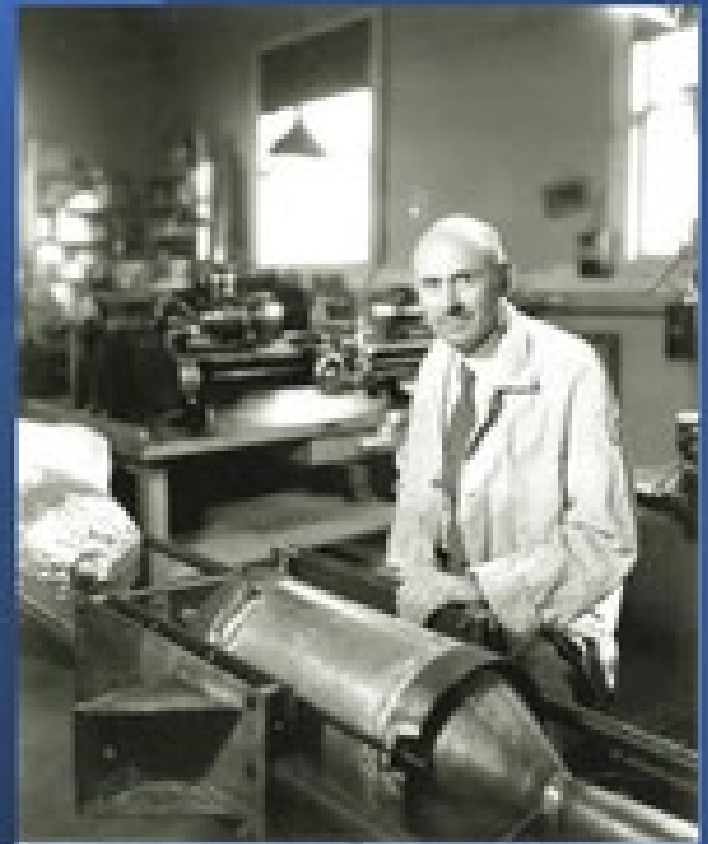


ROBERT HUTCHINGS GODDARD

1882 — 1945

TEACHER, PHYSICIST, INVENTOR AND PIONEERING GENIUS, WHOSE WORK USHERED IN A NEW AGE FOR MANKIND — THE AGE OF SPACE FLIGHT. IN THIS BUILDING, AS A MEMBER OF THE CLARK UNIVERSITY FACULTY, DR. GODDARD BEGAN HIS EXPERIMENTAL WORK IN JET PROPULSION AND CONSTRUCTED THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL LIQUID PROPELLANT ROCKET, FIRED IN AUBURN, MASSACHUSETTS, ON MARCH 16, 1926. FIRST TO PROVE THAT A ROCKET CAN OPERATE IN SPACE, FIRST TO DEVELOP GYROSCOPIC STABILIZATION APPARATUS FOR ROCKETS, AND FIRST TO FIRE A ROCKET FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF SOUND, ROBERT GODDARD, THROUGH HIS QUIET DETERMINATION AND UNFAILING COURAGE, GAVE TO THE WORLD THE FOUNDATION FOR THE CONQUEST OF SPACE.

ERECTED BY THE CLASS OF 1945 — JUNE 14, 1945





**The first liquid-fuel
rocket launch
March 16, 1926**

Like you at the Start line!!!

Let's talk about the weather:

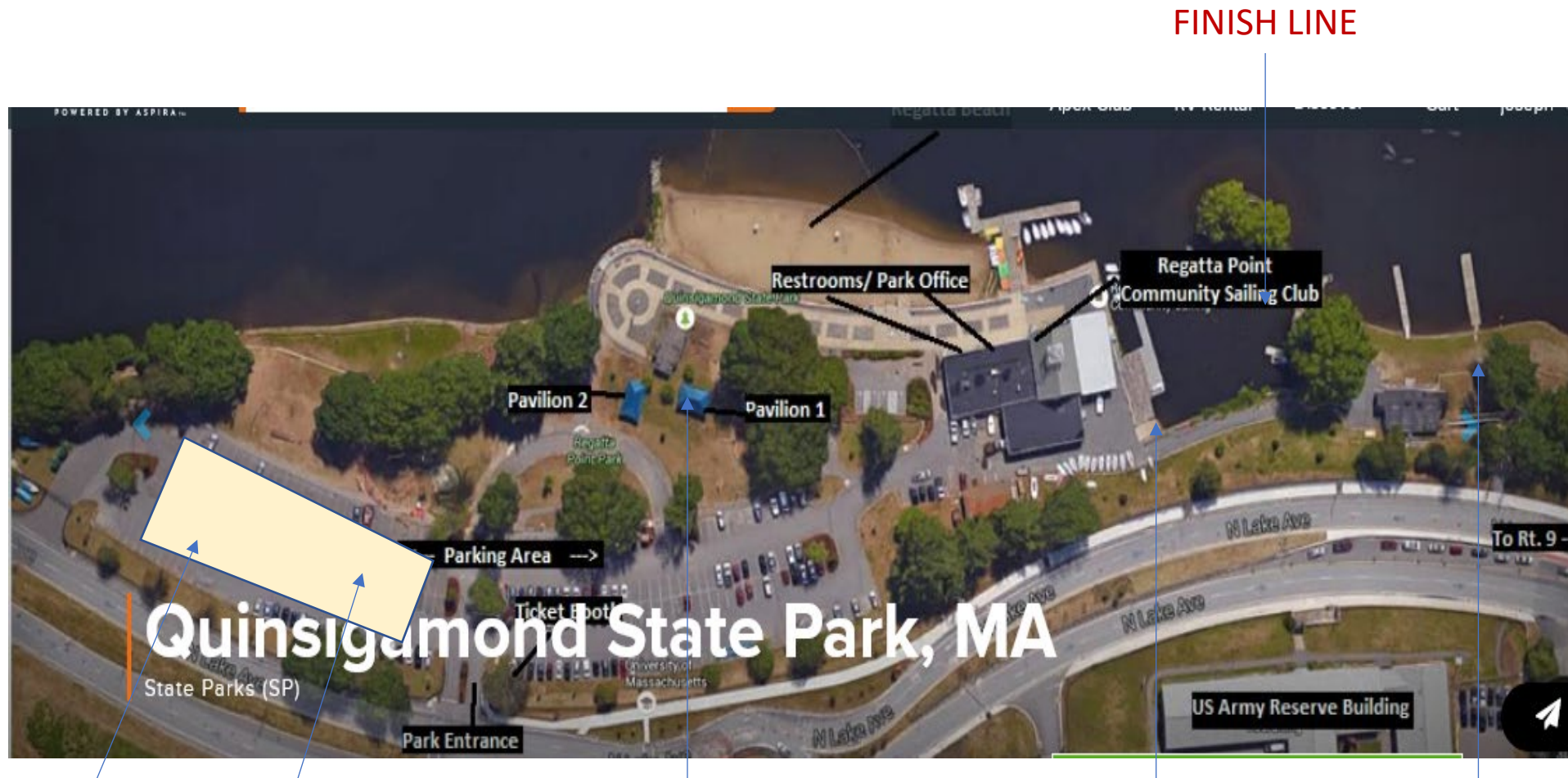


Racing will begin in mostly sunny weather, light breezes.

The biggest weather challenge we will likely face today will be full sunlight.

Please use appropriate sunscreen and protective clothing.

Time	Conditions	Temp.	Feels Like	Precip	Amount	Cloud Cover	Dew Point	Humidity	Wind	Pressure
7 :00 am	 Sunny	73 °F	75 °F	7 %	0 in	15 %	68 °F	85 %	6 mph W	29.90 in
8 :00 am	 Sunny	76 °F	80 °F	7 %	0 in	11 %	69 °F	79 %	6 mph W	29.90 in
9 :00 am	 Sunny	79 °F	83 °F	5 %	0 in	12 %	69 °F	72 %	7 mph W	29.90 in
10 :00 am	 Mostly Su...	81 °F	85 °F	3 %	0 in	20 %	69 °F	66 %	8 mph W	29.90 in
11 :00 am	 Sunny	83 °F	87 °F	4 %	0 in	9 %	69 °F	62 %	9 mph W	29.90 in
12 :00 pm	 Mostly Su...	84 °F	88 °F	6 %	0 in	21 %	68 °F	58 %	10 mph W	29.89 in
1 :00 pm	 Mostly Su...	85 °F	89 °F	12 %	0 in	24 %	67 °F	54 %	11 mph W	29.88 in



REGATTA PARKING

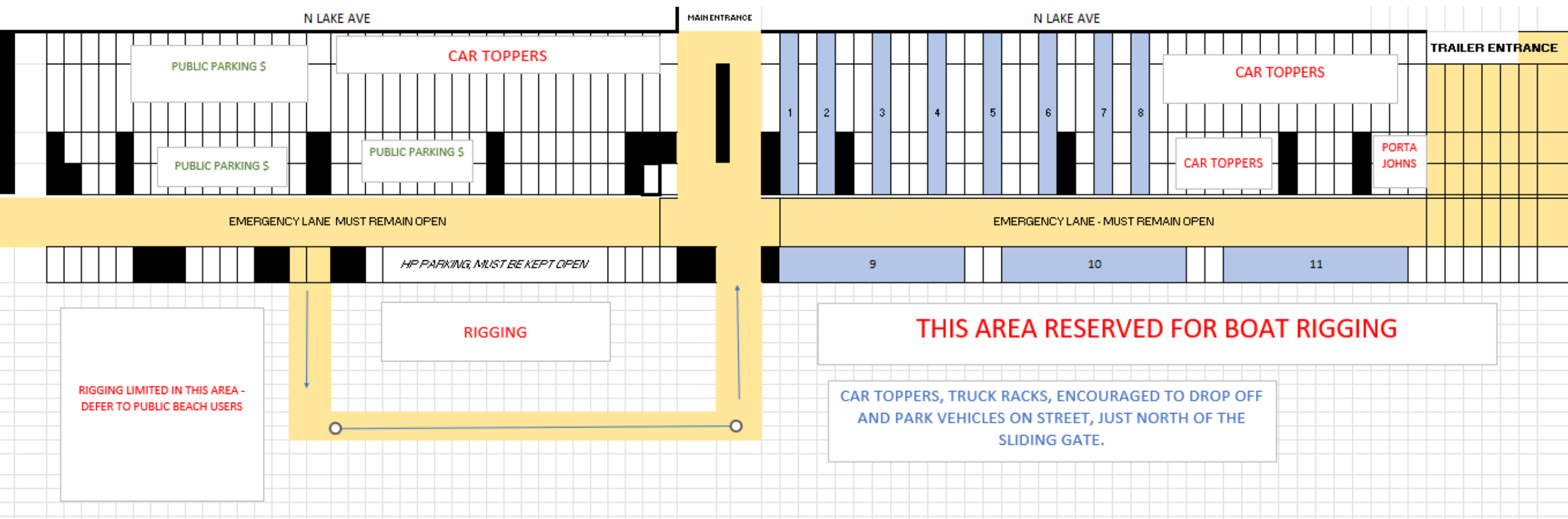
REGISTRATION
PAVILION 1

LAUNCH
DOCK

RECOVERY
DOCK

State DCR may be collecting parking fees if using south end of lot.

Trailer Parking in Blue – Please advise Joe May 508-579-1829 if reserving a trailer space.





SAFETY

- Our first priority is your Safety, both on and off the water;
- This regatta will be monitored by experienced rescue divers who are also trained EMT's;
- Emergency medical kits will be available with the EMT's;
- For on-water issues, immediately signal nearest official, who will radio for assistance;
- In the event of sudden weather event, official will indicate by siren for evacuation off water back to the docks at Regatta Point;
- Regatta location is less than 5 minutes from the UMass Hospital Emergency Care facility.

REGATTA PARKING

GPS: 10 N. LAKE AVE., WORCESTER, MA

- Regatta Point State Park is open to the general public as a recreational area, and our permit for racing is for Sunday AM until 12 Noon.
- All trailers, cartoppers & participants must park in North half of parking lot. Trailers may be dropped off on Saturday with prior arrangement with Race Director.
- Cartoppers may also drop off on Saturday, but there is limited area for boat storage overnight. The park gates will be locked Saturday evening at 7:30 PM.
- All participants are requested to carpool wherever possible as this event is filled to the maximum number allowed, and parking spaces will be at a premium.
- We will assist all boat trailers and cartoppers in securing space in the lot on Sunday morning. Please arrive no later than 06:45.
- Volunteers will guide/assist you through the lot, to and from the launch dock area.
- Spectators may pay to park in the South half of lot (open to the general public) for typical daily fee. There is overflow parking on N Lake Ave, just past the park. Or in the UMass public garages, up the hill from the park.



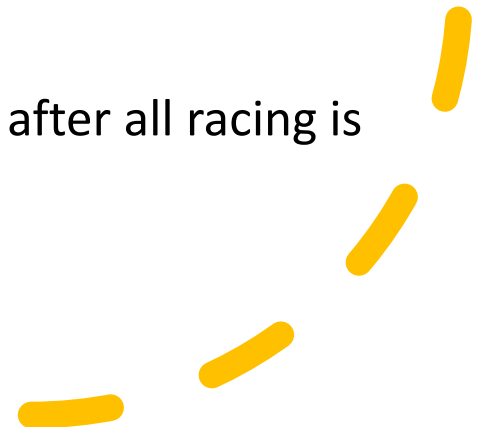
Launching & Take Out

- Do **NOT** get in line to launch *more than 30 minutes before your scheduled start*. It will take 10-15 minutes to get to Marshalling area
- No boat can launch without assigned Bow number.
- **Bow numbers will be distributed at Launch Dock**
- Recovery dock will be immediately south of the Finish Line. Volunteers will assist.
- **Hot Seating** may occur and will be at the South Recovery (wooden) dock. If you are hot-seating, please make this known ahead of time to officials and dock personnel and have sufficient help from your team to make this transition a smooth one!
- No races will be delayed if a hot-seated boat is tardy.



Some
important
things to
bear in
mind!

- **Please make use of volunteers to assist with travel to and from docks. Please make use of teammates and volunteers to assist with oars and shoes**
- **Launching vibe:** Try to keep traffic moving – be conscious of getting on the water efficiently.
- **Coaches** please try to give last minute instructions *prior* to hands-on.
- We will have extra slings at Recovery dock, as we need your help in getting boats off the water.
- **Awards** will be presented at the Pavilion Tent after all racing is completed.





More
important
things to
bear in
mind!

- **Launching** will be at the docks at the South side of the Regatta Point boathouse. Volunteers will assist you from the parking lot to and from the docks.
- ***Bow numbers will be issued in the launch area, and will be collected as you return.***
- The park is simultaneously in use by the **general public** as a swimming and recreation area. Please be mindful of all vehicles and pedestrians as you pass through.





Launch Timing

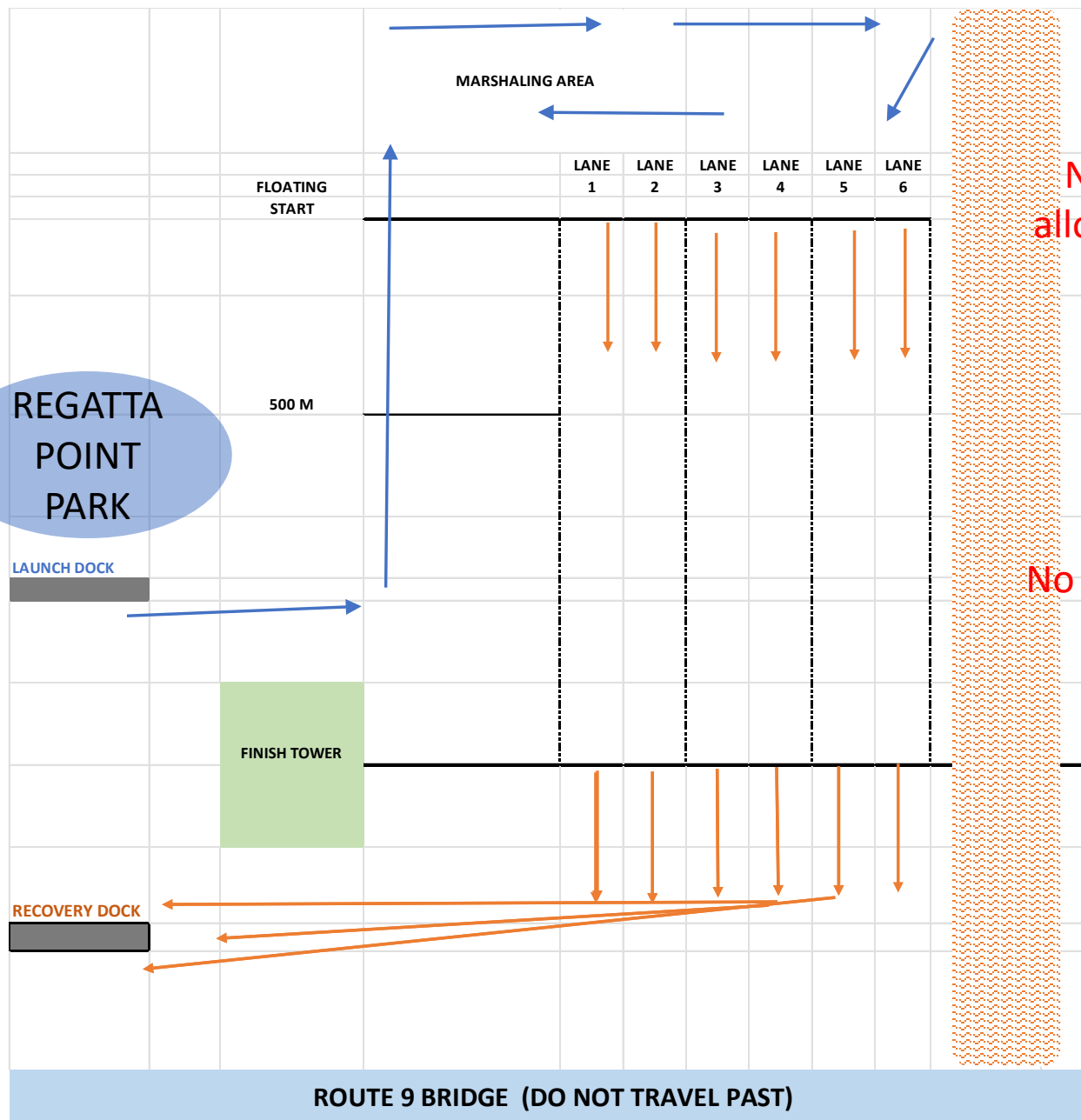
- It takes **10- 15 minutes** to row up to the Marshalling area. Please plan accordingly
- **Launch & row North, on the Worcester side, past the swim beach. Do not get close to swim buoys.**
- Race starts are on 7 or 8 minute centers. No races will be delayed if anyone is late to the Start area.
- **QUICK** start will be utilized. No announcing of crews, just simple alignment, and “Attention, Go!”
- Lanes are double-wide, with two boats between each line of buoys. You will have a buoy line on either your Port side or Starboard side. Do **NOT** cross buoy line.
- **Official timing results will be provided by Here Now.** Manual times from on-water officials will be used as backup.

**BE IN MARSHALING
AREA 10 MINUTES
BEFORE YOUR
START TIME**

REGATTA
POINT
PARK

LAUNCH DOCK

**1,000 M
SPRINT
COURSE**



**CORRAZINI RAMP
CLOSED UNTIL 12
NOON**

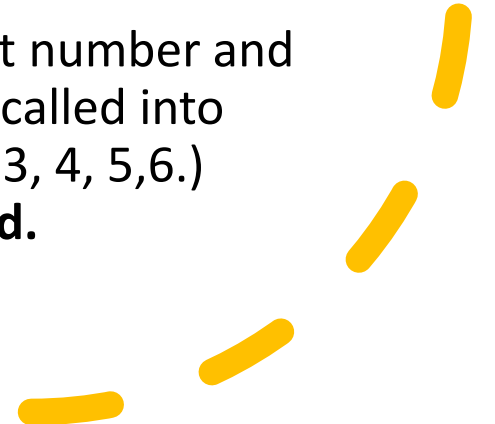
**No Wake Zone; Travel
allowed N & S in this East
lane**

**No Wake Zone; Travel allowed
N & S
In this East lane**



The Warm-up area

- The warm-up area is no more than 500 meters North of the start line. Stay south of the Donahue Rowing Center. Don't go so far that you miss hearing the call for your race! Stay within earshot. Your Bow numbers will be **color-coded**, so try to stay close with your group.
- There will be marker buoys and marshals in the warm-up area. Traffic pattern is **Clockwise** in the warm-up area.
- **DO NOT GO PAST THE DONAHUE ROWING CENTER**, you risk missing your race start!
- You should be in the **marshaling area** at least **10 minutes** before your event time. This is **YOUR** responsibility. Not the Referee's, not the Marshal's.
- Try to stay close to other crews with your event number and color-code when the time comes – You will be called into your starting lanes in Bow number order (1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6.) **Approach the Start line as a group when called.**





Zero Tolerance

We are all here to
have a safe and fun event!



- While you may be an Adult – Remember, there are kids all around too.
- We expect **YOU** to **act as role models**.
- NO **BEER OR ALCOHOL** on site. This is a MA DCR rule in this Park - If we find it in your team area it is cause for *exclusion*.
- “**F-bombs**” and other foul language are not acceptable, and also cause for *exclusion*.
- Think twice before crossing the finishing line and yelling something out you will regret.



Penalties Review

(2-602)
Rules of Rowing
pg. 33

- **Reprimand:** (Informal caution)
- **Warning:** (e. g. Late to start)
(2 warnings in the same race = **Exclusion.**)
- **Exclusion: Voiding into lake will result in immediate exclusion.** (Individual is removed from that event only, that crew can still compete in subsequent events.)
- **Disqualification:** Flagrant disregard for safety/fairness, or Unsportsmanlike behavior (F Bombs/Beer) = Removed from all subsequent events as well.)



Raising an Objection



Filing an Appeal

- If you have an **issue with your race** – you must wait until after the last boat crosses the finish – your protest **MUST** be presented to the Referee at the end of the race, **BEFORE** leaving the Finish area. It will be noted by the Referee to the CHIEF JUDGE and a Red flag shown, indicating the race is NOT final.
- The appeal/protest must be entered in writing (with \$50 cash) **the Race Director after getting off water**. If they cannot resolve your issue on the spot, or you disagree with their ruling, you may ask for an appeal and a Jury will be assembled to discuss it further, after all racing has been completed and **BEFORE** the award for that race is handed.
- **TIP:** Explain not only what is **wrong**, but **what you would like** the Referee to do about it.





Medical Safety

- Please **sit upright at the finish.**
- If you sit slumped in the boat, the Finish Marshall will assume the Athlete is having a medical emergency.
- We will have EMT's at docks ready to deploy, and any Referee can help you get medical attention.
- Stay **Hydrated** and stay **cool!**
- If you have **special medication**, like an inhaler, **MAKE SURE** you take it with you in the boat!



HEAT SHEET UPDATE

The full and correct list of events will be available on Saturday online on Regatta Central (or Here Now).

- 7 - 8 minute Centers
- 1,000M Relay Course



BOW NUMBERS
WILL BE ASSIGNED AT LAUNCH DOCK AND COLLECTED AT RECOVERY AREA

YOU MUST BE AWARE OF YOUR EVENT NUMBER AND YOUR
LISTED START TIME. TO SO INFORM THE ON WATER MARSHAL SO
THAT YOU CAN BE PROPERLY GROUP! WHEN IN MARSHALING
AREA, STAY CLOSE WITH YOUR SPECIFIC GROUP.

Dr. Robert Goddard Rocket Relay

4 legs – 500 m each; 1x, 2x, plus any two boats of your club's choice;

Match racing – Quarterfinals: Four races;

winners advance to Two Semifinals;

Winners advance to Final.

Unlike most rowing regattas, this Relay will be visible from Start to Finish with all of the excitement in-between. Your enthusiastic support is welcomed and encouraged!

Robert H. Goddard

The Father of Modern Rocketry

October 5, 1882 – August 10, 1945

Rocket Relay



Dr. Goddard's life and life work are inseparable from the City of Worcester. We are hugely proud of the legacy he has left us.

An alum of Worcester Polytechnic Institute and professor at Clark University, his research and experimentation laid the foundation for rocketry and space flight, ushering in the Space Age. This is the 100th anniversary year of his first liquid-fueled rocket flight!

He is renowned for the very traits every rower esteems: *Persistence...Patience...Resilience* in the face of any failure.

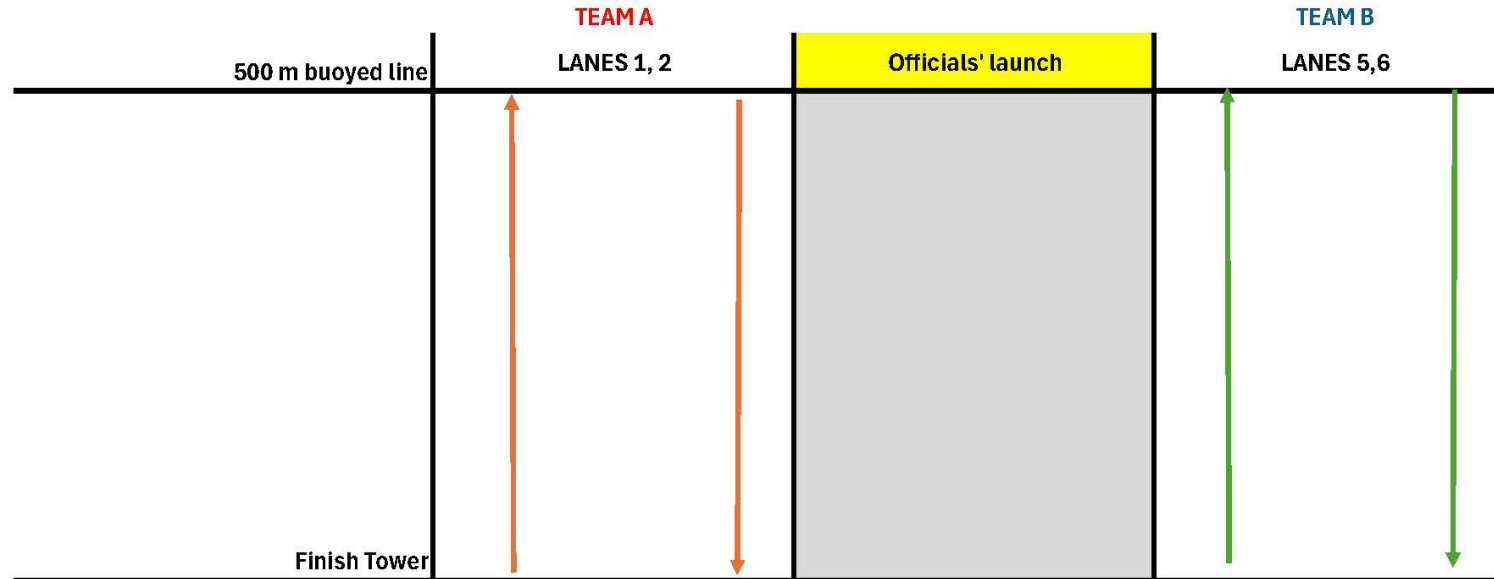
This relay race is named in Dr. Goddard's honor, and we hope to provide a very dynamic performance worthy of his name.



ROCKET RELAY GUIDANCE

- Each team to designate a contact person responsible for lineups and boats.
- Initial matchups are as follow:
 1. *CRI vs Northampton*
 2. *QRC vs WBC*
 3. *Narragansett vs Upper Valley*
 4. *Great Bay vs Westford*
- Contact person will verify its crew's presence with dock control at launch docks
- Be prepared to launch as soon as final 1,000 m sprint races are completed.
- There are strict time constraints to get these races completed.

Relay Course Overview 4 x 500m



Team A in Lanes 1,2

Team B in Lanes 5,6

1x required

1x heads North to 500m mark

2x required

2x heads South after first boat passes

Third boat - open classification

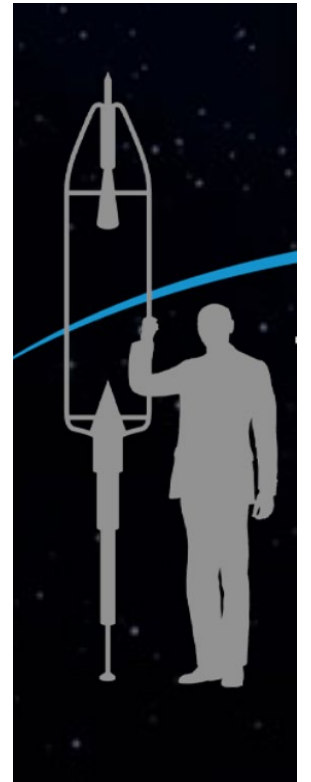
Third boat heads North after second boat passes

Fourth boat - open classification

Fourth boat heads South after third boat passes

Two fastest times advance to Final

Bow Seats note: Keep buoyed line close to your PORT side



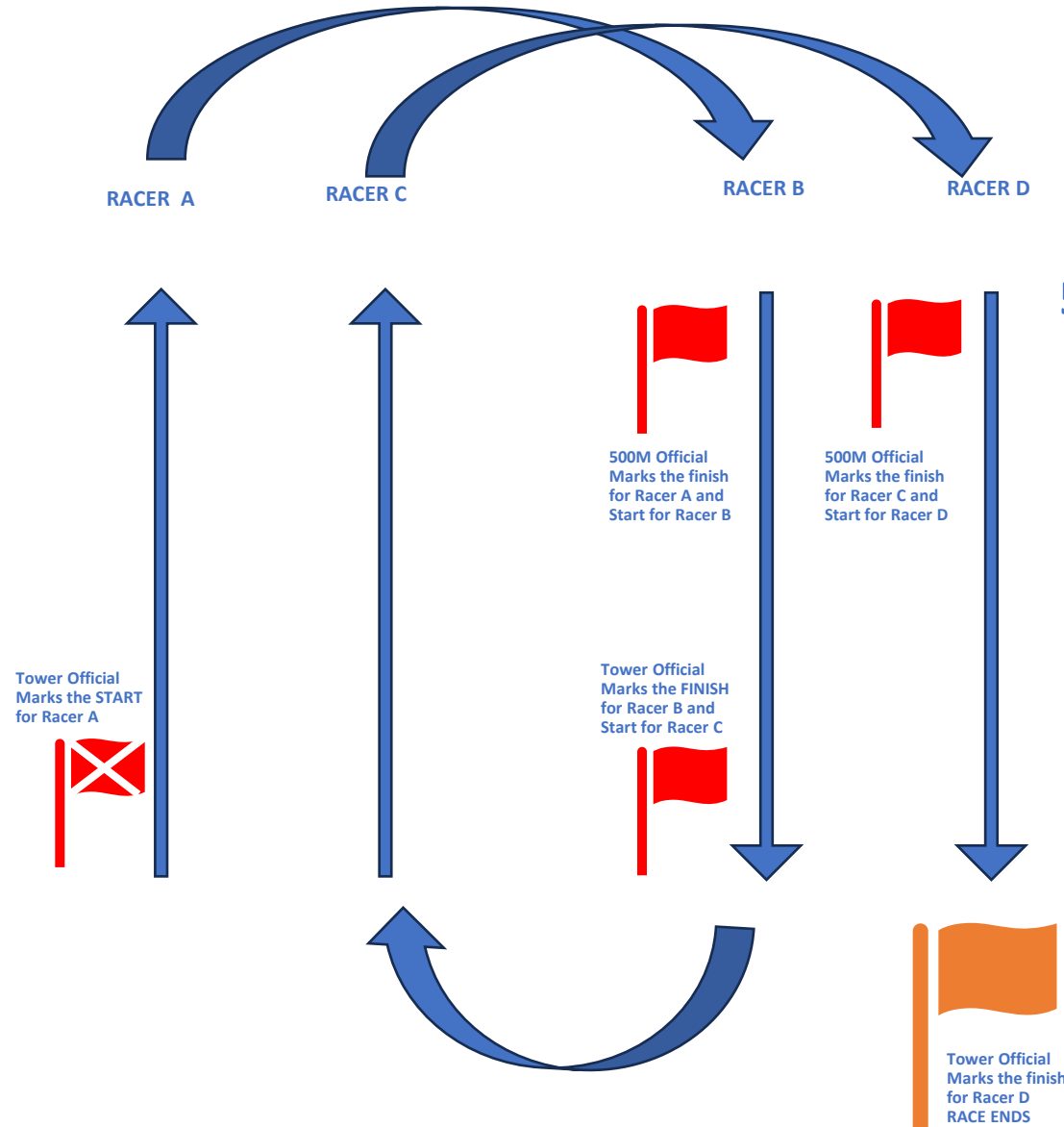
**FLAGGING and
Close-up Course
Overview**

**Winning team
qualifies for
next round, and
stays in place on
water.**

Tower (Start/Finish)

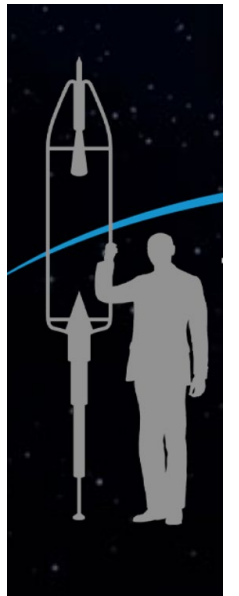
LANE ONE

LANE TWO



**RACING IN LANES
FIVE, SIX
ARE SIMILAR TO
LANES ONE, TWO**

500 M OFFICIAL LAUNCH



Rocket Relay Rules:

Each race is between two teams. Lanes 1,2 & Lanes 5,6

Each team must consist of at least 1 -1x, and 1 – 2x, then two other boats of any size.

Teams must make every reasonable effort to maintain its bow at marked lines, and not creep ahead. Officials will monitor from stationary launch at 500 M mark of the course. ***Ten-second penalty for early start*** – as judged by line official. There is no appeal on penalty.

Keep buoyed line close on Port side.

First leg (A) heads North from Tower to 500 M mark.

Second leg (B) will head South to Tower after receiving *flag or called start* from attending official. Third (C) and fourth (D) legs repeat as above.

Only the two fastest teams qualify for Final. Times will be as recorded by Race Officials and will include any imposed penalties. Each race will start at Tower and (A) head North to 500 m line, (B)south to line, then repeat with boats (C) & (D).

Quinsigamond Rocket Regatta 2026

Thank you for attending the Coaches
and Coxswains Meeting Review.



Rocket Regatta Safety Plan

On the water safety

- The regatta is governed by USRowing Rules of Racing and safety guidelines are followed. The USRowing Chief Referee is the chief safety officer for the event and on the water. Any questions on the ability to hold safe and fair race are decided by the Chief Referee in consultation with the Race Directors.

Dangerous incoming weather – clearing the course

- In the event of incoming severe weather the Race Directors will consult with the Chief Referee if it may become necessary to clear the course. If it is necessary, instructions will be radioed to all officials to clear the course. All shells and official boats to the north of the 1k meter mark will land at Donahue Rowing Center, secure their equipment with the help of local rowing programs and take shelter inside the bays at the DRC. All shells and official launches south of the 1k meter mark will land at Regatta Point, secure their shells, and take shelter under the awning of the building.

General Safety

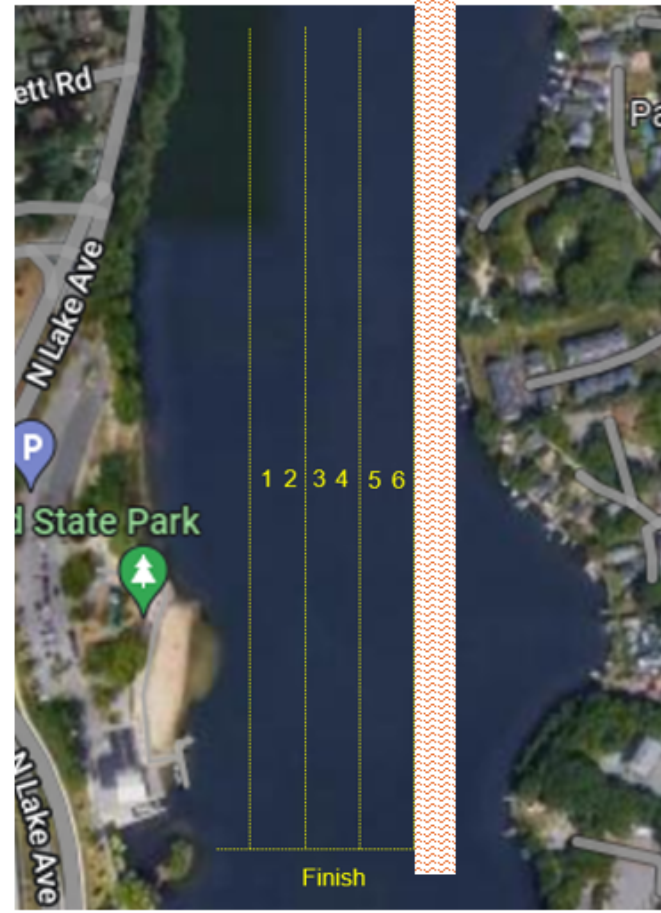
- Worcester Fire Department Paramedics will be called for medical assistance during all racing. Direct contact with Worcester EMS dispatch is maintained at all times.
- The small lot immediately adjacent to the Main Building at Regatta Point will serve as the designated ambulance pick-up spot, as it is so designated for all regattas**
- WFD personnel will be stationed at Finish area dock, with launch ready as needed and immediately available adjacent to the race course**
- All races will be accompanied by officials launch plus one launch at the marshaling area at the Start line**
- In the event of incoming severe weather, teams and spectators will be warned and asked to leave the park to seek shelter. A race official will ask the crowd to leave the park and seek shelter in vehicles outside of the park.
- Other public safety emergencies will be announced in the same manner. The public will be directed to seek shelter in the UMass Medical Center parking garage (A) or at the entrance to the Benedict Building (B) and follow public safety instructions from there.
- During any severe weather or public safety emergencies, Environmental Police will coordinate with DCR staff, Worcester Police, Worcester Fire, and Shrewsbury Police and Fire. Race officials should assist in any manner possible.
- See attached UMass Medical Center Map for shelter locations.

UMass Medical Center Map



UMASS CHAN - FACILITIES ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION - DRAWN BY R. B. HACKER

Event Map



CORRAZINI RAMP
CLOSED UNTIL 12
NOON

NO WAKE
ZONE;
TRAVEL IS
ALLOWED EAST
OF LANE 6

Sequence of Events

1. participants arrive not before 6 am; volunteer assigns parking in NORTHERN END OF LOT
2. participants set up on the lawn areas
3. check-in for race package
4. cox/scullers meeting at 7:15 am, Joe & Heri
5. first boats launch at 7:30
6. travel to start line is on Shrewsbury side
7. race uses up to 6 lanes