



News Release

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Haddonfield Crew Club competes in the 2009 Thomas Eakins Head of the Schuylkill Regatta®.

The 2009 rowing scene in Philadelphia saw excitement this weekend with the "*Head of the Schuylkill*" regatta which the Haddonfield Crew Club participated in on Saturday October 24th, 2009. The Regatta is actually a two day event, run on the last weekend in October (the 24th and 25th), with a challenging 2.5 mile down river race, finishing just above the end of Boathouse Row.

The format for this regatta was a "head" race, which is a distance event. Instead of the typical line-up of boats between buoys, this race is a time trial that goes about 2.5 miles, following the twists and turns of the river.

The Schuylkill River provides an exciting venue for racing, although the weather doesn't always cooperate, and this year was no exception. The weather was rainy, cold and windy, which makes for tough conditions on the water. The conditions were no less appealing for the parents in rain gear cheering on the banks of the river.

The Head of the Schuylkill Regatta <http://www.hosr.org/>, celebrating its 34th anniversary, was originally the largest one-day rowing event in the world. A two day format was introduced in 2008 with expanded events and better accommodations for bad weather. This year's Saturday events were primarily devoted to college and high school races in which Haddonfield participated. The open and masters events were held on Sunday and they enjoyed the spectacular weather Sunday brought.

The regatta, with over 5,000 competitors from juniors to Olympic level athletes, is a premium rowing experience with world-class competition that provides a strong challenge for our team, which this fall, is made up of many young members. It was a good team and character building event for the many young rowers whom we hope will go onto compete in the spring season.

The Haddonfield Crew Club will close its 2009 fall rowing season with participation two events on the November 14, 15 weekend. The first event is the Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta being held this year at the Cooper River Park (<http://www.boathouserow.org/reg09/frost09.html>) on November 14. On Sunday November 15, rowers will participate in the final regatta of the season, The Bill Braxton Memorial Regatta (<http://www.braxtonregatta.org/>).

Racing for the Frostbite Regatta starts at 9:00 a.m. on a 2000 meter course. Racing for the Braxton Memorial Regatta gets starts earlier, at 7:30 a.m. on a 1500 meter course. Check both Regatta websites for additional details.

For those unable to get down to the river and cheer in person check the Schuylkill Navy web site (<http://www.boathouserow.org>) for more information and results which are posted in near real-time continuously throughout the regattas. For the rest of you, bring your cow bells and cheer our rowers on to victory.

For more information about the Haddonfield Crew Club, visit our website at www.haddonfieldcrew.org or email crewboard@haddonfieldcrew.org.