

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) - Rowing NSW Junior Pathway Program 2024

1. Introduction

Q: What is the Junior Pathway program?

A: The Junior Pathway program is an opportunity for young rowers to gain valuable experience racing at a state level against some of the best young rowers in Australia. It provides a chance to represent NSW at the annual Junior Pathway Regatta held during the Australian underage selection trials.

Q: When and where will the Junior Pathway Regatta take place?

A: The Junior Pathway Regatta is scheduled to be held from 14-16 April 2024 at the Sydney International Regatta Centre (SIRC).

Q: What are the benefits of being part of the Junior Pathway program?

A: Being part of the program offers young rowers the experience of future rowing opportunities post-school, including Club rowing, State, and Australian representation.

2. Eligibility

Q: Who is eligible for selection in the Junior Pathway Program?

A: To be considered for selection, athletes must be current junior members of Rowing NSW, attending a NSW secondary school or registered homeschooling program, and be 18 or younger as of 31 December 2024, born in 2006 or later. Athletes should not have nominated for selection in the Australia U19 team.

3. Crews to be Selected

Q: What crews will be selected for the NSW Junior Pathway Team?

A: The following crews will be selected:

1 x NSW combined schools Eight - men

1 x NSW AAGPS schools Eight – men

2 x NSW combined schools Eight – women

These crews will form combinations of coxed quads and fours and may be eligible for small boat crews at the junior selection trials.

4. Nominations

Q: How can schools and clubs nominate participants?

A: Schools must nominate participants, ranking up to 4 rowers per gender. Clubs may submit a nomination on behalf of eligible athletes. Nominations are to be submitted by 5:00 PM AEDT on Monday 4 March 2023, through the RNSW online nomination form.

Q: What information is required for nominations?

A: Nominations must include a raw 2km ergometer time of the athlete, conducted between 1 January and 3 March 2024, following National Ergometer Testing Protocols.

5. Role of Junior State Selection Panel (JSSP)

Q: What is the role of the JSSP?

A: The JSSP is responsible for assessing and nominating the Junior Pathway Interstate Regatta teams to represent NSW. They will conduct trials, handle logistical aspects, communicate with participants, and collect and assess all trial data.

6. Selection Activities and Final Team Selections

Q: How will final team selections be made?

A: Selection trials will be held on Saturday 9 March 2024, with the format determined by the JSSP. Final crews will be determined based on the outcomes of the Selection Activities and section 8 of the Selection Policy.

7. Exemptions

Q: How can athletes seek exemptions from Selection Activities?

A: Athletes seeking exemption must do so in writing to the Chair of the JSSP at state.team@rowingnsw.asn.au at least 48 hours prior to the affected Selection Activity, stating the reasons why exemption is sought.

8. Team Training

Q: When will the team training take place?

A: Once the team is selected, training will take place on 6 and 13 April 2024, with additional sessions at the discretion of the crew coach.

9. Cost

Q: Is there a cost associated with participating in the NSW Junior Pathway State Team?

A: Yes, the team is self-funded by participants, and a seat fee will apply. The uniform is to be purchased through the online store from the official uniform supplier.

Q: Why is there a cost associated with participating in the NSW Junior Pathway State Team?

A: Rowing NSW aims to deliver a cost effective program. Self-funding allows Rowing NSW to allocate resources efficiently and sustain the Junior Pathway Program over the long term. It empowers participants to take ownership of their rowing journey and contributes to the overall sustainability of junior rowing programs.

Q: How can athletes assist in funding their rowing journey?

A: Rowing NSW understands that funding can be a consideration for athletes and their families. To help offset costs, athletes are encouraged to explore various avenues for financial support:

Individual Sponsorship:

Athletes can seek individual sponsorship from local businesses, community members, or family friends. Establishing partnerships with local businesses can be a mutually beneficial way to secure financial support.

Local Sporting Champions Grant:

Athletes may consider applying for the Local Sporting Champions Grant, a program that provides financial assistance for young athletes competing in eligible sporting competitions. More information and the application process can be found on the Australian Government's website.

Link: [Local Sporting Champions Grant - Australian Government](#)

Australian Sports Foundation - Fundraise for Your Seat Fees:

Athletes can leverage the Australian Sports Foundation to fundraise for their seat fees. By creating a campaign on the Australian Sports Foundation website, individuals can share links with potential supporters who can make tax-deductible contributions to their rowing journey.

Link: Fundraise - Australian Sports Foundation

Play for Purpose - The Sports and Charity Raffle:

Another avenue for athletes to raise funds is through Play for Purpose, the Sports and Charity Raffle. This initiative by the Australian Sports Commission allows participants to purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win great prizes, with a portion of the ticket sales supporting the athlete's fundraising efforts.

Link: Play for Purpose - The Sports and Charity Raffle

These options provide athletes with opportunities to proactively contribute to their rowing journey and make it more accessible for everyone. Rowing NSW encourages athletes to explore these avenues and take advantage of the available resources to help make their rowing experience fulfilling and financially sustainable.

10. Code of Conduct

Q: Is there a Code of Conduct for selected participants?

A: Yes, all selected participants are required to sign and adhere to the Rowing NSW 2024 State Team Participant Agreement.

11. Key Dates

Q: What are the key dates for the Junior Pathway Program?

A: Key dates include the opening of nominations on 5 Feb 2024, the 2000m Ergometer Test window from 1 Jan to 3 Mar 2024, and the Trial day on 9 Mar 2024. The team will be announced on 15 Mar 2024, with training sessions, regattas, and other important dates following.