

## **Junior Rowing Financial Aid Program**

### **Mission**

Rowing changes lives. At Newport Sea Base Rowing (NSBR) we are dedicated to fostering a community that is both welcoming and supportive. Under the banner of Rowing for All, we make rowing accessible without regard to individual ability, race, color, background or experience. We seek to raise the standard of rowing programs through internal excellence and to share our knowledge and expertise with others for the advancement of the sport at all levels.

### **Financial Assistance Program Overview**

Rowing is an expensive sport, but we do not let financial considerations keep athletes from participating. A limited number of financial assistance opportunities are available to needy members of the team who maintain a perfect attendance record and exhibit outstanding sportsmanship. The awards are designed to assist a parent in paying the basic cost of participation in NSBR. Athletes will continue to incur additional costs for travel and uniforms.

### **Financial Assistance Awards**

- Full Scholarship (awarded sparingly)
- Half Scholarship
- Quarter Scholarship
- Extended Payment Plan

### **Service Expectation**

We expect the families of awards recipients to commit to some service and support of the programs at the Sea Base. Examples of the kinds of service and support we need each year include:

- Boathouse Organization
- Help with Races (chaperones, hospitality, car-pools, etc)
- Equipment Maintenance
- Ergathon and Other Fundraising Assistance
- Joining the Rowing Advisory Committee
- Other Support to the Sea Base and Scouting

## **Financial Assistance Application Windows**

We will accept and evaluate Financial Assistance Applications during two windows each rowing year. An award made during the fall window will generally be made for an entire season, subject to certain parameters being met (attendance, behavior, performance improvement, etc.). We retain the right to amend the amount of financial aid at any time.

Window One: September 1 – 30

Window Two: January 1 – 15

## **Making the Application**

- Families requesting financial assistance must submit their application during one of the windows. A family not selected for assistance during a window may apply again at the next window.
- The application itself provides space for both the parent and the athlete to share their story. Parents not wishing to share the details of their financial circumstances with their athlete should have their child complete their narrative portion of the application first and then complete the rest of the application after.
- A family requesting financial assistance for more than one athlete should submit a separate application for each athlete.
- Our application process is built on trust. We ask for no supporting documents verifying income or employment.

## **Selection Criteria**

Financial Assistance shall be made available on the basis of the following criteria:

- Evident financial need;
- The athlete's attendance, participation, behavior and athletic performance;
- The family's commitment to support and assist NSB Rowing, given their circumstances.

## **Selection Committee and Procedures**

1) A Selection Committee shall be convened (in-person, or electronically) each fall and winter for the purpose of reviewing Financial Assistance Applications. The committee shall include:

- The Director of Rowing
- A member of the Rowing Advisory Committee, who is not a parent of a current junior rower
- The Director of Outdoor Adventures of the OCBSA or designee

2) The Committee shall review all applications within an application window. All information in the applications will be treated with the strictest confidence.

3) The Committee shall decide on the basis of consensus the financial assistance offers to be made. All decisions of the Committee will be communicated to the appropriate staff at the Sea Base for implementation.

4) Notification of financial assistance decisions will be made by the Director of Rowing or his/her designee via email to the address indicated on the application form.

## **Post-Award Procedures**

- 1) If an applicant family's financial circumstances improve such that they no longer need the level of financial assistance granted by NSB Rowing, they are to notify the Director of Rowing immediately so that their financial assistance funds going forward may be redistributed to other applicants
- 2) Financial assistance awards are contingent on the athlete maintaining excellent attendance and participation, doing their best to be a good teammate, and making continued performance gains. Should the athlete waver from those expected standards, their coach will inform the athlete, their parents, and the Director of Rowing of the deficiency, outline what is expected, and monitor the athlete's adherence to the expected standards.
- 3) If the athlete does not end up conforming to standards after an opportunity to improve, the Director of Rowing shall recommend to the Selection Committee that they reconsider the Financial Assistance Award to the athlete and their family. In such a case, the Selection Committee shall review the Director of Rowing's recommendation, contact the athlete's family for further information, and will – at its own discretion via a process of consensus – recommend that the Financial Assistance either continue, be reduced, or be terminated.

## **Appeals and Final Authority**

Newport Sea Base Rowing operates as a program under the oversight of the Newport Sea Base, which itself is an entity operated by the Orange County Council of the Boy Scouts of America (OCBSA). An athlete or family who is not satisfied with a decision made within the Financial Assistance Program is encouraged first to communicate with the Director of Rowing. Following communication with the Director, if an athlete or family is still not satisfied with a decision, they may appeal directly to the Rowing Advisory Committee.

## **Application Form**

The Application For Financial Assistance form should be printed from Documents section of the iCrew store which can be accessed here:  
<https://icrew.club/orgstore?crewOrg=d50e20b0-3153-a7ed-dc18-e055e367438e&filter=>