

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2009 Norwalk River Rowing Association is sending three boats to the US Junior Rowing Championships after a brilliant weekend of racing in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic regional championships on Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, MA.

NRRA's boys pair set the championship tone early, winning their final on Saturday evening in windy, choppy conditions. The girls second varsity four then won a bronze medal in their event. The boys varsity eight survived a scare in their qualifying heat, rowing from fifth place with five hundred meters remaining to a photo finish for third. The referees needed thirty minutes to determine that Norwalk had finished ahead of fourth place Central Crew Club by less than six-hundredths of a second.

The racing continued on Sunday with Norwalk's boys second novice capped a great season by winning a silver medal. In the lightweight eight race, Norwalk found itself in a dog fight for third. A strong sprint kept them ahead of Saugatuck's boat by 1.5 seconds and earned them an entry in the Junior Nationals.

In the last event of the day, Norwalk's boys varsity eight had a strong start and was in the lead pack at the half way mark. In the last thousand meters, three boats raced for second and third. Norwalk's sprint served them well again, and their bronze medal finish earned them a trip to the Juniors.

The Junior Nationals will be held in Cincinnati June 12-14. Norwalk's crews will be back on the water this week preparing for their next challenge.

NRRA is a non-profit organization which offers learn-to-row, recreational, competitive, and community outreach rowing programs to youth and adults. Summer programs for new and experienced rowers begin in June. New athletes are welcome and no experience is necessary. For more information, visit www.norwalkriverrowing.org or call 203-866-0080.

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