

# Buzzards Bay Rowing Club Rules



1. Before operating a club boat as boatsteerer, a member must receive instruction in rowing, steering and safe boat handling and must be deemed competent to handle the boat.
2. Before operating a club boat the boatsteerer must reserve the boat. Reservations will be granted subject to availability.
3. Before operating a boat, the boatsteerer must completely fill out the boat logbook. If there is a new rower, the boatsteerer must have the new rower sign an insurance waiver form, even if it is for a one-time row. This includes bow riders.
4. It is the responsibility of the boatsteerer and crewmembers to determine if the boat is in proper working order and, if necessary, to bail the boat. Anything not in proper working order or needing repairs should be reported to 508- 961-5955 immediately.
5. It is the responsibility of the boatsteerer and crew returning the boat, to properly tie-up and secure the boat, and properly store all equipment. Crews shall remove any personal belongings and trash from the boat after each row.
6. It is the responsibility of the Team Captain, if the team has a captain or the boatsteerer if it does not, to confirm the number of free rows for any new member. Only new members get 3 free rows the first year not each year.
7. Members may participate in scheduled Open Rows without previously making reservations. However, those members who have reserved a seat will be granted space before those who have not made reservations.
8. When the number of seats is less than the number of participants for an Open Row, a club member will have priority over a guest. That extra person may stay and be a bow rider.
9. No member may make, or cause to be made, any alterations, attachment or changes of any kind to the interior or exterior of the club boat without approval from the Boats Committee.
10. No club boat shall be used for hire, unless approved by the Board of Directors in the capacity of a club function.
11. Club Activities (examples not limited to – Halloween Hunt, New Year’s Day Row, Turkey Row) have priority over regularly scheduled or team rows.
12. Members must comply with all insurance rules and provide the BBRC with a signed insurance waiver form. Members must obey U.S. Coast Guard Federal Requirements. The current requirement states that there must be one life jacket per person onboard, one additional throwable device a bailer and Safety kit that include the air horn. We also recommend to all boatsteerers that the Air horn be taken out of the bag and kept readily available.
13. During the winter, all boatsteerers are required to wear a PFD while operating club boats. When the water temperature and the air temperature combined equals less than 100 degrees this rule is in effect.
14. During low light rows (dawn, dusk, night), navigation lights consisting of a red/green bow light and a white stern light are required. We also suggest that boatsteerers carry an additional flashlight.
15. During periods of fog, if the opposite side of the harbor cannot be seen, the boats will not be operated.
16. No smoking in any club boat or boathouse.
17. No consumption of alcoholic beverages in any club boat.
18. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. This includes:
  - a. Verbal or physical abuse
  - b. Irresponsible use of the equipment, docks and boathouse area
  - c. Disrespect or disregard for other rowers
  - d. Obscene or belligerent language directed toward other rowers, boatsteeres, rowing officials or members of the community.

Members subject to, or witness to, poor conduct may file a written grievance against another member, program participant or guest. Offenders will be subject to action by the membership of the BBRC at a general meeting. This action may include but is not limited to: **First offense** will result in a verbal warning; **Second offense** will result in a written warning; **Third offense** will result in dismissal from the BBRC with no refund of dues.

## **New Members of the BBRC:**

A new rower’s membership in the club begins the first time out, and she/he must first sign an insurance waiver form. The club boatsteerer shall give proper instruction to the new rower. An individual shall be allowed to row three times without remitting the membership dues. After the initial three rows the individual must remit his/her annual dues in order to continue to row club boats.