

Major Volunteer Areas for Mercer Lake Sprints 2021

Boat Holder at Start

Job specifics:

- Each lane has wooden dock with a diving platform at the end that you will lie on to hold the stern of the boat at the beginning of each race.
- You will be given a radio with an earpiece and you will listen to the aligner who is on shore telling each lane what to do (pull the boat in or push the boat out) so that all boats in the race are starting in alignment.
- If you physically can't move the boat the appropriate distance (for example: "move the boat out 2 feet"), the dock you are on, called the "finger", needs to move. There is an extra person on the starting docks to help with this.
- Let go of boat when the race starts.
- You are NOT responsible for catching a boat that is backing too quickly into the platform
- You are NOT responsible (within reason) for holding onto a boat that is trying to get pointed and pulls out of your grip
- When boat categories change (for example, from an 8 person boat to a 4 person boat), the "fingers" in each lane need to move to accommodate the different length boat. All the boat holders can move their finger before a new boat category.

Here is a visual:



Trailer Parking

Job specifics:

- Direct trailers to a designated trailer parking spot (these will be marked off in the trailer field). You will tell drivers that they must stay within the designated area.
- Tow vehicles (trucks) CANNOT drive in and out of the field. They can unhitch and park the tow vehicle in the paved parking lot next to the field and can re-hitch when they are getting ready to leave.

Launch and Return Dock

Job specifics*:

- Volunteers with prior experience with this job or knowledge of rowing is preferred,
- Manage flow of traffic to launch docks as follows:
 - A maximum of 10 people on the dock at any time
 - One 8+ (9 athletes and a coach)
 - Two 4 person boats (up to 10 athletes, or 8 athletes and 2 coaches)
 - Four 2 person boats (up to 8 athletes and 2 coaches)
 - Six singles (6 athletes and up to 4 coaches)
- Communicate with starting officials when all boats in an event have launched or of any issues resulting in a late crew to the start
- Keep track of all crews in an event to be sure each boat has launched
- Collect bow numbers at return dock
- Establish flow of boats to return dock (will need to be loud, or use megaphone/bullhorn), and only allow boats to land when adequate space is available on dock

Referee stationed at Control Commission (docks) may utilize all or none of the above job specifics

Finish Tower Timing

Job specifics:

- Assist with timing of each race
- Assist with order of finish
- Post hard copy results on magnet board
- Finish Flag – raise & lower flag when each boat crosses the finish line
- There will be officials directing volunteers with specific jobs

Hospitality

Job specifics:

- Order and pickup (or manage delivery) of breakfast and lunch food for officials
- Set up hospitality in Marina boathouse bay
- Hospitality for 2021 will be “grab and go” style

Launch Drivers*

Job specifics

- Following races: Drive launch for officials to follow races
- Marshalling areas: Drive launch for officials in the marshal area (in the warmup area or finish)
- Help set up launches on race days

***Launch drivers must have boating safety certification. There is a separate volunteer sign-up link.**

Other volunteer duties

- Awards – hand out pre-organized award medals (no ceremony, simply handing out and checking off when medal winners pick up their medals)
- Announcing – someone to give live race commentary (should be familiar with rowing)