

## Northwest Regional Proposal Form

Title of Proposal: Restore Heats and Finals at NW Masters

### Author Information

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### This proposal impacts:

- USRowing Northwest Youth Championships
- X USRowing Northwest Masters Championships
- Northwest Rowing Council By-Laws
- Other:

Implementation Date (Month/Year) June 2018

### Proposal Description:

We proposed that the NW Masters Regional Championship regatta be restored to the traditional championship format of heats and finals, as opposed to the finals only format that was used for this regatta in 2017.

### Supporting Statement:

A championship masters regatta requires that all competitors to have the opportunity to race against the fastest competitors in their age group. Given the number of entries in many age groups, only progression through heats to finals provides such a championship format. Without such a progression, NW Regionals is downgraded to a local masters regatta.

Post regatta surveys last year indicated that 2017 NW Masters Regionals rowers preferred the heats and finals format over the finals only format of 2017 (J. Rawson). A poll conducted at Vancouver Lake last June (see Appendix) indicated that a strong majority of competitors thought the 2017 NW Masters Regionals was not a “meaningful championship regatta” (145 out of 181, 80%). The attached appendix contains further information and discussion.

### Intended Impact:

NW Masters Championships once again becomes a TRUE Championship regatta.

Improved rower satisfaction, and responsiveness to wishes of competitors as shown by surveys.

Retain attendance of those interested in the highest level of competition.

Ensure that NW Masters Championships remains the premier Regional Masters Championship Regatta, and not degenerate into just another masters regatta.

## Additional Comments or Information:

The attached Appendix (GardnerAlexanderDuncan\_Appendix.pdf) examines issues underlying the decision to use a “finals only” format for the the 2017 Masters Regional regatta. Some potential solutions are proposed, aimed at restoring a championship heats and finals format, while positioning Regionals for continued growth.

Please provide 2 individuals from 2 separate organizations who are in support of the above proposal:  
(Name, Title, Organization, Email, Phone\*) \*optional

Name: Rachel Alexander  
Title: Competitive Master Rower  
Email: ralexander444@gmail.com

Home Organization: Lake Washington Rowing Assn.  
Phone: 206-355-2571

Name: Stephanie Duncan  
Title: Competitive Master Rower  
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Home Organization: Pocock Rowing Center  
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## Notes:

- Any appendices should be submitted in pdf form
- Save this form as a pdf and email it to: <mailto:rownwcouncil@gmail.com>
- Proposals will be published on [www.rownw.com](http://www.rownw.com) as well as emailed to member organizations
- **This form should be submitted by January 22, 2018**, for dissemination, discussion and/or voting at the NW Regional Meeting on February 11, 2018