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**SAN DIEGO ROWING CLUB JUNIORS MEDAL AT BOSTON’S**

**HEAD OF THE CHARLES REGATTA**

Men’s Varsity Earns 3rd, Women’s Varsity Places 10th and 14th

(SAN DIEGO, October 23, 2018) High School rowers from San Diego Rowing Club (SDRC) Junior Crew had a successful showing at yesterday’s Head of the Charles Rowing Regatta held October 20-21 on the Charles River in Boston, MA.

The SDRC Juniors traveled cross-country and braved cold, windy course conditions to come away with one medal for the Varsity Men’s third place finish while the Varsity Women’s team placed tenth and fourteenth.

Coxed by Justin Lobo, the Men's Youth Four of Noah Axford, Blake Ball, Charlie Coy and James Hankee finished 3rd out of 85 entries in a tight race that finished just nine-tenths of a second behind the Sacramento State Aquatic Center crew. It was the highest finish for a SDRC Men’s Varsity entry at The Head of the Charles in over ten years.

“This was a good first step for our team. The guys worked hard leading up to the regatta and raced well. I’m proud of how they raced and they were happy with their effort. We are excited to get back and join the rest of the team and keep up the good work we’ve been doing,” said Bryan Volpenhein, SDRC Varsity Men’s Coach and a three-time Olympian rower. The race was Volpenhein’s first at SDRC after serving as the U.S. National Team men's coach for the past six years.

The Youth Four of Kate Bolitho, Aurora Czajkowski, Anna Duan, and Michelle Muilenburg was coxed by Julia Ramsey to a 14th place finish out of 85 entries.

In the Women's Youth Coxed Quad, Madeline Rott coxed a crew comprised of Natalie Erb, Audrey Chapman, Olivia Bolitho, and Chantal Lanatta to a 10th place finish out of 42 entries.

“This was a great opportunity for our young team to face some of the strongest competition from all over the country, and we were pleased with our performances. I’m looking forward to building on these results as we continue to work hard and improve the rest of the year,” said Pat Kington, SDRC Head Coach and Women’s Varsity Coach.

By finishing in the top half of their events, all three boats secured entries in the 2019 Head of the Charles Regatta.

Founded in 1965, The Head of the Charles attracts over 10,000 athletes and tens of thousands of spectators. The prestigious regatta features the best crew teams from around the nation. Rowers must navigate a three mile course that ranges from wide expanses to tight sections, turning and twisting through seven bridges and a shifting combination of head and tailwinds.

The San Diego Rowing Club is a non-profit organization founded in 1888 and committed to helping develop and expand the sport. The club's Juniors Program offers one of the premiere places to learn to row, developing strong athletes who go on to compete on college crew and national teams each year. The club trains students from dozens of high schools across San Diego County.

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