

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 10, 2002 – Three Rivers Rowing Association (TRRA) of Pittsburgh has been selected as the Club of the Year for 2002 by USRowing, the national governing body of American rowing.

Three Rivers Rowing is the first club to win the newly created Club of the Year award, which recognizes community outreach, member involvement, and service to the sport of rowing, as well as competitive excellence by its members.

The selection of TRRA as 2002 winner was announced during the USRowing National Convention, held Dec. 6-7, 2002, in Washington, D.C. TRRA edged out two other finalists from Boston and San Diego to win the award.

The clubs were judged on a variety of factors, including the number of medals won by members at national regattas, special programs, community involvement, participation in USRowing, effective use of technology, and member communications.

“We are extremely proud to win this award, because it recognizes all of our programs and the fantastic people who make them work,” said Mike Lambert, Executive Director of TRRA.

“We were up against the oldest and most respected clubs in the country, and we prevailed,” he said. “In our relatively short history, we’ve grown more competitive so that we can beat them on the water, and now we’ve triumphed in the eyes of the rowing community with this tremendous honor. This really puts Pittsburgh rowing on the map.”

Three Rivers Rowing was founded in 1984. The club reports 275 members, although the number of people using the club’s facilities on Washington’s Landing in the City of Pittsburgh and in the new Riverfront Park in Millvale, Pa., totals more than 1,300.

TRRA serves as home to crews from more than 10 area high schools and five local colleges, and those numbers grow every year.

Other specialized programs include summer camps for beginners and experienced rowers, a rapidly growing Corporate Crew program used as a team-building tool by area companies, a Masters programs for people over 27, an African American Outreach program to make rowing more accessible to minorities and disadvantaged youth, Adaptive programs for the physically challenged, the BOLD program for the visually impaired, and a Special Olympics kayaking program.

Three Rivers Rowing acts as host club for numerous rowing regattas during the course of the year, the largest of which is the Head of the Ohio, which is held every year in early October. In its 12-year history, the Head of the Ohio has grown into one of the largest single-day rowing events in the country, attracting more than 4,000 rowers from around the world.

For more information on TRRA, go to [www.threeriversrowing.org](http://www.threeriversrowing.org). For more information from USRowing, contact Brett Johnson, Communications Director, at 317-237-5645, or go to [www.usrowing.org](http://www.usrowing.org).

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