



THE HISTORY OF ROWING

RAISING \$20,000 TO SUPPORT BUILDING A WORLD-CLASS ROWING EXHIBIT

The **New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame (NBSHF)** is embarking on the development of a “History of Rowing” exhibition as a key part of the continuing advancement of the museum space, specifically, the first-in-class Alden R. Clark Theatre. A prominent portion of the theatre will be dedicated to the exhibition including dynamic graphics, inspirational interpretive text, and celebrated artefacts. The area will also serve as a staple within the community engagement objectives of the NBSHF, including a coffee counter to enhance the community space for events and bookings. The entirety of the space will maintain a rowing theme.

The NBSHF is committing long-term to the exhibit: a minimum of 10 years and will ensure there is a refresh in 2028 and again in 2031.

The exhibit will include interpretive text and several artefacts sourced through the Sports Hall of Fame or borrowed from other museums for the exhibition period. A first draft of the interpretive text is detailed on the next page.

To fund this project, the NBSHF were working with the late Brian Flood to champion fundraising the capital needed to move ahead. The proposal is contingent upon fundraising \$20,000.00 in conjunction with Brian and friends of NB rowing as well as other potential partners. Donors of the project will be recognized within the artwork, cabinetry, and interpretive panels in the exhibit. There are four tiers for potential donors:

TIER	DONATION	RECOGNITION	GIFT
Regatta Donor	\$5,000	Name included as a title sponsor for the exhibition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited print artwork by artist Deb Ferris-Bates A limited-edition plaque mounted on a replica boat. You will receive a tax receipt
Quad Skull Donor	\$1,000	Name included prominently within the exhibit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited print artwork by artist Deb Ferris-Bates A limited-edition plaque mounted on a replica boat. You will receive a tax receipt
Double Scull Donor	\$500	Name included within the exhibit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited print artwork by artist Deb Ferris-Bates You will receive a tax receipt
Sculler Donor	\$100	Name included within the exhibit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will receive a tax receipt



**REVENUES
(CONFIRMED AND *ANTICIPATED)**

GNB's Community Development Fund	\$30,000
NBSHF Exhibit Development Fund	\$10,000
*Friends of NB Rowing/Partners	\$20,000

TOTAL REVENUES \$60,000

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Design, content creation, and interpretive elements	\$6,500
Exhibit displays and cabinet fabrication	\$25,000
Research, exhibit elements and curation	\$14,000
Site preparation and installation	\$5,000
Exhibition renewal	\$5,000
Project coordination and administration	\$4,500

TOTAL EXPENSES \$60,000

THE HISTORY OF ROWING

ROWING HISTORY, A FASCINATING JOURNEY THROUGH TIME, SHOWCASES THE EVOLUTION AND IMPACT OF THIS CAPTIVATING SPORT.

DIVE INTO THE RICH NARRATIVE OF ROWING HISTORY.

DISCOVER ITS ORIGINS, DEVELOPMENT, AND THE MILESTONES THAT DEFINE ITS LEGACY TODAY!

LET'S SET SAIL!

ROWING HISTORY TIMELINE

1715 - 1829

THE FIRST RECORDED ROWING RACE TOOK PLACE ON THE RIVER THAMES, IN ENGLAND, BETWEEN WARRIORS WORKING FOR PATRONS IN 1715. THESE EARLY COMPETITIONS OFFERED HIGH STAKES, WITH PARTICIPANTS VYING FOR CASH PRIZES AND PRESTIGIOUS TITLES.

IN 1829, THE INAUGURAL OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE OCCURRED, A HISTORIC RIVALRY THAT PERSISTS TO THIS DAY. THE EVENT MARKED ROWING'S TRANSITION FROM A PASTIME TO A COMPETITIVE SPORT AND REMAINS AN ICONIC ANNUAL TRADITION.

1839

THE HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA WAS FOUNDED IN 1839, SERVING AS A PINNACLE ROWING EVENT THAT ATTRACTED SIGNIFICANT SPECTATOR INTEREST, WITH STRICT RULES AND COMPETITIVE SPIRIT. THE REGATTA GAINED INTERNATIONAL PROMINENCE AND SHOWCASES THE SPORT'S ATHLETICISM AND ENDURANCE.

TODAY, THE HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA REMAINS A PREMIER ROWING EVENT, FEATURING HUNDREDS OF RACES AND DRAWING ELITE COMPETITORS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE.

1850s

IN THE MID-19TH CENTURY, ROWING BEGAN TO FLOURISH IN THE UNITED STATES, WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CLUBS AND COMPETITIVE REGATAS. IN 1857, THE FIRST HARVARD-YALE RACE, CONSIDERED THE FIRST INTERCOLLEGIATE CONTEST IN ANY SPORT, TOOK PLACE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, EVENTUALLY EVOLVING INTO THE FAMED ANNUAL HARVARD-YALE REGATTA.

THIS ERA ALSO SAW THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NOTABLE ROWING CLUBS SUCH AS THE DETROIT BOAT CLUB (1839), UNION BOAT CLUB (1851), AND NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUB (1868), SIGNIFYING ROWING'S GROWING IMPORTANCE IN AMERICAN CULTURE.

1876 - 1893

ROWING CONTINUED TO EXPAND INTERNATIONALLY, WITH THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS TAKING PLACE IN 1876. IN 1892, THE INTERNATIONAL ROWING FEDERATION WAS FOUNDED IN TRIESTE, ITALY, MARKING THE SPORT'S FORMALIZATION ON A GLOBAL SCALE.

THE FOLLOWING YEAR, IN 1893, THE FIRST EUROPEAN ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE HELD, FURTHER SOLIDIFYING ROWING'S INTERNATIONAL FOOTPRINT AND FOSTERING CROSS-BORDER COMPETITION.

1900

ROWING MADE ITS DEBUT IN THE MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES DURING THE 1900 PARIS OLYMPICS, ASSERTING THE SPORT'S STATUS AS A PROMINENT ATHLETIC DISCIPLINE. THE INCLUSION OF ROWING CONTRIBUTED TO ITS GLOBAL POPULARIZATION AND SOLIDIFIED THE SPORT AS A CHERISHED ELEMENT OF THE OLYMPIC TRADITION.

SINCE THEN, ROWING EVENTS HAVE FEATURED AT EVERY OLYMPIC GAMES, SHOWCASING THE EDUCATION, SKILL, AND ENDURANCE OF ELITE ROWERS WORLDWIDE.

1976

THE 1976 MONTREAL OLYMPICS MARKED A CRUCIAL MILESTONE IN ROWING'S HISTORY - WOMEN'S ROWING WAS FINALLY INCLUDED IN THE OLYMPICS. PREVIOUSLY RESTRICTED TO MALE PARTICIPATION, THIS BREAKTHROUGH EMPHASIZED GENDER INCLUSIVITY AND OPENED THE DOOR FOR WOMEN TO MAKE THEIR MARK IN THE SPORT.

IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED, REMARKABLE FEMALE ROWERS HAVE EMERGED, SUCH AS ELISABETA LIPA AND KATHERINE GRANGER, WHO HAVE REDEFINED THE LANDSCAPE OF INTERNATIONAL ROWING.

1990s - 2000s

INNOVATIONS IN ROWING'S LATER YEARS INCLUDE THE INTRODUCTION OF ADAPTIVE ROWING PROGRAMS FOR PARA-ATHLETES, LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD AND ENSURING THE SPORT'S ACCESSIBILITY. IN 2005, THE FIRST ADAPTIVE ROWING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TOOK PLACE, FURTHER SOLIDIFYING ROWING'S COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVITY.

AT THE 2008 BEIJING OLYMPICS, THE PARALYMPIC GAMES FEATURED ROWING EVENTS FOR THE FIRST TIME, SHOWCASING THE SPORT'S UNITY AND SPIRIT OF COMPETITION FOR ALL ATHLETES, REGARDLESS OF PHYSICAL ABILITY.

2010s

AS ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND SUSTAINABILITY HAVE COME TO THE FOREFRONT OF GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS, ROWING HAS BEGUN TO EMBRACE ECO-FRIENDLY PRACTICES. INNOVATIONS LIKE BIO-BASED PLASTICS AND THE USE OF SOLAR-POWERED EQUIPMENT SHOWCASE THE SPORT'S ADAPTATION TO MODERN CHALLENGES.

ROWING ALSO ADDRESSES SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, WITH INITIATIVES SUCH AS ROW FOR THE OCEAN, WHICH RAISES AWARENESS ABOUT PLASTIC POLLUTION. THESE ENDEAVORS SIGNAL A BRIGHTER FUTURE, BALANCING ATHLETIC PROGRESS WITH CONSCIENTIOUS STEWARDSHIP OF OUR PLANET.

FAQs

WHO INVENTED ROWING?

ROWING WAS NOT INVENTED BY A SPECIFIC PERSON, BUT WAS DEVELOPED AS A MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION IN ANCIENT CULTURES SUCH AS THE EGYPTIANS, GREEKS, AND ROMANS.

HOW DID ROWING BECOME SO POPULAR?

ROWING'S POPULARITY GREW THROUGH ITS ADOPTION IN UNIVERSITY SPORTS PROGRAMS, SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS, AND ITS INCLUSION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

WHERE DID ROWING ORIGINATE?

ROWING ORIGINATED IN ANCIENT EGYPT. HISTORICALLY, IT PLAYED CRUCIAL ROLES IN WARFARE, TRADE, AND TRANSPORTATION.

SOURCE: ROWING HISTORY TIMELINE & HOW IT STARTED (SPORTS FOUNDATION, 2023)

First draft of interpretive panels. Subject to change.

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ABOUT THE NEW BRUNSWICK SPORTS HALL OF FAME

The New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame Inc. was established in 1970 to recognize and honour those athletes, teams and builders who have achieved outstanding success, and those who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of competitive sport in this province.



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Charitable Organization No. 88274474RR0001

The NBSHF is the lead authority in preserving and promoting New Brunswick's rich sporting heritage. As a non-government incorporated charity, run mostly by volunteers, we operate the only Sports Museum in New Brunswick. We celebrate the stories of New Brunswick's most inspiring athletes and leverage the power of sport to enrich lives and demonstrate the positive impact that sport and the community of the people involved in sport have in shaping the lives of our youth. **By honouring our best, we inspire the rest!**