



# Hillsborough High School Rowing Club

## TRANSPORTATION POLICY, FORM, & RELEASE

2024-2025

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Hillsborough High School Rowing Club (“HHSRC”) welcomes you and/or your rower to the program.<sup>1</sup> A successful rowing team requires its rowers to practice together so that they learn to act as a single unit. Once the rowing lineup is established, one rower's absence will affect the line-up's practice and can affect their success. Rowers that miss practices due to a lack of transportation and other reasons and their line-ups do not perform as well as those that attend regularly. Because our rowers succeed by attendance, HHSRC requires that rowers and their parents ensure that they have safe transportation available to them.

### TRANSPORTATION POLICY

1. To participate, you or your rower will have to meet at the ***Hillsborough High School Rowing Club Boathouse*** located at the **Tampa River Center, Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park, 402 W. Laurel Street, Tampa, 33607**, regatta locations, and at mandatory fundraising and volunteer events throughout the season.
2. Regular afterschool practice times are **Mondays at 3:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 7:30 a.m.**
3. With one exception, HHSRC does not provide transportation. **Rowers and their parents are solely responsible for the rower's transportation to and from practices, most regattas, and other events.**
4. On occasion, HHSRC or its coaches may change the location and time of practices for reasons such as coach unavailability, inaccessibility of the Boathouse or Julian B. Lane Riverfront Park, events on the river such as the Gasparilla flotilla, or weather. HHSRC and its coaches will make a good faith effort to provide sufficient notice to rowers to allow the rowers to change their transportation arrangements if necessary. **Rowers and their parents are responsible for regularly checking GroupMe for scheduling announcements.**
5. Freshmen and sophomores rowers often do not have transportation to the boathouse because their parents work and they are not yet able to drive.

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<sup>1</sup> This application is to be completed by HHSRC's rowers' parents and guardians or rowers over the age of eighteen.

Over the years, HHSRC parent volunteers and driving rowers carpool rowers to the boathouse in time for practice.

6. **HHSRC does not control or supervise rowers' carpools.**
7. To facilitate the process, HHSRC gathers information for those families that need transportation and those that can offer carpools. With the information, HHSRC parent volunteers help the rowers and their families connect with other families that can provide or need carpools. HHSRC rowers and their families can then contact the drivers and rowers and determine if the carpool is the right fit for the rower.
8. **HHSRC does not vet carpool drivers or conduct an investigation into their driving history.** The families are responsible for investigating the individual driver's record and/or skills, insurance, and to ensure that each family feels comfortable with the arrangement.
9. During the rowing season, carpools can be disrupted when the drivers are absent from school or are otherwise unable to attend practice. The students often arrange for back-up transportation on their own. When a carpool is disrupted and the HHSRC Board is notified that transportation is required, it will circulate a notice through SLACK to ask for volunteers to drive the rowers from Hillsborough High School to the Boathouse.
10. Backup transportation often relies on HHSRC's parent volunteers. In the past, some parent volunteers have repeatedly been available to transport rowers despite their own obligations or there are not enough volunteers available to provide back-up support. To ensure that the rowers' needs are met and there are always enough drivers, HHSRC asks that *all* parents participate in the carpool to the extent that they are able to do so.

### **CARPOOL PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

11. If you or your rower would like to participate in a carpool, please complete the following:
  - a. Will you or your rower require a carpool?  
 Yes  
 No
  - b. Carpool Passenger's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Carpool Passenger's Cellular Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

d. If a Rower/Passenger:

1. What days of the week do you require transportation?

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday

2. Would you be interested in a carpool from the Boathouse to your home or a drop-off location near your home?

- Yes
- No

e. Can you or your rower be a carpool driver?

- Yes
- No

f. Driver's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

g. Driver's Cellular Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

h. If a driver:

1. What days of the week are you available to drive a carpool from Hillsborough High School?

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Thursday
- Friday.

2. Are you willing to drive a carpool on Saturdays on occasion?

Yes

No

If you are willing to drive a carpool on Saturdays, will you be available to drive a carpool:

Every Saturday?

Alternate Saturdays?

Occasional Saturdays?

If you are available to carpool on a Saturday, would you be willing to pick-up rowers from:

Their home?

A specified location?

3. Are you, as a driver, and your vehicle insured?

Yes

No

If you and/or your vehicle are not insured with the minimum State-required insurance, you cannot drive a carpool.

4. Is your car in good repair and properly registered?

Yes

No

If your car is not in good repair and properly registered, you cannot drive a carpool.

5. How many seats do you have in your car? Only seats with operable seat belts should be included. \_\_\_\_\_

- i. If a driver, can you be available for afterschool back-up transportation to the Boathouse?

Yes

No

If yes, how much notice would you require to ensure that you could reach the school from your typical location (e.g., home or office)?

- j. If a driver, are you willing to provide transportation from the Boathouse to a rower's home or a drop-off location near their home?

Yes

No

If yes, may we provide your zip code or neighborhood, e.g. 33607 or Seminole Heights,, to other families that have identified a need for transportation from the Boathouse

Yes

No

12. HHSRC participates in regattas and other competitions throughout the State. Locations include and are not limited to Inverness, Gainesville, Orlando, Melbourne, and Sarasota. We encourage our parents to attend all of the regattas if possible - our rowers are amazing to watch! *If your rower will need transportation to regattas, please let us know two weeks prior to the regatta so we can assist you in arranging transportation.*

If a driver, are you willing to transport rowers to regattas outside of the Tampa Bay area?

Yes

No

**EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY**

13. I acknowledge that driving is an inherently dangerous activity. I understand the risk associated with driving or riding in a carpool including serious injury or death.

14. My or my minor child/rower's participation in a carpool is purely voluntary.
15. I acknowledge that HHSRC does not investigate the driving history of carpool drivers.
16. I acknowledge that HHSRC does not supervise carpools in any manner.
17. If either I or my minor child/rower will be driving, I hereby certify that I or my minor child/rower have valid driver's licenses and are not otherwise prohibited from driving.
18. If either I or my minor child/rower is driving, I certify that the vehicle to be driven is insured at or above the limits required by the State.
19. If either I or my minor child/rower is driving, I hereby certify that neither I nor my minor child/rower will drive under the influence of any drug, whether over-the-counter, prescription, or illicit, that can affect the ability to drive and/or put other rowers at risk of injury. I understand and agree that driving/carpooling under the influence of any drug, whether over-the-counter, prescription, or illicit, or alcohol, on the way to or from a HHSRC practice or event is a violation of the HHSRC Code of Conduct.
20. I certify that either I or my minor child/rower driver is capable of driving safely and in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. I have no knowledge of or reason to have knowledge that my minor child/rower has driven or may drive negligently, recklessly or in a manner that could place passengers at risk of harm. I agree that if I learn that if I or my minor child/rower has driven negligent, recklessly, or in a manner that could place passengers at risk of harm, I will withdraw my or my minor child/rower's carpool.
21. I certify that I or my minor child/rower is informed of their obligations to notify HHSRC if they do not have a carpool. Further, I and my minor child/rower have discussed a family policy whether they are permitted to carpool with new drivers or drivers that have not been vetted by you.
22. I, individually and on behalf of my minor child/rower, assume full responsibility for myself or my minor child for any bodily injury, accident, illness, paralysis, death, loss of personal property and expenses thereof as a result of any accident that may occur while I or my minor child participates in a carpool.

**RELEASE**

23. I release Hillsborough High School Rowing Club, its principals, directors, officers, agents, employees and volunteers, and their insurers, from any and all liability of any nature, including negligence or fault, for any and all injury (including death) or damage to me or my minor child and other persons as a result of my or my minor child's participation in the carpool regardless of the cause.

**INDEMNIFICATION**

24. I, individually and on behalf of my minor child/rower when volunteering as a driver, agree to indemnify and hold harmless Hillsborough High School Rowing Club, its principals, directors, officers, agents, employees and volunteers, and their insurers, from any and all claims, actions, or suits arising from my negligence including all damages, settlements, costs, and attorney fees.

Signed on this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by:

Rower Name:	
Rower/Parent/Guardian Signature:	
Printed Rower/Parent/Guardian Name:	