

Welcome to Edgewater Crew!



My sons have long been athletes. One was a top swimmer at Edgewater High School for 4 years. One joined Edgewater Crew the summer before his Freshman year at Edgewater High School. I'll never forget the day he swaggered out of the boathouse, seeming like a new young man, brimming with a confidence I hadn't seen before.

As I've always been more akin to soccer than rowing, I decided to join Edgewater Crew Masters (aka adult rowing) to learn more about this sport. I felt it was important to understand what I was talking about. Joining the Masters program has been incredibly rewarding. I've come to appreciate just how difficult this sport is. Rowing is about constantly striving for that perfect stroke, which is rare. It's about the awe-inspiring moments when a boat really starts moving and eight people are working together to make it fly. Best of all, I've built friendships and learned more about rowing from current and former parents, rowers, coaches, board members and alumni. I now know why our kids fall in love with it.

Crew is challenging. It tests our kids both on and off the water. It demands perseverance and a willingness to endure hardship. As parents, it can be difficult to step back and let our kids navigate these challenges, but it's incredibly rewarding to witness their growth and successes. For coaches, it's a constant juggling act to teach, set lineups, and keep everyone satisfied, all while mentoring our young rowers into outstanding young adults. I believe the sport's difficulty is what attracts our kids to it.

But it's also a lot of fun! There's nothing quite like seeing a group of kids huddled around a rower on an erg, shouting and cheering them on in their last few meters of a piece. Friendships forged at the boathouse extend to school and beyond as kids find their crew. It provides an opportunity for parents to make new friends too.

It's been amazing to watch my, now EHS Junior + Crew Co-Captain, son grow over the past three years into an exceptional athlete and, more importantly, a strong and resilient young man. This sport has changed him, and me, for the better.

As President, I will do my best to carry on the 60 years of Edgewater Crew excellence. I'm fortunate to be surrounded by current and former families and alumni who are as passionate about this program as I am. Thank you, and here's to an incredible year of rowing excellence! EHS! EHS!

John Sampson
President
Edgewater Crew