

2 September 2016



Athletes and Crew Families:

Welcome from the OLMA Crew Tent. This email is follow-up to our Crew Tent presentation after this past Monday's coaches meeting.

For those who couldn't make the meeting on Monday, we hope you all have been having a great summer and enjoying your free time and weekends while you have it... as the season officially begins on Saturday, September 24 with the Tail of the Fish Regatta in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., which of course will be our first road trip for the Crew Tent. For those that were present, our apologies for any repetitiveness below.

New crew parents: The Crew Tent is where and what feeds our daughters during the regattas. We have a food trailer (a "chuck wagon" in crew parlance) that travels to each regatta solely for the purpose of feeding the athletes and families. The food trailer carries real tents to provide cover, a grill, serving tables, cooking equipment and utensils, supplies such as plates and cups, and, of course, plenty of food and drink. The Crew Tent is more than just this equipment; the Crew Tent is a collaborative process that requires a fair amount of organization and work as well as parent volunteers. In short, the Crew Tent is a state of mind...

All parents: As mentioned last Monday, to prepare for the 2016 Fall crew season as well as initiate our new parents, we would like to meet at the food trailer to get the trailer and supplies in order. The trailer is parked in the southeast corner of the OLMA parking lot. We know how precious your weekends can be, but we believe that we can get this accomplished in one morning. Over the summer Gina O'Sullivan removed all packaged food from the trailer and put these items in cool, dry storage at her home, and Paul Cleri went through the trailer to clean up a bit as well as take inventory of our equipment and supplies; so our work should be easy. We are proposing either Saturday, September 10 or Saturday, September 17 depending on your collective feedback. We will email a doodle poll asking people their preference. We will have refreshments for all under the Crew Tent.

We ask that all returning crew families arrive on the selected Saturday at 9:00 a.m., whereby our goal will be to get the trailer ready and prepare for an orientation for new parents. New parents, you are invited to join us at 10:00 a.m. that same morning; we will introduce you to the other crew parents, walk you through the Crew Tent process, and answer any questions that you have.

Now some important logistics...

To cover the costs of running the Crew Tent and feeding our athletes and families, we are asking parents to contribute a one-time, fixed dollar amount each crew season. This coming week the Crew Tent Committee (any parents who've expressed an interest on being on the committee) will meet to discuss what this amount should be. As expressed on Monday, last Fall we asked for \$125.00 per athlete for the season and this past Spring we adjusted the amount down and asked for \$75.00 per athlete for the season, resulting in an average of \$100.00 per athlete for the school year. As there is only a few hundred dollars left from last school year, the \$100 amount per athlete seems to be about right.

All estimates at this time are based on feeding approximately 30 girls on the team, an average of two parents/other family members, and the coaches for this season's five scheduled regattas. This

fee is comparable to, but somewhat less than, what is being asked of parents with another regional high school crew team (i.e., Chaminade), so we believe that this is a fair amount. Additionally, we can adjust this amount for the next crew season based on this season's experience. We will use this money to purchase: food, including dry goods such as pasta and pancake mix, and fresh meats and produce; drinks such as water, juice, milk, and chocolate milk; general cooking supplies, such as oil and spices; consumables, such as plates, utensils, napkins, paper towels, food prep gloves, cleaning supplies, Sternos for chafing trays, and propane for the grill; and fuel reimbursement for those who tow the food trailer.

Additionally as we had expressed on Monday, we need to buy a new 10-foot by 20-foot tent because our other 10x20 tent suffered a catastrophic failure at the last regatta of the Spring season. We are still finalizing tent costs, but it's looking to be approximately \$1500, which if divided evenly among the 30 athletes will be about \$50 per athlete. With last year's surplus and some other excess funds the coaches identified this past week, we may be able to reduce the tent cost to about \$25 per athlete. This week will wrap up Crew Tent finances and email everyone with the amount will be asking parents to contribute per athlete.

Other logistics, volunteers...

As previously expressed, the Crew Tent is a collaborative process, so we are always looking for volunteers to help along the way. The more volunteers we have for the Crew Tent, the more we can spread the work load equally, and the more effective we can be. If you are available for any of the following volunteer activities, please reply to this email and we will be in contact.

Trailer Towing: As always, the biggest challenge is arranging for the food trailer to be driven to and from each regatta. We always need parents to tow; so please if you have a vehicle that can pull a trailer, let us know. (You will need a Class 3 hitch or bigger and be wired for trailer lights.) To those that have towed in the past, please review the regatta schedule above and let us know when you can tow this season. We want to distribute towing duties so that (hopefully) families need only tow once a season. In addition, if you tow, you typically get preferred parking at a regatta site, which is big, especially for places like Shelton, Conn.

Food Shopping: Individuals that can shop once a week for food, drinks, and supplies, usually on Thursday or Friday

Propane Tanks: Someone who lives reasonably close to OLMA that can fill the propane tanks once a week. Erika and Robert Schmitz have offered to do this for the Fall season.

Merchandise/Apparel: If you would like to assist in organizing and selling (non-official team) crew apparel, such as spirit wear for the athletes and parents, perhaps a parent cold-weather crew sweater or jacket with your daughter's name on it, please let us know.

Hotel Reservations for Regattas: Our hotel coordinator, Lorraine, has been working diligently all summer to reserve blocks of hotel rooms for the athletes and families at each regatta site, and she will email everyone soon in this regard given that time is of the essence for our first regatta. If you do not receive her email, please respond to this email. If you wish to lend her a hand, please let us know also.

Crew Tent Committee: Please note that the Crew Tent Committee is an open committee and anyone wishing to be an active member of the committee is welcome to join.

Website: The Team's, Coaches', and Crew Tent's webpages are at the following website:
(<https://sites.google.com/site/ourladyofmercyacademycrew/>)

You will quickly come to see that we all become a big family under the Tent over the course of these weekends and it becomes as enjoyable for the parents as it is for the athletes. We're looking forward to working with all of you, making this a great season, and working toward a common goal of putting our athletes in the best position to succeed and have some fun along the way. Go OLMA Crew! Go Lady Mustangs!

With warm regards,

OLMA Crew Tent Committee:

Erika Schmitz
Deborah Scattareggia
Gina O'Sullivan
Melissa O'Reilly
Christa Karen
Lorraine Baltzer
Robert Schmitz
Peter O'Sullivan
Wes Jagustyn
Maria Giglio
Joe Giglio
Paul Cleri



Distribution:

meganmb123@gmail.com, jagustyn@gmail.com, alrusso20@gmail.com, alyesser@msn.com,
WeAretheFlynn@verizon.net, annielopinto2@aol.com, trusso41@gmail.com, GWB126@gmail.com,
MahonFam@aol.com, Cathy@cmevents.net, chelseaesser26@gmail.com, CKaren4@verizon.net,
croselongobardi@gmail.com, MMargi7321@aol.com, daesser@msn.com, David.mirabella@nationalgrid.com,
jds catt@optonline.net, msdbyrne@hotmail.com, dominique-p2@hotmail.com, ESDMD@optonline.net,
fernpedro99@gmail.com, GNS99@me.com, surfish50@aol.com, mojobono@mac.com, NYSigals@yahoo.com,
gms01@me.com, HannahKaren17@gmail.com, GEHughes19@gmail.com, hughes46@verizon.net,
JMartins@msn.com, jmurphy848@aol.com, jalacqua@gmail.com, SkyRose6873@gmail.com,
jandarusso@netzero.com, jlo4saea@aol.com, mirbellaj@optonline.net, Joe_Misiak@yahoo.com,
jscatt@optonline.net, JKaren@deloitte.com, jcallinan@chaminade-hs.org, kandreone@olma.org,
kandreoneolma@yahoo.com, mkrmatnic@aol.com, ktlnpedro@gmail.com, Kat.Giglio@aol.com,
mirbellakatie@gmail.com, laurencatt@gmail.com, liliygbp@gmail.com, Poll@optonline.net, LisaK@usa.com,
baltzert@optonline.net, oreillygirls@verizon.net, smarc13@aol.com, mfagigs@aol.com,
Mosullivan@scholastic.com, Marjorie.Han@henryschein.com, MaryLouise53@optonline.net,
Mozam44@gmail.com, mjcallinan5@gmail.com, monikajagustyn@yahoo.com, morgancusumano2@verizon.net,
MorganMurphy91@gmail.com, briabbey@yahoo.com, mnapoli99@gmail.com, natalierosecleri@gmail.com,
nikki.mangano7@gmail.com, clareohara0@gmail.com, natosulli8@gmail.com, PDilollo@olma.org,
pcusumano@verizon.net, pvmartins1@gmail.com, mmpawul@netzero.net, helderpedrohelder@yahoo.com,
posulli828@gmail.com, RWSMDM@optonline.net, rileyemdny@aol.com, nessmartins@gmail.com,
creativecourtney19@gmail.com, investwithdan@yahoo.com, kathwilliams111@yahoo.com; pcleri@verizon.net.