

SPORTS

Ridgewood Crew brings home a gold, notches 6 top 10 finishes at Head of the Schuylkill Regatta

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Ridgewood Crew enjoyed a hard-fought victory in the Jim Barker Cup series and scored five other top 10 finishes on Sunday at the prestigious Head of the Schuylkill Regatta, a 4,150-meter head course in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Now in its sixth decade, the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta attracts rowers from around the world, and this year featured nearly 2,200 entries in high school, university, and masters categories from 276 clubs, four countries.

The highlight of the day for Ridgewood Crew was Graham Richardson's gold-medal winning performance in the Jim Barker Men's High School frosh/novice singles race (15:26). The

14-year-old Richardson beat out 27 other rowers to claim victory by a razor-thin margin. Just

four-and-a-half seconds separated the first, second, and third place rowers.

All the high school singles races at the Head of the Schuylkill are named in honor of Jim Barker, a US rowing legend. Barker, a national singles champion in 1948, amassed 24 national championship titles during his career and has been inducted into the National Rowing Hall of Fame.

"We're happy with this past weekend's results since this is an international competition and our team is made up mostly of young rowers," said Ridgewood Crew head coach Boris Roque-Alvarez. He also singled out Richardson for his performance on Sunday and this fall. "He's had a medal in every single race this season, sometimes racing against rowers of a much older age group. Impressive results for such a young rower!"

Samantha Ponomarciuc scored a 5th-place finish — the second-highest for Ridgewood Crew on Sunday — in the Jim Barker Womens High School junior varsity singles race (17:23). Will Carroll came in 6th out of 41 boats in the Jim Barker Mens junior varsity race (15:25). Other Ridgewood standout performances included a 6th-place finish for the Mens High School junior varsity pairing of Sam Scharfenberg and Tristan Riedel (13:43), who faced a very crowded field featuring 43 other boats. In the Women's category of this junior varsity race, Thelma Flowers and Samantha Ponomarciuc came in 10th (15:55).

In the quad races, the Men's High



The 2023 Jim Barker Mens High School frosh/novice singles gold-medal rower Graham Richardson, alongside Ridgewood Crew Coaches Lauren Tedeschi, Boris Roque-Alvarez, and Kassandra Luna (left to right). PHOTO PROVIDED BY R. RICHARDSON

School junior varsity team of Will Nasr, Lucas Evers, Will

Carroll, and Umhjo Han claimed Ridgewood's fastest time of the day on the course (12:45),

good enough for a 10th place finish out of 37 boats overall. Full times and results for Ridgewood Crew at the 2023 Head of the Schuylkill Regatta can be found at <https://www.herenow.com/results/#/races/21181/results>.

Full Ridgewood Crew Results for the 2023 Head of the Passaic Regatta:

Jim Barker Men's High School Varsity 1x - 14th: Will Nasr; 43rd: Moritz Kirchoff-Lajonchere

Jim Barker Men's High School Junior Varsity 1x - 6th: Will Carroll; 16th: Mat-

thew Moomjy; 31st: Lucas Evers

Jim Barker Women's High School Junior Varsity 1x - 5th: Samantha Ponomarciuc

Jim Barker Mens High School Frosh/Novice 1x - 1st: Graham Richardson

Women's High School Frosh/Novice 2x - 16th: Maya Ashwin/Hallie Newman
Men's High School Varsity 4x - 10th: Will Nasr/Lucas Evers/Will Carroll/Umhjo Han; 15th: Michael Lyakerman/Daniel Kelly/Henry Rivera/Moritz Kirchoff-Lajonchere

Men's High School Junior Varsity 4x 11th: Sam Scharfenberg/Tristan Riedel/Graham Richardson/Luciano Saladino; 13th: James Ryan/Paul Hollowell/Matthew Moomjy/John Aguila; 21st: John

Cavagnuolo/Gryphon Smith/Erik Gregorson/Mathias Nguyen-Van-Duong

Women's High School Junior Varsity 4x - 16th: Julia Smith/Aoife Ali/C Kirchoff-Lajonchere/Ariana Wilk

Men's High School Varsity 2x - 22nd: Conor Sullivan/Henry Rivera; 24th: Michael Lyakerman/Daniel Kelly; 43rd - Damon Dessel/Mateo Reyes

Men's High School Junior Varsity 2x - 6th: Sam Scharfenberg/Tristan Riedel; 16th: Matthew Moomjy/Umhjo Han; 23rd: Luciano Saladino/John Aguilar

Women's High School Varsity 2x -13th: Anais Friedrich/Elsa Friedrich

Women's High School Junior Varsity 2x - 10th: Thelma Flowers/Samantha Ponomarciuc

Mercers lose in first round of playoffs 25 20 to Union