

For Immediate Release

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FUTURE BIG TEN ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD AT EAGLE CREEK PARK IN INDIANAPOLIS

PARK RIDGE, Ill. – The Big Ten Conference and Indianapolis Rowing Center announced today that Eagle Creek Park will serve as the host site for the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Big Ten Rowing Championships. The 2011 event will mark the Big Ten's first-ever neutral-site rowing championships.

In addition to the location, other changes have been made for future championships. The 2011-13 events will be held on the Sunday that falls two weekends prior to the NCAA Championships. The 2011 Big Ten Championships will be held May 15. The format of the event will be altered to a seven-lane finals-only regatta.

Since the inception of the Big Ten Rowing Championships in 2000, the event has been held at a pre-determined location on a Big Ten campus. The 2010 Big Ten Rowing Championships are hosted by Michigan State and will be held Saturday, May 1, at Lake Ovid in Sleepy Hollow State Park in Laingsburg, Mich.

The Big Ten Rowing Championships have been held in the state of Indiana on one previous occasion, in 2005, when they were competed in Bloomington.

Four different schools have been crowned Big Ten Champions in the event's history. Michigan leads the conference with four titles, while Michigan State has won three, Ohio State has claimed two and Minnesota has one.

The Big Ten Conference is an association of 11 world-class universities whose member institutions share a common mission of research, graduate, professional and undergraduate teaching and public service. Founded in 1896, the Big Ten has sustained a comprehensive set of shared practices and policies that enforce the priority of academics in student-athletes' lives and emphasize the values of integrity, fairness and competitiveness. Big Ten universities provide in excess of \$100 million in athletic scholarship aid to more than 8,500 men and women student-athletes who compete for 25 championships, 12 for men and 13 for women. Conference institutions sponsor broad-based athletic programs with more than 270 teams. For more information, visit www.bigten.org.

The Indianapolis Rowing Center (IRC) is a non-profit organization, established in 1982, to develop youth and adults of all social and economic backgrounds through the sport of rowing by providing experienced and knowledgeable instruction, a variety of skill-enhancing programs, and world-class facilities. IRC is located in Eagle Creek Park and has hosted a number of national and international events, including NCAA Rowing Championships, USRowing Club and Elite National Regattas and the World Rowing Championships. For additional information, visit indyrowing.org.

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