



GAY + LESBIAN ROWING FEDERATION

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**Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation kicks off 2005 campaign with Craftsbury Sculling Center partnership.**

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Los Angeles, United States – The Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation (GLRF) officially launches its 2005 global training campaign, **HitTheWater!2005**, by announcing a partnership with the Craftsbury Sculling Center. In a historic first, the major North American rowing center will co-sponsor and host a Gay and Lesbian Pride Sculling Weekend on 24 – 26 June 2005 in Craftsbury, Vermont.

The **HitTheWater!2005** campaign will act as a focal point for crews and rowers to begin their intense training regimens for the 2006 Montreal World Outgames and the 2006 Chicago Gay Games. The global campaign seeks to develop sweep and scull training camps in North America, Europe and Australia. Several additional agreements are currently in development. The Craftsbury weekend camp will focus on sculling, and will be specifically tailored for both men and women. Other clinics will focus on separate men's and women's sweep rowing.

The Craftsbury Sculling Center has a reputation as one of the finest sculling facilities in North America, with top notch coaching, flawless water, on-site lodging, and demo boats from the world's leading rowing shell manufacturers. Craftsbury Marketing Director Walter Goettlich added: "Gay and lesbian rowers have always been welcome at Craftsbury. We are thrilled to support a specific gay and lesbian weekend." The partnership, a one-year exclusive agreement between GLRF and Craftsbury, will promote sculling among gay and lesbian rowers in North America. Craftsbury has the option of renewing the partnership through 2007.

The groundbreaking agreement between a major rowing entity and the gay and lesbian sports community demonstrates the continuing shift in attitudes towards gays in sports.

Headquartered in Los Angeles, GLRF is a web-based global membership organization dedicated to promoting rowing in the gay and lesbian community and fostering an international community of gay and lesbian rowers, coaches, coxswains, and judges at all levels of the sport, including junior, collegiate, veteran/masters, and elite. The organization provides resources and information to rowers and serves as a liaison both within the community and with the larger international rowing world.

For more information about the Craftsbury Sculling Center, visit their website at <http://www.craftsbury.com>. For more information about the Gay + Lesbian Rowing Federation, visit the website at <http://www.GLRF.info> For all media inquiries, contact Brian Todd at [P2Dir@GLRF.info](mailto:P2Dir@GLRF.info)

[www.GLRF.info](http://www.GLRF.info)