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Blanket  
Letter form

March 23, 1945

Rowing Coach, Athletic Department  
Radcliffe College  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Madam:

Last Spring when I was down to Wellesley College I was informed that Radcliffe has recently taken up rowing. For the past year the co-eds of Clark University have been rowing on a small pond near the University, and the great enthusiasm of the students has manifested itself in wanting to race other girls crews.

We have been somewhat disappointed that neither Wellesley nor Smith would consider competed rowing on any basis, but we hope that an inter-collegiate race would not be out of line with your policies. To my mind, competed rowing for the girls should be based primarily on good form rather than speed, and above all on good sportsmanship. I further believe that the races should be relatively short, for example, a one-half mile stretch as is encouraged by the National Association of Amateur Rowers. In selecting the winner we could use the scoring system which they use at Wellesley--giving a maximum of 40 points for the best slow rowing form; a maximum of 20 points for the best racing form; 40 points for first place; 30 points for second place; 20 points for third place. Of course, if you do not wish to emphasize the form, we can base our results purely on the best speed.

We would very much like to invite you to an informal rowing meet on our Coes Pond, but we can only offer you the use of one of our two four-oared shells.

If, on the other hand, you would like to race in eights, and if it would be possible to borrow an eight from you or one of the other best clubs along Cambridge River, we would be most pleased to race you there.

This season we will surely have a first and second team of eight girls, and if you want to have two races, I think the opportunity of giving more girls the pleasure of rowing in competition would certainly be well worth the effort involved.

I hope very much that we can establish an annual regatta which will emphasize good sportsmanship above all else.

Most sincerely,

Rudolph F. Nunnemacher  
Rowing Coach  
Clark University

RFN:bc