

ROWING BC

Commitment to Fair Play

Purpose

1. Rowing BC aims to ensure that every participant is treated fairly. To that end, Rowing BC has adopted this *Commitment to Fair Play* and is committed to upholding the positions outlined herein at all times.

Position on Equity and Access

2. Rowing BC shall create and follow an *Equity and Access Policy* that shall guide its efforts in this area.
3. Equity is the belief and practice of fair and just treatment for all individuals. Rowing BC believes in and promotes, through its programs, the concepts of equal opportunity, inclusiveness, fairness, and honesty. Rowing BC expects the highest standards of moral and ethical conduct from all its athletes, coaches, umpires, officials, volunteers, and administrators at every level.
4. Rowing BC believes in an environment free from discrimination based on a person's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, age, or gender. To be equitable means to be fair, and to appear to be fair.
5. Equity does not necessarily mean that all persons must be treated exactly the same. In order to be treated fairly, people may need to be treated differently, including having activities of their choice offered and administered in a fair and unbiased environment.
6. Rowing BC has the opportunity to take a compelling leadership position within the sport community in British Columbia by making a clear commitment to equity.

Position on Drug Free Sport

7. The Rowing BC *Drug Free Sport Policy* shall guide its efforts in this area.
8. Rowing BC is committed to the Spirit of Sport. Rowing BC believes that the most effective way to prevent doping in sport is through a long-term commitment to the core positive values of sport. This belief recognizes the negative impact and tremendous pressures on athletes to "win at all costs". Accordingly, Rowing BC attempts to strike a better balance within its sport by encouraging its coaches, officials, parents and others to place more value and importance on the internal rewards associated with Rowing. Rowing BC believes that the athletes' involvement in Rowing should be directed toward the pursuit of sporting and human excellence. Therefore, any pursuit of sporting excellence that undermines the pursuit of human excellence, such as the use of performance enhancing drugs, is unacceptable.

9. Rowing BC supports this position through endorsing and supporting Rowing Canada Aviron's anti-doping policies and testing procedures.

Position on Rights for Athletes

10. Bill of Rights for Athletes:

- i. Right of the opportunity to participate in sports regardless of ability
- ii. Right to participate at a level that is consistent with the developmental level of the athlete
- iii. Right to have qualified sensitive leadership
- iv. Right to participate in a safe and healthy environment
- v. Right of each participant to share in the leadership and decision making of their sport
- vi. Right to proper preparation in the sport
- vii. Right to an equal opportunity to strive for success
- viii. Right to be treated with dignity by all involved
- ix. Right to have fun through sport

Demonstration of Commitment

11. Rowing BC shall work proactively with provincial and national agencies to identify and eliminate barriers to participation in rowing.
12. Rowing BC shall use gender-appropriate language and visuals in all written material.
13. Rowing BC shall strive to have a diverse group of individuals represented on its delegations to external forums and conferences.
14. Rowing BC will not solicit nor accept sponsorship from companies that use discriminatory practices.
15. Rowing BC shall strive to have a diverse group of individuals represented on its Board of Directors and committees.