


Rowing British Columbia

MARSHALING CREWS TO A FLOATING START

Marshaling crews to a floating start

This only works if everyone works as a team!

1. Race umpires must find the crews for their next race, and get them into lane number order well behind the start line;
2. When it is their race, the race umpires move the crews together, as one line, towards the start using light pressure, only bow or bow pair rowing;
3. In case of current/wind affecting course, the race umpire advises crews on how to correct for this.
 - a) With wind have crews point their boats into the wind;
 - b) Work on spacing the crews appropriately across the lanes;
4. Select a crew in the centre of the course and key the other crews on the selected crew;



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5. Speed up stragglers, slow down leaders –the goal is to have all bow balls hit the line simultaneously;
6. At a pre-determined point, race umpires hand over control to the aligner; a) When the aligner is taking over, tell the crews “You are now under the direction of the aligner”;
7. Race umpires should NOT speak to the crews again;
 - a) If you see anything needing correction with crews, use your radio to tell the aligner;
8. The aligner should work hard to ensure that no bowball crosses the line –if you have to back a crew, you have lost the battle;
9. If multiple bowballs cross the start line, consider stern-alignment as a last resort. [Not appropriate for “next best time” progressions];
10. A Quick Start may be advisable if there is any wind/current in play.

