



Rowing British Columbia

NEW EDUCATIONAL LEVELS REVISITED



Background

- Previous material was VERY outdated
- Overwhelming feedback that the Level 1 Clinic was too much material in too short a timeframe
- We lost potential umpires who felt overwhelmed and 'thrown in at the deep end'



Level 1	Assistant	Take Level 1 Clinic To move onto the Level 2 clinic, complete 1 shift at 4 stations to be supervised and signed off by an RCA certified umpire.
Level 2	Associate	Take Level 2 Clinic To take the Level 2 exam, complete 10 shifts at 4 stations over 4 or more regattas at more than 1 venue.
Level 2	RCA Umpire	Pass Level 2 Exam To retain Umpire status, attend a seminar and be evaluated by a Clinician every 3 years.
Level 3	Associate Chief Umpire	Take Chief Umpire Clinic To take the Chief Umpire Exam, the Associate Chief Umpire must work at 5 different regattas at 3 different venues. The Associate Chief Umpire will be mentored during each of these regattas.
Level 3	Chief Umpire	Attend Chief Umpire Seminar To maintain Chief Umpire Status, attend a Chief Umpire Seminar and be evaluated by a Clinician every 3 years.
Level 4	Clinician	Clinicians must be appointed by the RCA Umpire Committee and must pass the Clinician Exam.
Level 5	FISA Umpire	FISA Umpires must be approved by their province and RCA to challenge the FISA Umpire Exam and must pass the FISA Umpire Exam.

The Level 1 Clinic

- Candidates go through an initial [Level 1] Clinic, which takes about six hours
- They are given enough training to allow them to be a “Support to the Jury” at Control, Judge at the Start, the Start and the Finish
- At this point, they are called “Assistants”
- They are not given **any** training on chasing races
- They are not decision-makers, and are to be mentored at every position



Moving forward from Level 1

- Candidates are required to do a minimum of a two-hour shift at each of Control, Judge at the Start, the Start and the Finish
- They are required to do one two-hour observation in a chase boat
- It is the decision of the candidate, and the candidate alone, as to when they have the confidence to move ahead to the Level 2 Clinic. Typically this is done in conjunction with a clinician



The Level 2 Clinic

- The Level 2 Clinic takes about eight to eight-and-a-half hours
- There is a revision aspect to Control, Judge at the Start, the Start and the Finish
- A lot of time is spent on on-water umpiring; we go through boat-positioning, reading the race, flag-work, scenarios
- At this point, they are called "Associates"
- They are now decision-makers, and are still to be mentored at every position



Moving forward from Level 2

- Practical Experience Requirements
 - Minimum of 10 shifts, 2 hours each
 - 2 shifts in each position: Control, Finish, Race Umpire, Start, Judge at the Start – supervised and signed off by experienced RCA umpire “mentor”
 - Over 4 or more regattas, more than one venue, 3 sprint and 1 head race
 - Minimum of 1 and maximum of 3 years to pass the examination.
- It is the decision of the candidate, and the candidate alone, as to when they have the confidence to move ahead to the Level 2 exam. Typically this is done in conjunction with a clinician



Mentoring Assistants

- Assistants never ‘fly solo’
- When at Control, have the Assistant do the work. If there is any pushback, the Umpire is to be the individual that deals with athletes and coaches.
- When at Judge at the Start, have the Assistant do the work.
- When at the Start, ensure the Assistant carries out both the Assistant Starter and Starter roles.
- When the Assistant is observing on-water umpiring, engage the Assistant in a discussion over what you are doing and why.
- When at the Finish, have the Assistant call the order of finish. Give them an opportunity to take split times.



Mentoring Associates

- Associates should never 'fly solo', especially in the on-water role.
- When at Control, have the Associate do the work. If there is any pushback, allow the Associate to deal with athletes and coaches, and be ready to step in if required.
- When at Judge at the Start, have the Associate do the work.
- When at the Start, ensure the Associate carries out both the Assistant Starter and Starter roles.
- When the Associate has the flags in hand, allow them to do the work and be ready to step in if required. Have a dialogue at the end of each race.
- When at the Finish, have the Associate call the order of finish. Give them an opportunity to handle the timing and paperwork.

