

Welcome!

Rowing BC Annual Umpire Seminar

Rowing
British
Columbia

As others are joining, please ensure you:



- ✓ Join from a laptop/desktop instead of a tablet/phone
- ✓ Email sofie@rowingbc.ca if you need technical help



- ✓ Keep your mic on mute, and video on
- ✓ Choose a location with minimum background noise



- ✓ Have your coffee and notepad nearby



Rowing British Columbia

Annual Umpire Seminar

Virtual Environment | January 23, 2021

Agenda

9:00 AM	Zoom open for unstructured conversation	–
9:15 AM	Welcome	David Calder
9:20 AM	Agenda and General Reminders	Gordon Sund
9:22 AM	RCA Umpire Committee Report	Judy Sutcliffe
9:30 AM	RCA Safety and Events Committee Report	Mike Bagshawe
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11:45 AM	Conclusion. Stay on Zoom to socialize 😊	–



Welcome

Rowing BC's work takes place all across the province.

This seminar is broadcast from our offices in Vancouver & Victoria.

- In Vancouver our work takes place on the unceded, traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.
- In Victoria, our work takes place within the traditional territories of the Lək̓wəŋən peoples known today as Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the W̱SÁNEĆ peoples known today as W̱JOL̓EŁP (Tsartlip), BOK̓ÉC̓EN (Pauquachin), S̓TÁUTW̱ (Tsawout), W̱SIK̓EM (Tseycum) and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) Nations.

To support the use of this virtual environment, please:

- Keep your video on, but mic on mute
- Utilize the chat box for questions/comments/concerns
- Rename yourself to include your full name
- Contact sofie@rowingbc.ca if you need any technical support



Welcome

Umpires involved on Rowing BC Committees:

Kris Davis (Rowing BC Board, Competition Review Taskforce)

Laurel Glanfield (Umpire Committee)

Tim Henderson (Umpire Committee)

Leslie Manders (Rowing BC Board, Interior Development Committee)

Rick McDougall (Regatta Committee)

Sheree Moffatt (Umpire Committee)

York Langerfeld (Rowing BC Board, Competition Review Taskforce,
Coastal Rowing Taskforce)

Simon Litherland (Regatta Committee)

Ge-An Rijniersce (Umpire Committee, Regatta Committee)

Glenn Robb (Umpire Committee)

Gordon Sund (Umpire Committee)

Susan Wilkinson (Rowing BC Board, Competition Review Taskforce)

Lauren Wilkinson (Regatta Committee)



Welcome

Associate Umpire Clinicians:

Tim Henderson

Simon Litherland

Ge-An Rijniesrce

Umpire Clinicians:

Mike Bagshawe

Rowing BC Annual Awards Recipients:

Umpire of the Year – Gordon Sund



Welcome

Herb Challier (1939 – 2020)

The rowing community in Canada has lost a good friend. Herb Challier passed away late on June 30, 2020. Herb had been dealing with a number of health issues, the worst being cancer. Over the years Herb had been part of literally every aspect of our sport. Here is an adapted biography that Rowing BC published ahead of the 2018 Rowing BC Conference:

Herb Challier was awarded a Rowing Canada Aviron Long Service Award in 2015 for his over 55 years of involvement in the BC and Canadian rowing communities. Herb was part of the UBC Men's Rowing Team 1960-1963 and has since then continued to consistently give back to the rowing community. Herb was a member of the host committee of the 1973 Canada Summer Games, securing Burnaby Lake as the rowing, kayaking and canoeing venue which led to the building of a FISA certified course, pavilion and grandstand on the Burnaby Lake site. He has also been involved in the architectural designing of multiple BC boathouses (and dream boathouses still to come!). Herb was part of designing the Journey 1, 2, 3 Program implemented by RCA in the early 2000s to help coaches easily introduce more participants to the sport of rowing through a successful and supportive learn to row experience. Herb has been a longtime umpire in BC, famously claiming to be one of the first, if not the very first nationally certified umpire in BC.

The rowing community in BC celebrated Herb Challier through a virtual gathering on July 16, 2020.



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ROWING CANADA AVIRON UMPIRES COMMITTEE

Presentation to the

Rowing British Columbia Umpires' Meeting

January 2021

Judy Sutcliffe, Chair, RCA Umpires Committee

Overview



1. RCA Umpires Committee Structure & members
2. Sub-Committees
3. 2019-20 Accomplishments
4. Impact of Pandemic on UC Activities
5. 2021 Planned
6. Recruitment
7. Final Points
8. Questions?

RCA Umpires Committee



- Technical Committee – reports to CEO, provides advice to Board
- Chair appointed by CEO – open call
- Members appointed by Chair – open call
- Members:
 - Errol Bosman (Calgary, AB)
 - Donna Bliss (Fredericton, NB)
 - Marie-Sophie Desaulniers (Ottawa, ON)
 - Debbie Sage (Clinton, ON)
 - Julia-Ann Vincent (Halifax, N.S.)

Committee Structure



- According to the RCA UC [Terms of Reference](#):
 - “...up to six members selected for their knowledge of umpiring, capacity in policy development, and capability and willingness to undertake committee work. A minimum of one member of the UC shall be a licensed FISA umpire”
 - “...selected through a structured application process”

Sub-Committees



- Umpire Education and Development (UEDSC)
 - Chair – Donna Bliss (L4), Guylaine Bernier (L4), Julie-Ann Vincent
- National Jury (NJSC) - six members – Chair + 5 - RCA UC Member is Chair (Debbie Sage) and representatives from :
 - British Columbia - Ge-An Rijniersce
 - Prairies – Audra Vair
 - Ontario – Louise Hastings
 - Quebec – Julie Thibault
 - Atlantic – Linda Lee

2019/2020 Accomplishments (1/2)



- National Jury appointments for 2020 and appointees given first right of refusal for 2021
- National Jury process review completed based on umpire survey
- National Juries process revised for 2021 and prepare for call when National Regattas determined
- Umpire uniform survey, report, decision, new kit confirmed
- Rules of Racing – Review and updating of coastal rules
- Level 1 online material created

2019/2020 Accomplishments (2/2)



- Task force on para-umpires begun
- Clinician kits, compensation resolved, communicated to PRAs, and **succession planning** initiated
 - Appointment of three Associate Clinicians in BC (Simon Litherland, Ge-an Rijniersce and Tim Henderson), two in Ontario (Andrew Smith, Debbie Sage) and one in Quebec (Guillaume Chretien)
- 2 meetings with PRA UC Chairs / Umpire Coordinators
- Confirm Level 2 Seminar content and share with all clinicians and PRAs – aim for consistency of umpiring across Canada



2020 Pandemic Implications

Changes arising from the global pandemic

- National Jury appointees 2020 – first right of refusal on 2021 NJs
- **Evaluations** – 2017-2019 block ended with 62% of all RCA umpires fully evaluated and compliant with the RCA Policy (62% for BC as well).
 - **Grace year** created for the first year of the 2020-2022 block, but now extended to December 2021 because of pandemic
 - Evaluation block now 2020-2023 (4 yrs.), followed by 2024-26, 2027-29, etc.
 - Umpires who did not get 3 evaluations in 2017-19, will need to get 6 evaluations in 2020-2023, plus attend a Level 2 Seminar, to maintain their license



2021 Planned

- Umpire uniform – stocking and supplying uniform pieces (production delayed due to pandemic)
- Rules of Racing review – whole review, starting with FISA Rules' changes, analysis of sanction application exception requests
- Umpire Development Program – to support umpires to get more experience outside their province, if not selected for a National Jury
- Level 1 clinic delivered online – likely by fall, supplement to in-person workshops, can do anywhere, anytime.
- Para-umpire pilot program



Recruitment

- We need to refresh the umpire cadre across Canada, we need younger, more diverse umpires
- Best people to recruit umpires are umpires – you know what's involved and why you do it
- Umpire [training pathway](#)
- Masters athletes, Seniors, National Team alumni—approach them and make the pitch



Final Points

- Sanction applications - Chief Umpires need to be involved in the development of the sanction application
- Evaluation - Umpire evaluation was introduced in 2011 by the RCA Board through [Policy](#). Umpires need to be evaluated in 3 of 5 stations once every three years (as described earlier)
- Safe Sport Policy is on its way—RCA National Conference announcement – will apply to umpires



Questions?

(You may submit these in writing if you wish,
and I will “reply all”.)

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Rowing British Columbia

RCA Safety and Events Committee Report

Mike Bagshawe

RCA Safety and Events Committee

Committee members

Chair Mike Bagshawe [BC]
 Matteo Cendamo [QC]
 Lynda Dundas [ON]
 Tim Henderson [BC]
 Andrew Smith [ON]



RCA Safety and Events Committee

Responsibilities

- Sanction [Event, Indoor, Come-and-Try, Touring]
- Regatta Manual
- Safety Guidelines
- National Training Centre safety reviews
- National Regatta reviews
- Safety Video



RCA Safety and Events Committee

2021 planned tasks

- Build relationships with PRA sanctioning bodies
- Provide training for PRA sanctioning bodies where necessary
- Act as content advisers in the completion of a rowing safety on-line presentation
- Participate in the Rules of Racing Review Group
- Review Safety Guidelines
- Work with RCA to ensure recommended sanction application changes are implemented
- Review safety at the Elk Lake and/or Quamichan NTC
- Review all National Regattas



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Rowing
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RCA Umpires, Regattas and COVID-19

Terry Dillon

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Rowing British Columbia

Return to Regattas Umpire Perspective

David Calder

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Rowing British Columbia

Rowing BC Umpire Committee Report Gordon Sund

Umpire Committee Report highlights 1/6

Pre-Covid 2020 statistics:

33 events

53 days

564 “recommended Umpire days”

RCA Rules of Racing (5.2.1, etc.):

Chief Umpires to be involved in the regatta planning process (including Sanction Application)



Umpire Committee Report highlights 2/6

Seminar (January 2020):

38 Umpires attended

Almost **60%** of our Licensed Umpires

Umpire Committee:

Laurel Glanfield *

Tim Henderson*

Sheree Moffatt

Ge-An Rijniersce

Glenn Robb

Gordon Sund *

* 2-year term



Umpire Committee Report highlights 3/6

Covid-19:

Restrictions resulted in regatta cancellations (announced mid-March to September).

Until then, only 36 “Umpire days” had been utilized (in 4 Indoor Rowing events and the 2-day Elk Lake Spring regatta) out of 500 filled.

National regatta nominations had been completed by mid-February. By April, applications for the US Rowing Northwest Regionals were abandoned.



Umpire Committee Report highlights 4/6

Clinician Selection Sub-Committee:

A very thorough process resulted in the appointment by RCA of 2 more Associate Clinicians in BC.

Mike Bagshawe

Tim Henderson (August 2020)

Simon Litherland (November 2019)

Ge-An Rijniersce (August 2020)



Umpire Committee Report highlights 5/6

Umpire counts:

45 Assistant

8 Associate

51 Licensed (Level 2 or greater -- 4 Associate Chief and 15 Chief (Level 3); 3 Associate Clinicians and 1 Clinician (Level 4); 2 FISA (Level 5).



Umpire Committee Report highlights 6/6

Full report available at

<https://rowingbc.ca/umpire-resources/> (Seminar 2021)

Questions?



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Rowing BC

Operational Update

David Calder

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Rowing British Columbia

Rowing BC Regatta Committee Report

Ge-An Rijniersce

Regatta Committee Report

The Rowing BC Regatta Committee:

- Aalbert Van Schothorst (Chair),
- Rick McDougall,
- Simon Litherland, ,
- Ge-An Rijniersce,
- Lauren Wilkinson,
- Stacy Mitchell (Rowing BC President),
- Martin George (Staff Support),
- Sonja Lonne (Staff Support).

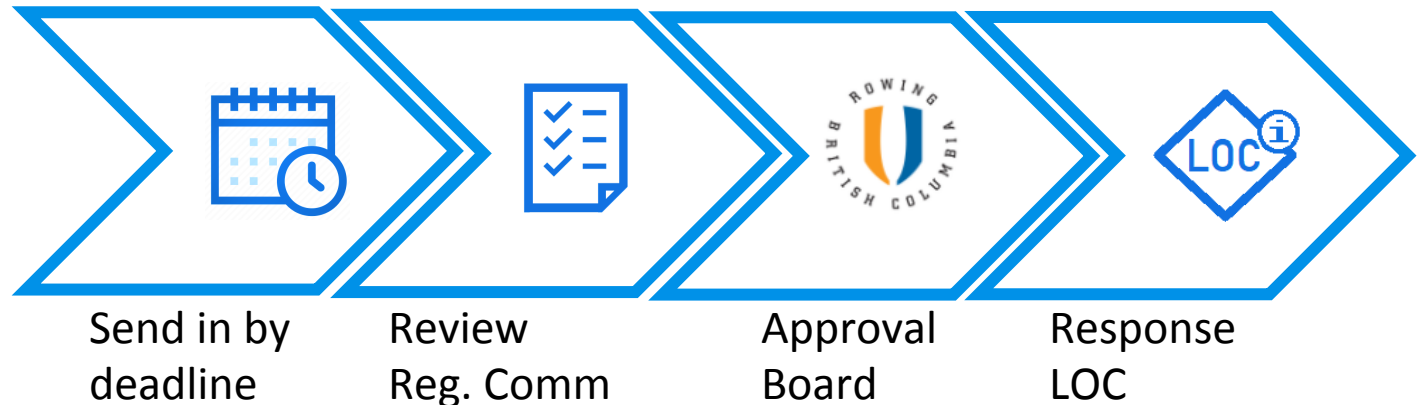
Function:

- Recommend sanction approvals
- Standardize element of regatta planning
- Enhance execution of sanctioned regattas.



Regatta Committee Report

Sanction Approval Process



Improvements

- CU and LOC work together
- More complete sanction applications
- Faster process, more lead time for the event



Regatta Committee Report

Last Year

- Pre-pandemic: timely sanctioning
- Rest of the year: all but 4 events cancelled.
 - Timeline for cancellations
 - Regatta-related Zoom calls

This Year

- Continued involvement sanctioning
- Resource for LOCs



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Rowing
British
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Brown Cup

Officiating Considerations

Gordon Sund

Brown Cup ^{2/14}

Longstanding rivalry:

University of British Columbia *versus* University of Victoria

Races:

4 Dual style head-to-head 8+

8 crews ((Men, Women X Reserve, Varsity)

Simplified itinerary:

Coin Toss, Tale of the Tape, launch (every 30 minutes);
Race (1 hour after CT)



Brown Cup 3/14

Brief History

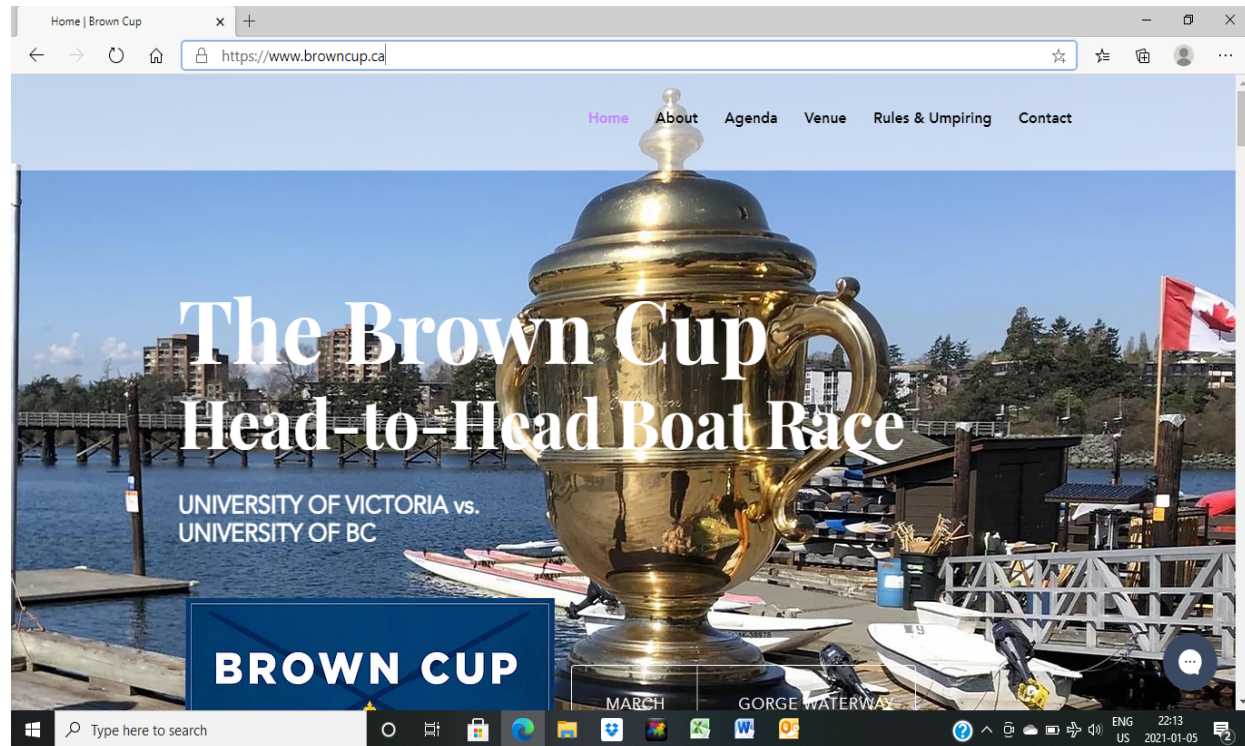
Men's crews first raced in 1991 on the Gorge Waterway (Esquimalt, Saanich and Victoria). Women's crews were added in 1992 in Coal Harbour. (Mainland course is now on the Fraser River (Richmond) from Mitchell Island to the John M S Lecky UBC Boathouse.) The Brown Cup Trophy has been awarded to the winners of the Varsity races since 1993 (with the Brown Cup Oar travelling to the winners' boathouse). The Joe Dowd - Howie Campbell Cup has been awarded to the winners of the Reserve races since 2014.

Recent Men's Varsity times have varied between 07:23 and 10:26 on the Fraser River and 08:47 and 10:38 on the Gorge Waterway depending on currents, distance, ... and crews.



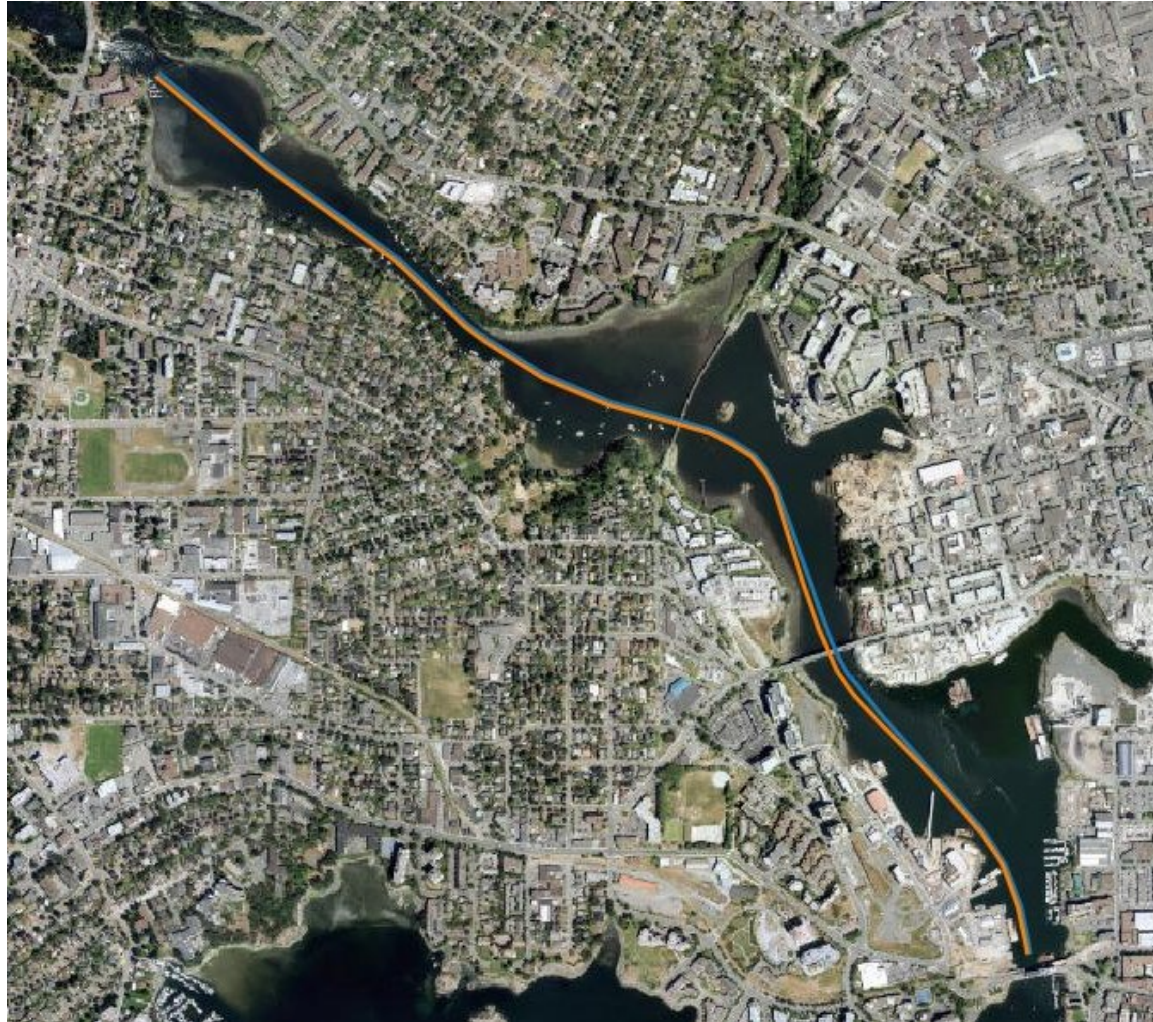
Brown Cup 4/14

See the above in more detail at <https://www.browncup.ca/>



Brown Cup 5/14

The Gorge Waterway course



Brown Cup 6/14

YouTube

Brown Cup - UBC vs UVic - Gorge Waterway (2016 *)

Women's Varsity Race - Drone (Proposed new Start visible at 0:01/14:50, Curtis Point at :40, docks at 1:45, Selkirk Trestle at 3:45, navigational aid at 5:10, Point Ellice Bridge at 6:10, Point Hope at 6:45, Finish at old Johnson Street Bridge 3.0 km **) - UVic:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWqai-W6uEQ>

Women's Varsity Race (Selkirk Trestle at 2:25/5:57):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3j_ZWCUmH_w



Brown Cup 7/14

- * The Brown Cup and Reserves Race Rules of Racing were re-written for 2019. Emphasized is that Race Umpires will now direct crews in plenty of time to prevent their crossing the center line between stations/lanes. No longer will a clashing of blades (or switching stations even with clear water) be tolerated.
- ** Finish at Ship Point in the Inner Harbour 3.5 km in 2019



Brown Cup 8/14

Men's Varsity Race - Drone (Proposed new Start visible at 0:50/9:39, Curtis Point at 1:10, docks at 2:10, Selkirk Trestle at 4:25, navigational aid at 5:20, Point Ellice Bridge at 6:40, *Point Hope at 7:20* ***, Finish at old Johnson Street Bridge) - UVic 9:01.42:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI0Uas87E98>

Men's Varsity Race (Selkirk Trestle at 1:19/3:46):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvyLhPkDGMI>

*** Aggressive coxswains had been the chief bane of Race Umpires, but, for the totally unexpected, see "*Point Hope at 7:20*" above.



Brown Cup 9/14

Officiating Considerations (/Critical differences from other races)

1 Preventing encroachment -- remaining on station

There is no buoy line and the course is not straight. The fastest course can vary due to currents and shallow water and the coxswains will be trying to take advantage of it. Until 2019, inter-leaving and minor clashing of blades was almost an expectation. Now, Race Umpires are to direct crews in plenty of time to prevent their crossing the center line between stations/lanes (even if ahead with clear water).

2 Entry to the Selkirk Trestle

The crews must pass through perpendicularly so as to not converge before the (starboard turn) navigational aid.



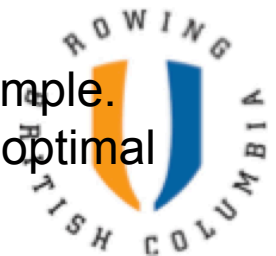
Brown Cup 10/14

3 Turns

Umpires are to anticipate the greater lane “width” required for turns than in a typical straight-line Sprint race (where RCA Rules of Racing state that lanes shall have a minimum width of 13.5 m). An 8+ is approximately 7 m (blade tip to blade tip) wide ... typically leaving about 6 m of separation between competitors in a Sprint. We often witness a prolonged nerve-wrenching 1 m in the Brown Cup! However, on a 45 degree turn, a Hudson shell’s 17.4 m length will cause an additional 6 m of lane obstruction ... suddenly leaving no margin of safety.

4 Shallow water at points of land projecting toward the course

Curtis Point just after the old Start was one such example. These require both crews to stand off far enough for optimal racing conditions.



Brown Cup 11/14

Event Enhancements

For 2020, a Sport Tourism grant for branding and sponsorship spanning 2 years led to a stand-alone committee with a Project Manager elevated from the usual UBC or UVic individual organizations.

Course improvements are to include a new Start at the rock wall at the foot of McNaughton Ave (eliminating past concerns of Tillicum Narrows' current and lateral spacing) ... and with boat holders. The new Finish Line was to be right in the scenic Inner Harbour perpendicular to the CPR Steamship Terminal Building. The intent is to also to launch from there with dignitaries, pomp and ceremony amongst the iconic backdrops of Empress Hotel and Legislative Assembly in partnership with Tourism Victoria and others. Shorter Alumni races are to be a prelude.



Brown Cup 12/14

Another interesting feature of the new organization is a Technical Sub-Committee consisting of 4 Coaches that has been brain-storming various other “operational enhancements”. They did experiment in the February UVic Trial Eights with an LOC “Caller/Guide” and an Umpire relegated to after-the-fact adjudication. As the Chief Umpire of the day, I now have a multitude of (primarily evidence based) reasons to firmly oppose this concept.

As most of us are aware, this end of March regatta was the second casualty of Covid-19 cancellations.



Brown Cup 13/14

Umpire roles (2020 and beyond)

There is a great deal of pressure from the LOC for each race's officiating to be above reproach. One simplistic solution would be to ensure the involvement of only Trial Eights &/ Brown Cup "experienced" Umpires. With the vagaries of jury signups and attrition, plus limited launch capacities, this was far from guaranteed.

However, the Race Umpire Launch will now be a Stillwater 25 which should permit both an experienced Primary plus a possibly new to the Brown Cup Secondary aboard. For each subsequent race, rotating the (previous) Aligner to Starter, Primary to Aligner, Secondary to Primary, and Starter to Secondary should ensure the integrity of each race and increase the experience pool for subsequent years.



Brown Cup 14/14

A PDF version of this presentation is (/will be) available at <https://rowingbc.ca/umpire-resources/> (Seminar 2021)

Questions?



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Rowing British Columbia

Transition to RCA Seminar Packages (Level 2 and 3)

Mike Bagshawe

Level 2 and 3 Seminars

All licenced Level 2 Umpires are required to participate in a Level 2 Seminar, a new requirement which is mandated within the RCA Umpire Licensing Policy.

There is also a Level 3 Seminar, with participation similarly mandated for certified Level 3 Umpires.

These Seminars are **NOT** a replacement for the traditional January umpire meeting hosted by Rowing British Columbia.



Level 2 and 3 Seminars

The RCA framework for a seminar:

- reviewing umpires' responsibilities with respect to licence maintenance and umpire roles at regattas;
- reviewing a topic deemed by the PRA UC/Umpire Coordinator and clinicians to be of interest to umpires in that province, e.g., review of coastal regattas rules or head racing or indoor rules, etc.;
- reviewing a topic more broadly related to rowing in that jurisdiction.



Level 2 and 3 Seminars

MAINTAINING AN RCA UMPIRE LICENCE

6. To maintain an RCA Umpire Licence, an Umpire is required to meet the following requirements:

- a. Ensure the information in RCA Web Registration System is up to date (Annually);
- b. Be in good standing with RCA and the PRA of their province
- c. Be active locally/provincially, serving as an Umpire at least once a year, where possible;
- d. Be evaluated in three-year blocks and be deemed to have met the evaluation requirement;
- e. Attend an umpire seminar a minimum of once every three years, matching the three-year blocks for evaluation;
- f. Do not umpire at a Canadian regatta that is not sanctioned by RCA;
- g. Abide by the policies of RCA, including the RCA Code of Conduct, the RCA Prevention of Abuse, Harassment and Bullying Policy and Procedure, and the Umpire Code of Conduct (Rules of Racing s.11.5).



Level 2 and 3 Seminars

EVALUATION BLOCKS

Table of Evaluation Blocks				
January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2023 Grace Period Until December 2021	January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026	January 1, 2027– December 31, 2029	January 1, 2030- December 31, 2032	January 1, 2033 - December 31, 2035



Level 2 and 3 Seminars

The Level 2 seminar

The RCA-mandated material includes:

- Overview of RCA Umpire Licensing Policy
- Overview of evaluations
- Review of umpire roles at regattas
 - Control Commission
 - Judge at the Start
 - Starter
 - Race Umpire
 - Judge at the Finish



Level 2 and 3 Seminars

The Level 3 seminar

The RCA-mandated material includes:

- Review of Sanction document
- Review of Mentoring
- Review of RCA Umpire Licensing Policy
- Review of Evaluation Policy requirements
- Review of umpire roles at regattas
- Forum for discussion of situations experienced as a CU and how they were handled
- Chief Umpire checklist
- Pre-regatta preparation
- Jury Communication and meeting
- Coaches meeting
- Regatta installations
- Regatta day
- Post-regatta follow-up



Level 2 and 3 Seminars

Given today's Covid environment, the Level 2 and 3 seminars will be delivered via Zoom for the foreseeable future.

The RCA-mandated material for each seminar is too extensive to be covered in one Zoom call – the seminar will likely be split into multiple sessions. We shall be communicating the dates for the sessions when they have been determined.

Questions and discussion will be encouraged.

There is no test or exam associated with either seminar.

The seminar delivery will be shared between Mike, Simon, Ge-An and Tim.

You can participate in seminars delivered outside BC. However, you will need to have covered all the RCA-mandated material in order to meet the “attend an umpire seminar” requirement of the RCA Umpire Licensing Policy.



Agenda

9:00 AM	Zoom open for unstructured conversation	–
9:15 AM	Welcome	David Calder
9:20 AM	Agenda and General Reminders	Gordon Sund
9:22 AM	RCA Umpire Committee Report	Judy Sutcliffe
9:30 AM	RCA Safety and Events Committee Report	Mike Bagshawe
9:38 AM	RCA Umpires, Regattas and COVID-19	Terry Dillon
9:58 AM	Return to Regattas – Umpire Perspective	David Calder
10:28 AM	Rowing BC Umpire Committee Report	Gordon Sund
10:36 AM	Rowing BC Operational Updates	David Calder
10:44 AM	Rowing BC Regatta Committee Report	Ge-An Rijniersce
10:52 AM	Brown Cup Officiating Considerations	Gordon Sund
11:10 AM	Transition to RCA Seminar Packages	Mike Bagshawe
11:25 AM	Umpire Community Building	Tim Henderson
11:40 AM	Rowing BC Umpire Committee Elections	David Calder
11:45 AM	Conclusion. Stay on Zoom to socialize 😊	–





Rowing
British
Columbia

Umpire Community Building

Breakout Groups

Agenda

9:00 AM	Zoom open for unstructured conversation	–
9:15 AM	Welcome	David Calder
9:20 AM	Agenda and General Reminders	Gordon Sund
9:22 AM	RCA Umpire Committee Report	Judy Sutcliffe
9:30 AM	RCA Safety and Events Committee Report	Mike Bagshawe
9:38 AM	RCA Umpires, Regattas and COVID-19	Terry Dillon
9:58 AM	Return to Regattas – Umpire Perspective	David Calder
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11:45 AM	Conclusion. Stay on Zoom to socialize 😊	–





Rowing
British
Columbia

Rowing BC
Umpire Committee Elections
David Calder

Umpire Committee Elections

Motion:

Sheree Moffatt, Ge-An Rijniersce and Glenn Robb be appointed by acclamation to the Rowing BC Umpire Committee, each for a two year term.

Someone to move the above motion.

Someone to second the above motion.

Vote by all Licensed BC Umpires present.



Agenda

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Conclusion

**Thank you for all you do to
support Rowing BC and the
rowing community in BC!**

