

## **2022 Umpire Committee Candidates**

### **Tim Henderson**

I have a keen interest in the promotion and development of umpires in British Columbia and feel that I have experience that will support the Committee and our new and experienced colleagues.

I received my RCA Level 2 licence in 2007 and have held a range of roles within the rowing community since then, serving as a Jury member or the Chief Umpire for local, provincial and regional, and national regattas including those at multi-sport games such as the B.C. Summer Games and the Canada Summer Games; serving as a member of the Rowing BC Umpire Committee and on the Rowing BC Board of Directors; and serving on the RCA Umpire Committee and the Safety and Events Committee. I also have the privilege of serving as a FISA umpire and have participated at several regattas as an NTO (support to the Jury) or ITO (member of the Jury) since 2015.

British Columbia has an outstanding group of umpires, and an amazing group currently serving on the Umpire Committee. I would be delighted to join them in the work to supporting our colleagues and the athletes, coaches, parents and other volunteers who call Rowing “their sport”. I have much to learn from them all, but also feel that I have something to offer our community and our team.

### **Margaret Shorter**

I was a late-comer to rowing. After being a runner for many years, I turned to recreational rowing for all-body fitness with less impact on my joints. I took my first Learn-to-row course at Delta Deas and a few years later found my place at Surrey’s Nicomekl Rowing Club. I was part of building the new clubhouse, participated in club leadership, and enjoyed the company of new friends in my new sport.

Fast forward several years when Nicomekl stalwart (and, unbeknown to me, Chief Umpire) Malcolm Fletcher approached me and asked whether I would be interested in umpiring. By this time I was also a regular volunteer at Cascadia Masters Championships where friend and rowing companion Shelley Fletcher was a key organizer. With their encouragement, I began volunteering as an Associate, attending the annual Umpire development seminar, and collecting regatta experience(s).

Some of those highlights: witnessing the passion of people like para-coach Martin George in their commitment to the athletes; being immersed in the cultural diversity of the first World Coastal Rowing event in Canada; and finally realizing that “..there is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats”. (Kenneth Grahame, *The Wind in the Willows*)

## **Gordon Sund**

I started down this path in the late 1990s by volunteering as a Safety and Umpire boat driver due to a son and daughter rowing in the High School program. During one Fall regatta, Wayne van Osterhout recruited me to attend an Associate course and I became Licensed in 2002. For the last several years, I've usually averaged around 27 days annually at local regattas. Since 2004, I've been on out-of-province National juries 5 times (in-province at least 5 more times) as well as officiating annually at a USRA NW Regional Championship regatta until Covid-19 struck.

Since 2005, I've maintained the Island Umpires' equipment. In 2011, I was elected to the Rowing BC Umpire Committee. Toward the end of 2011, I obtained my Chief Umpire (Level 3) License ... having first performed the role in 2005. In January 2013, I retired from the Quality Assurance and Business Processes section (after much longer in Information Services) of BC Assessment. My duties there combined with several years' service as a Union Area Rep and then Regional Director reinforced my inclination toward accuracy and an attention to detail. I still utilize a remnant of skill with Microsoft Office maintaining our records.

In 2014, I participated in Skills Event Training in preparation for that year's BC Summer Games. I helped with RCA Rules of Racing presentations to the Western Canada Summer Games Identification Camp U19 in 2015 and various GYRS High School groups since. I also spent 2 years (2015-2016) on the Regatta Review Working Group. Since 2019, it has been my pleasure to serve as the Chair of the UC.