



Rowing British Columbia

Changes to the Rules of Racing

An overview ...

Changes to the Rules of Racing

In November 2020 the Rules of Racing Working Group (WG) received its mandate from the RCA Board. The members were as follows:

Bill Donegan, ON - Chair

Judy Sutcliffe, ON – Umpire Committee Nomination

Julie-Ann Vincent, NS- Umpire Committee Nomination

Matt Waddell, ON- Coach Ed and Dev. Committee Nomination

Mike Bagshawe, BC- Safety and Events Committee Nomination

Andrew Smith, ON- Safety and Events Committee Nomination

Dave Derry, ON

Brooklea Graham, AB

Mike Walker, ON

Brent Duncan, BC

Julie Thibault, QC

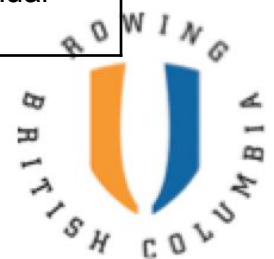
Iain Brambell – RCA HP

Carol Purcer – RCA President (ex-officio)



Changes to the Rules of Racing

Date	Action
November 2020	Rules of Racing Working Group prepared consultation paper to solicit input from all stakeholders
December 2020	Consultation started. Written comments requested; Working Group initiates consultative process with various stakeholders.
January 30 2021	Virtual consultation discussion with Stakeholders at RCA Semi Annual Meeting.
February 5 2021	Deadline for Stakeholder submissions.
February – September 2021	Working Group reviewed consultation submissions and conducts detailed review of Rules of Racing, including consideration of recent changes approved by World Rowing.
September 2021	Draft proposals released for comment from stakeholders.
October 2021	Comments on draft proposals received; the Working Group then reviewed the comments and developed final recommendations.
November 2021	Recommendations delivered to RCA Board of Directors.
January 2022	Recommendations put to Membership at RCA Semi-Annual Meeting



Changes to the Rules of Rowing

Issues Studied

- ❖ Changes to World Rowing Rules
- ❖ Beach Sprints
- ❖ How to reduce exceptions to the RoR in Sanction applications
- ❖ Giving control of logistical issues back to Organizing Committees

Issues raised via feedback

- ❖ Abolition of Junior Lightweight
- ❖ Definition of a regatta

'Housekeeping' changes

- ❖ Gender-neutrality
- ❖ Punctuation
- ❖ Alteration to reflect changes to RCA Policy



Changes to the Rules of Rowing

Implementation

- ❖ RCA has decided on June 8th, 2022 as the date that the revised RoR will become effective
- ❖ The RCA Umpire Committee is working on a presentation to be delivered nationally that will teach the changes to the RoR
- ❖ That material will be delivered by your clinicians later in the year, ahead of the June 8th implementation



Changes to the Rules of Rowing

Changes that affect us as Umpires

- ❖ Coxie weights – a max of 15kgs will be carried, even if the coxie should carry more
- ❖ If a coxie fails to weigh in, the crew is to be excluded
- ❖ “Lightweight” events are now “weight-restricted” events
- ❖ Expect the weigh-in weights to vary – the OC can decide on the weights for their regatta
- ❖ Expect the weigh-in times to vary – the OC can decide on the times for their regatta
- ❖ The word “laces” has been removed from the quick-release heel-tie rule. Laces will be banned.
- ❖ Para equipment rules now mirror World Rowing Para rules
- ❖ Substance-free Field of Play – no alcohol, cigarettes, e-cigarettes or cannabis allowed



Changes to the Rules of Rowing

Changes that affect us as Umpires

- ❖ Uniforms – polo shirts are now legal!
- ❖ Clarity around Assistants and Associates with regards to the Jury: they may not be members of the Jury.
- ❖ The Appendices were re-ordered – the Start Script will be Appendix 6
- ❖ The start commands for a Quick Start have been altered
- ❖ The actions of the Race Umpire around interference have been spelled out in more detail
- ❖ The minimum distance between ergometers at an Indoor event has been altered



Changes to the Rules of Racing

Changes that affect us as Umpires

- ❖ Coastal rules were extensively altered, reflecting in part the evolution of Coastal racing
- ❖ A U19 category has been added to Coastal racing
- ❖ In Coastal events, any jury member may prohibit a crew from going onto the water if they consider that crew to be a danger to themselves or other crews
- ❖ Time penalties in Coastal events may be replaced with penalty loops or penalty turns, or a penalty box [land-based finish]
- ❖ Beach Sprint rules were added as an Appendix

