

...Quick Start!

Atlantic Regional RCA Umpire News

...An "All Call!" going out to our RCA umpires in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick!

& a hearty *Welcome - Bienvenue!* to our newest rowing province - Prince Edward Island!!
As we prepare to host the 2009 Jeux Canada Games.

Some good news, our new National Chair for the RCA Umpires' Working Committee is Wes Kuran. Wes hails from the Ottawa Rowing Club and is a very active umpire in that region, and also internationally as a FISA umpire.

The members of the RCA Umpires Working Committee (W.Comm.), besides the Chair - include Wayne van Osterhaut (BC, and Umpire Education), Brian Fiori (the Prairies), Tom Blacquiere (Ontario), Guylaine Bernier (Quebec, and FISA), and myself - Trecia Schell (the Atlantic provinces). And we are assisted by Dave Derry (RCA Domestic Development Officer, who is also an RCA & FISA umpire from Ontario).

RCA FISA Umpires update: RCA nominated 11 candidates, and 9 were chosen for 7 international regattas in 2007-2008 - from the 2007 Pan American Games regatta in Rio de Janeiro, to the 4 FISA Worlds regattas and the 2008 Olympic & ParaOlympic Games in Beijing China.

Of special kudos - Guylaine Bernier (Quebec) will be the President of the Jury (FISA) for the 2007 Pan Am's and the 2008 ParaOlympics. Congratulations all!



In quick review -

The RCA Umpires committee budget is currently under review for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. We have taken a loss of 4,000\$ from the proposed annual budget of 37,000\$ (down from 51,000\$ in 2006-2007), as RCA's domestic budget has had to accommodate a decrease in federal sport funding. What does this funding change affect?

Well for the moment, it significantly impacts the amount of nationally-based umpiring service that we may be able to provide... such as assisting in the travel and accommodation costs of providing 5-10 provincial representatives to the Juries of the National Junior Speed Orders, the Royal Canadian Henley (RCHR, St. Catherine's, ON), the RCA Canadian Masters Regatta (Victoria, BC), the National

Canadian Championship Regatta (NCR, Welland, ON), and a very small amount to our FISA umpires traveling abroad. The RCHR is the only regatta that does provide some financial assistance to umpires who officiate at the regatta. All other national regattas rely on the RCA Umpires budget for financial assistance. From the Atlantic region, we may receive a 'Call for RCA Umpires to the Jury' for the RCHR (August), and the NCR (November).

Within that budget, it also impacts the re-licensing and updating of our RCA Umpire clinicians, the updating of the *RCA Rules of Racing* video, and reprinting of the *RofR* updates to the 2006 edition. The RCA Umpires budget also covers the cost of providing RCA uniform ties and *RofR* manuals to all our newly licensed umpires, and W.Comm. conference calls or meetings. (... We may have to start our own fundraising car washes and cookie sales.....and talk to your provincial representative on the RCA Membership Fee Review Committee.)

The RCA Umpires W.Comm. has struck a task force to review and update the RCA procedures for the removal of an RCA umpire license due to incidents of "conduct unbecoming an RCA umpire".

Three additional Appendices of guidelines for competitive rowing are in preparation by the RCA Safety & Events Committee to be reviewed and added to the *RCA Rules of Racing*. They include *Adaptive Racing*, *Head Racing*, and *Indoor Racing*. Task forces from the Umpires Committee will be struck to review the Appendices when they are ready to review.

Notification of upcoming regattas for 2007 -

- NSRA& RCA events are posted on www.novascotiarowing.ca.
- NSRA Icebreaker - 19th May 2007 (weather date: 20th May 2007); Dartmouth, NS, North Star Rowing Club grounds (Chief Umpire: Moe Cody).
- RNBA High School Regatta - 26th May 2007; Rothsay, NB, Kennebecasis Rowing Club grounds (Chief Umpire: Louise Beland).

Upcoming Clinics & Seminars -

- NSRA RCA Umpire review clinic - **Tuesday 08th May, 2007** - 6 to 8 pm, SportNS conference room (on Spring Garden Road, Halifax; contact T. Schell, tschell@dal.ca).
- RNBA RCA Umpire clinic for new candidates - **Saturday 05th - Sunday 06th May, 2007**, Rothsay-Netherwood School, Rothsay/Saint John NB; contact T. Schell, tschell@dal.ca.

- Items of Note -

-Rules of Racing 2006 edition changes-

Please note, the following are the list of RCA Board approved changes to the *RCA Rules of Racing*. RCA will be mailing out to each of you revised pages for your little binder *Rules of Racing 2006 edition* (provided they have your correct address).

Summary of the Eleven Changes to the RCA Rules of Racing
(Published, February 2006)
As Approved by the RCA Board of Directors
March 31, 2007

To Come Into Effect June, 1, 2007

I Article 2.5 – p. 16, Coxswains Weights

CHANGE *“The coxswain must comply with the weight requirement for the event in which the coxswain is entered.”*

TO *“The combined weights of the coxswain and deadweight (less than or equal to ten kilograms) must not be less than fifty or fifty-five kilograms in the respective event for which the crew is entered.”*

II Article 2.5 -- p. 17, Coxswains Weights ...continued

CHANGE *“At any time, before or immediately after the race, the Umpire may require the deadweight to be shown and the Control Commission to reweigh.”*

TO *“At any time, before or immediately after the race, the Control Commission or the Umpire may require the deadweight to be reweighed.”*

III Article 2.6 (b) – p. 18, Weighing of Coxswains

CHANGE *“At all other regattas, coxswains shall be weighed wearing their racing uniform on tested scales at a time to be determined by the Organizing Committee each day of the competition.”*

TO *At all other regattas, the weigh-ins shall be conducted within a minimum three hour time period; weigh-in to commence a minimum of one hour prior to the commencement of racing each day of competition. Coxswains shall be weighed wearing their racing uniforms, on tested scales and present themselves within the three hour time period, at a time determined by the Organizing Committee.”*

IV Article 2.11 (b) -- p. 22 Weighing of Lightweighters

CHANGE *“At all other regattas, lightweight rowers shall be weighed wearing their racing uniform once per weight category per race day, on tested scales, at a time to be determined by the Organizing Committee.”*

TO *“At all other regattas, the weigh-ins shall be conducted within a minimum three hour time period; weigh-in to commence a minimum of one hour prior to commencement of racing each day of competition. Lightweight rowers shall be weighed wearing their racing uniforms, on tested scales and present themselves within the three hour time period, at a time to be determined by the Organizing Committee.”*

V Article 3.9 -- p. 27 Minimum Boat Weights

Owing to the impracticality of enforcing weight constraints, article 3.9 is to be deleted in its entirety from the Rules of Racing.

VI Article 10.4 -- p. 57 For Adaptive Events, shall be replaced with the following:

“10.4 For Adaptive Events (visually impaired):

The Starter shall amend the above procedure noted in Article 10.3. After the last crew has been named in the roll-call, the Starter shall check that the Judge at the Start still has the white flag raised and shall then say: "Attention, Red Flag" (or in the case that traffic lights are used - "Red Light"). The starting procedure shall then continue as in Article 10.3.”

VII Article 10.6 -- p. 59 Quick Start

The following will be added at the end of Article 10.6 on page 60:

“For Adaptive Events (visually impaired), the Starter shall amend the above procedure. After the Starter has said, "Quick Start", the starter shall then say "Attention, Red Flag" (or in the case that traffic lights are used - "Red Light").

The starting procedure shall then be continued.”

VIII Article 10.13 -- pp. 65 – 67 Finish of the Race

Throughout Article 10.13, the word “umpire” will be changed to read “principal umpire”.

IX Article 10.13 -- p. 67 Finish of the Race...continued

The clause “For Adaptive Events:” will be replaced by:

“For Adaptive events (for visually impaired):

When raising the white flag the principal umpire will add the words "White Flag". When raising the red flag, the principal umpire will add the words "Red Flag".

X Article 10.18 (2) -- p. 72 Penalties -- Yellow Card

Because there is no physical ‘yellow card’, references to issuing a yellow card to a crew for an infraction -- previously identified as a warning – will be deleted, and the wording of article 10.18 clause 2 will be replaced with the following:

“A Yellow Card (warning) is given to crews or coaches by any member of the Jury when a rule infraction has occurred. The rower or the crew or the coach will be informed of the nature of the infraction and then be assessed verbally a "Yellow Card". A Yellow Card assessed to a rower or to a crew will apply to the next round in which the rower or the crew competes. For example, a traffic pattern violation will carry over to their next race. A crew receiving two yellow cards will be automatically excluded from the race at the start.”

XI Article 11.5 -- p. 77 Composition of the Jury

The description of those comprising the Jury, Item 6, on page 78, will be replaced by the following:

6. “Chief of the Control Commission and members if available.”

D. Derry, Interim Domestic Development Officer


Cheers all,
& keep your flags at the ready!

Yours in Rowing,
~Trecia.