



2024 RCA National Beach Sprint Tour

Local Beach Sprint Events and National Selection Trial

HOSTING AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Introduction

This document outlines Rowing Canada Aviron's (RCA) approach to Beach Sprint Events in 2024. With the exciting addition of Beach Sprint rowing to the Olympic program in 2028, RCA wishes to elevate the awareness of the discipline across Canada in collaboration with our community.

The 2024 RCA National Beach Sprint Tour will be structured to include specific Local Beach Sprint Events across Canada and culminate with a National Beach Sprint Selection Trial for individuals wishing to represent Canada at the 2024 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.

RCA will aim to identify a minimum of three Local Beach Sprint Events in Canada, delivered by RCA Member Organizations throughout the month of June and early July. RCA will support the Local Events through an event grant of up to \$1,500 each and with promotional assistance. Beach Sprint is fast and exciting, which the atmosphere of the event should reflect. Upbeat music played throughout the event keeps athletes energized and entices spectators to join the event. In conjunction with the music, a designated announcer provides play-by-play commentary of the races is encouraged.

A National Beach Sprint Selection Trial will complete the National Beach Sprint Tour over the weekend of **July 20-21, 2024**. RCA will partner with an experienced Local Organizing Committee (LOC) to host this event. The location of the National Beach Sprint Selection Trial will be chosen based on the water and beach conditions of the international competition for which athletes are being selected. In 2024 the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals will be held in Genoa, Italy.

Purpose

The purpose of the 2024 National Beach Sprint Tour is to:

- Raise the profile of the Beach Sprint discipline across Canada;
- Increase the number of high-level competitions in Canada;

- Increase the number of competitions whereby Canadian athletes can earn valuable experience in Beach Sprint rowing;
- Establish best practices for hosting Beach Sprint events;
- Improve the consistency in competitive Beach Sprint events across Canada;
- Support the development of athletes for future National Team representation; and
- Select the individuals representing Canada at the 2024 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.

Beyond 2024, RCA anticipates LOCs of the National Beach Sprint Tour will have previous experience hosting beach sprint events, and LOCs of National Selection Trials may be required to have previous experience hosting RCA National Beach Sprint Tour events.

Application Process

Local Organizing Committees of RCA Member Organizations may submit an application through the online Application Form by **Monday, March 11** at 9AM PT/12PM ET.

Once the online Application Form is completed, please send Rachel Wolff, rwolff@rowingcanada.org, a map of the venue and proposed schedule with the subject heading “RCA National Beach Sprint Tour Application Documents”.

For your planning purposes, a copy of the **Application Form** is included in **Appendix B**.

Any questions can be sent to the RCA National Events Manager, Rachel Wolff, rwolff@rowingcanada.org, [365-378-3596](tel:365-378-3596).

RCA National Beach Sprint Tour - Local Events

LOCs must be familiar with the RCA Rules of Racing and be cognizant of regatta safety and other staging requirements set out in the RCA Events Sanction policy and process available from the Provincial Rowing Associations (PRA) for local events. The LOC must also ensure they will satisfy the **Minimum Local Event Requirements** listed in **Appendix A** to ensure their event is eligible.

In addition to the competition, LOCs are required to include a development opportunity such as:

- 1) Come and try for new participants,
- 2) Camp-style training for competitors, and/or
- 3) Technical workshop aimed at improving specific performance elements (ie. Coach Education, Umpire Training, etc.)

Selection Criteria:

- Venue infrastructure requirements listed in the **Local Event Minimum Requirements** are met.

- Procurement of necessary permits for usage of the venue are underway.
- Solos and Doubles boats are readily available.
- Development opportunity is to be included in the event plan.
- Priority may be given to events in specific locations to obtain a nationwide presence and impact.

Value to Local Organizing Committees:

- Enhanced / unique listing on RCA National Events Calendar.
- Event exposure and increased economic impact on tourism.
- Use of RCA logo on specific promotional materials.
- RCA Social Media promotion.
- RCA Newsletter promotion.
- Provide support for LOCs to elevate their event and become eligible to host future National Selection Trials.
- Community of Practice among LOCs in the Tour (i.e., networking, best practice sharing, etc.)
- Event Grant to mitigate costs of the event.

Post-Event Survey and Event Report

Within 3 days of the end of the regatta, the LOC shall conduct a post-event survey of the regatta participants and key stakeholders. The LOC is responsible for analysing the responses received and providing a summary to RCA as part of the Event Report.

Within 60 days of the end of the regatta, the LOC shall provide RCA with a final Event Report. The report shall include:

- A summary of the events and the results.
- A summary of the participants broken down by number of entries per event and by PRA.
- The final LOC structure and responsibilities and the number of volunteers who worked the event.
- Observations of “what worked” and “what didn’t” recommendations for future events.
- A summary of participant feedback (generated from the post-event survey).
- A financial statement of revenues and expenses.

RCA National Beach Sprint Tour - National Beach Sprint Selection Trial

The National Beach Sprint Selection Trial will serve as the event for RCA High Performance to select athletes to represent Canada for the 2024 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals. LOCs must be familiar with the RCA Rules of Racing and be cognizant of regatta safety and other staging requirements set out in the RCA Events Sanction policy and process available from the Provincial Rowing Associations (PRAs) for local events. The LOC must also ensure they will satisfy the **National Selection Trial Technical Guidelines** listed in **Appendix C** to ensure their event is eligible.

In addition to the competition, LOCs are required to include a development opportunity such as a multi-day camp in advance of the regatta. The goals of this camp should include athlete training, athlete testing and technical development for coaches, athletes and boat handlers that are suitable for a performance athlete.

Selection Criteria:

- Venue infrastructure requirements laid out in the **National Selection Trial Technical Hosting Guidelines** are met.
- Water/beach conditions mimic the environment at the upcoming international event(s).
- The venue can provide a high-performance experience for competitors.
- LOC has prior experience in hosting Beach Sprint Regattas and has access to experienced volunteer capacity.
- Experienced boat handlers and umpires are available (or training is provided ahead of the event).
- The event can be hosted within budget parameters set by RCA.
- Priority may be given to events that are located close to airports, hotels, landmarks, or scenic backdrops.

RCA will provide the following support for the National Beach Sprint Selection Trial:

- Overall strategic advice and direction related to the marketing and communications plan for the event. This will also include administrative support, including a service at no cost to the LOC to translate event material.
- Assistance in funding applications, including grants and sponsorship requests.
- Event Grant to mitigate costs of the event.

The LOC will be required to sign a Hosting Agreement that will formalize the commitments of RCA and the LOC. RCA will provide a small event grant to the LOC for hosting the National Beach Sprint Selection Trial. Additional responsibilities of each party, as outlined in these guidelines, will form the basis of the agreement.

In addition to the Hosting Agreement, the LOC will be required to apply for event sanction to the respective PRA. The timing of the sanction application should be in line with PRA protocols.

Post-Event Survey and Event Report

Within 3 days of the end of the regatta, the LOC shall conduct a post-event survey of the regatta participants and key stakeholders. The LOC is responsible for analysing the responses received and providing a summary to RCA as part of the Event Report.

Within 60 days of the end of the regatta, the LOC shall provide RCA with a final Event Report. The report shall include:

- A summary of the events and the results.
- A summary of the participants broken down by number of entries per event and by PRA.

- The final LOC structure and responsibilities and the number of volunteers who worked the event.
- Observations of “what worked” and “what didn’t” recommendations for future events.
- A summary of participant feedback (generated from the post-event survey).
- A financial statement of revenues and expenses.

APPENDIX A

Local Event Minimum Requirements

1. Sufficient unimpeded beach space to include the run (10m-50m), room for boats, tents, officials, start/finish area, etc.
2. 250m of water separated into two lanes 25m apart that are equal in terms of exposure to current, waves, etc.
3. A red lane and a yellow lane with three buoys each (set at approximately 85m + 85m + 80m). - For safety and visibility purposes, the buoys used to mark the turning points should be inflatable or other soft-surface type which will not cause damage to boats and equipment and shall each be approximately 150 cm high. The first two buoys from the beach in each lane shall be approximately 30 cm diameter and the farthest turning buoy shall be between 50 cm and 100 cm diameter. The 3 buoys in one lane shall each be the same colour.
4. One pole/post for each lane on the beach to designate the running course.
5. A start/finish line or archway to designate the start and end of the race.
6. Flag/post/stick/button, etc. placed at the finish line for the athlete to grab/touch to end their race.
7. A regatta timing system that provides elapsed race times, and finish times.
8. Ideally, an event should have 6 Solo boats from the same manufacturer that are of similar standard and age, and 4 Double scull boats from the same manufacturer that are of similar standard and age. However, a minimum of 2 Solo boats from the same manufacturer that are of similar standard and age, and 2 Double scull boats from the same manufacturer that are of similar standard and age, are sufficient to run a fair competition.
9. 2 safety motorboats plus an additional motorboat for umpires.
10. Space for an adequate number of 10x10 tents, generally 2-3 (to be used for medical, officials and organizers, athletes, umpires, etc.)
11. Access to public washrooms.
12. Public address system.

APPENDIX B

Application Form

Please complete the application form to indicate your interest in joining the RCA National Beach Sprint Tour as a Local Beach Sprint Event and/or hosting the National Selection Trial. The Application Form is available here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/5UyiYtDaLs>

The applicant should be prepared to answer questions about the members of the LOC and their experience with Beach Sprint rowing, the technical specifications of the event, and the community where the event is hosted.

First and Last Name

Name of RCA Member Organization(s)

Email

Phone Number

Beach Name

Body of Water

Address of the Event

Please select the category you would like your event to be considered for:
(Local Event on the Series, National Selection Trial, Both)

Event Date- Preferred

Event Date- 2nd Option

1. Is this an annual event?
2. How many years has this Beach Sprint event been delivered?
3. Would you consider changing the date of your event to fit within the overall Tour?
4. Outline the Local Organizing Committee members and their experience with Beach Sprint rowing.
5. Describe the water conditions (wave type, swell, current, usual wind, tidal, average temperature),
6. Describe the surf zone (spilling or dumping, if applicable)
7. Describe the size and shape of beach – width and depth.
8. Describe the beach state (debris, seaweed, sandy, rocks or pebbles).
9. How will you designate the start/finish line (archway, cones, ribbon, etc)
10. How will athletes end the race (grab a flag, grab a stick, press a button, run through a ribbon, etc)
11. Describe the timing system that will be used.
12. What kind of boats will be used?
13. How old are the boats?
14. How many boats are available (solos and doubles)
15. Is there access to public bathrooms?
16. Describe how tents will be laid out for athletes, medical, officials, etc.
17. Describe how you plan to ensure the field of play is not accessed or interfered with by other users.

18. What makes this location special (describe the scenery, landmarks, unique features, etc).
19. How far from the course is the closest hotel/accommodation?
20. How far from the course is the closest airport?
21. Describe the parking situation (on-site, paid, 100m from the course, etc.)
22. What permits are required?
23. Outline any grant/funding opportunities (do not include the grant from RCA).
24. How do you wish to spend the grant from RCA?
25. In addition to the competition, LOCs are required to include a development opportunity, select what you would be interested in hosting (check all that apply): RCA may be able to provide support in these initiatives
 - a. Come and try for new participants
 - b. Camp-style training for competitors
 - c. Technical workshop aimed at improving specific performance elements (ie. Coach Education, Umpire Training, etc.)
26. Provide a map of the course and beach zone.*
27. Provide a sample schedule for day 1 and day 2 (training, racing, workshop, etc.)*

These files should be emailed to Rachel Wolff (rwolff@rowingcanada.org) with the subject heading "RCA National Beach Sprint Tour Application Documents"

Appendix C

[CLICK HERE](#)
[2024 RCA NATIONAL BEACH SPRINT SELECTION TRIAL TECHNICAL](#)
[GUIDELINES](#)