



SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 28, 2024

at the Hilton Quebec,
1100, boul Rene-Levesque Est, Quebec, QC, G1R 5V2

MINUTES

PRESENT:

RCA Board of Directors:

Carol Purcer	President and Director
Tom Hawker	Treasurer and Director
Lindsay Bergen	Athlete Director
Derek Ventnor	Provincial Director
Fred Enns	Director at Large
Paul Fritz-Németh	Director at Large

Regrets:

Dana Thorne	Director at Large
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RCA Staff and Scrutineer:

Terry Dillon	Chief Executive Officer
Jennifer Fitzpatrick	Director of Partnerships and Sport Development
Laurence Côté	National Team Coordinator
Alethia Clarke	Membership Services Coordinator

The following RCA Members were present and in good standing:

Prov	Voting Member	# OF VOTES	PROXY
AB	Alberta Rowing Association 2024	1	
AB	Calgary Rowing Club 2024	5	x
AB	Central Alberta Rowing Club 2024	1	x
AB	Edmonton Rowing Club 2024	4	x
AB	Lakeland Rowing Club 2024	2	x
AB	Leduc Boat Club 2024	1	x

AB	University of Alberta Rowing Team 2024	2	x
AB	University of Calgary rowing club 2024	3	x
BC	Brentwood College School 2024	3	x
BC	Deep Cove Rowing Club 2024	3	x
BC	Greater Victoria Youth Rowing Society 2024	5	x
BC	Kamloops Rowing Club 2024	1	x
BC	Kelowna Rowing Club 2024	2	x
BC	Rowing BC 2024	1	
BC	University of British Columbia 2024	2	x
BC	University of Victoria Rowing Club 2024	3	x
BC	Victoria City Rowing Club 2024	6	x
NB	Two Rivers Rowing Club 2024	2	
NS	Antigonish Rowing Club 2024	2	x
ON	Don Rowing Club of Mississauga 2024	5	x
ON	Georgian Bay Rowing Club 2024	2	x
ON	Peterborough Rowing Club 2024	4	
ON	Ridley Graduate Boat Club 2024	2	x
ON	South Niagara Rowing Club 2024	4	x
ON	St. Catharines Rowing Club 2024	6	
ON	Toronto Sculling Club 2024	1	x
SA	Canadian Henley Rowing Corporation 2024	1	x
SA	Cascadia Regatta Association 2024	1	x
SA	Victoria Rowing Society 2024	1	x
BC	Burnaby Lake Rowing Club 2024	3	x
BC	False Creek Rowing Club 2024	3	
BC	Gorge Narrows Rowing and Paddling Club 2024	4	
BC	Open Aviron Rowing Coastal Association (OARCA) 2024	1	
MB	Manitoba Rowing Association 2024	1	
MB	Pinawa Sailing and Rowing Club 2024	2	x
MB	Prairie Fire Rowing Club Inc. 2024	1	
MB	Winnipeg Rowing Club 2024	3	x
NB	Four Bridges Rowing Club 2024	1	x
NB	Kennebecasis Rowing Club 2024	3	x
NB	Rowing New Brunswick Aviron I 2024	1	
NL	Labrador West Rowing Association 2024	2	
NL	Rowing Newfoundland 2024	1	
NL	St. John's Rowing Association 2024	4	x
NS	North Star Rowing Club 2024	3	x
NS	Row Nova Scotia 2024	1	

ON	Argonaut Rowing Club 2024	5	
ON	Brock Rowing Club 2024	2	x
ON	Burnstown Rowing Club 2024	2	x
ON	Durham Rowing Club 2024	3	x
ON	Guelph Rowing Club 2024	4	x
ON	Hanlan Boat Club 2024	4	
ON	Island Lake Rowing Club 2024	3	
ON	Kingston Rowing Club 2024	4	x
ON	Leander Boat Club 2024	4	
ON	Muskoka Rowing Club 2024	2	
ON	Notre Dame Rowing Club 2024	3	x
ON	Ontario Rowing Association 2024	1	
ON	Orillia Rowing Club 2024	3	x
ON	Ottawa New Edinburgh Club 2024	3	
ON	Ottawa Rowing Club 2024	6	
ON	Queen's University Rowing Club 2024	1	
ON	Quinte Rowing Club 2024	1	x
ON	Sudbury Rowing Club 2024	2	x
ON	Thunder Bay Rowing Club 2024	3	x
ON	University of Toronto 2024	2	
ON	UWO Boat Club 2024	3	x
PE	Rowing PEI 2024	3	
PE	Rowing Prince Edward Island 2024	1	
QC	ASSOCIATION QUÉBÉCOISE D'AVIRON INC. 2024	1	
QC	Aviron Knowlton 2024	3	
QC	Aviron Lachine Rowing 2024	3	x
QC	Club Aviron Sherbrooke 2024	1	
QC	Club Aviron Terrebonne 2024	3	
QC	Club d'aviron d'Alma 2024	2	x
QC	Club d'aviron de Boucherville 2024	3	x
QC	Club d'Aviron de Laval 2024	3	x
QC	Club d'aviron de Montréal / Montreal Rowing Club 2024	4	
QC	Club d'aviron Waterloo 2024	1	x
QC	McGill Rowing 2024	2	
SA	Canadian Indoor Rowing Association 2024	1	
SA	Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Association 2024	1	
SA	Central Ontario Rowing Association 2024	1	x
SA	Dominion Day Regatta Association 2024	1	
SA	St. Catharines World Rowing 2024	1	x

SA	Welland International Flatwater Centre/City of Welland 2024	1	x
SK	Lloydminster Rowing Club 2024	2	x
SK	Prince Albert Drifters 2024	1	x
SK	Regina Rowing Club 2024	2	x
SK	Saskatchewan Rowing Association Inc. 2024	1	
SK	Saskatoon Rowing Club 2024	3	x
BC	Maple Bay Rowing Club 2024	3	x

a. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Purcer at 8:15 a.m. EST followed by a Territorial Acknowledgement.

The following new business was added to the agenda:

- Item k.1 Annual Meeting Date
- Item k.2 National Conference Dates
- Item k.3 Semi Annual Meeting Date

Memorial Moment:

Please respect a moment of silence in memory of those in the rowing community who have passed away during the year:

Jon Beare:

- ❖ Jonathan began his rowing career at the Upper Canada College and Western University. He went on to compete at 3 Olympic Games, ultimately winning a bronze medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in the men’s lightweight four event. Jon also contributed to our sport after retirement, serving as Athlete Director on the RCA Board.

Martin Bielz:

- ❖ An Olympic rowing competitor in 1960 and Coach for Canada in 1972. Martin also worked as RCA’s first Technical Director in the early 1970s, followed by an appointment as the Director of Rowing for the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.

Jane Breitmen:

- ❖ A member of the Don Rowing Club.

Dean Crawford:

- ❖ An alumni of the University of Victoria and RCA National Rowing Teams. Dean, along with his men’s 8 crew, won a gold medal at the 1984 Olympics and was inducted into the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame in 1985; the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame in 2003; and the Canadian Rowing Hall of Fame in 2019.

Don Duggan:

- ❖ St. Catharines Rowing Club and Longtime volunteer at Regattas.

Bob Kuhns:

- ❖ Medical lead for the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta and Canadian Secondary Schools Rowing Association for many years.

Joe Lyttle:

- ❖ Joe was a legend in the Ontario rowing community. Member of the Row Ontario Hall of Fame in 2021, President of the Central Ontario Rowing Association, Regatta Chair, Royal Canadian Henley Regatta, member of the Dominion Day Regatta Association and Argonaut Rowing Club. Joe also umpired for many years, ran umpiring clinics and was past chair of the RCA and Row Ontario Umpire Committees.

Rob Mather:

- ❖ Member and Coach of the St. Catharines Rowing Club.

Tim Ratkovsky:

- ❖ Canadian Henley Regatta Committee Volunteer.

Bill Scollie:

- ❖ Member of the Thunder Bay Rowing Club and RCA National Team. Bill represented Canada at the 1975 World Rowing Championships.

Nancy Storrs:

- ❖ Nancy rowed as a competitor in the Olympics in 1976 and 1980 but is better known in the Canadian rowing community as a coach and consummate volunteer. After moving to St. Catharines in 1985, she spent the next 4 decades sharing her love of rowing out of the Ridley Graduate Boat Club. She was a unique talent when it came to coaching and could always be counted on to lend a hand whenever help was needed.

Richard 'Ric' Tull

- ❖ Ric was a UBC alumni rower and lifelong rowing enthusiast from coast to coast. Most recently, Ric was a Rowing BC Director and active rower at the Maple Bay Rowing Club.

Kellie White:

- ❖ Masters rower with the St. Catharines Rowing Club.

Claus Wolter:

- ❖ Member of the Leander Boat Club.

Rick Rasmussen

- ❖ Rower and longtime coach at Ridley Boat Club.

Richard Daniel:

- ❖ Member of the Vancouver Rowing Club.

Notice of Meeting:

Notice of Meeting was read by the Acting Secretary, Laurence Côté.

b. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Verification of Credentials:

The credentials of the meeting participants were verified by the Acting Secretary and Alethia Clarke.

Quorum:

There were 147 members in good standing, representing 329 votes - a quorum is 165 weighted votes.

Following roll call, the total number of members in attendance was 91, representing 219 votes present, in person or by proxy.

A majority of voting rights were present and a quorum was verified by the Acting Secretary under Article 5.12 of the By-Laws.

c. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SCRUTINEER

The Scrutineers for the Semi-Annual Meeting were Laurence Côté and Alethia Clarke.

d. READING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2023 RCA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION 1: 2024 RCA Semi Annual Meeting Agenda

That the agenda of the 2024 RCA Semi Annual Meeting be approved as amended.

MOVED: Alberta Rowing Association

SECONDED: False Creek Rowing Club

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION 2:

That we dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 2023 RCA Annual Meeting.

MOVED: Alberta Rowing Association

SECONDED: Dominion Day Regatta Association

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION 3: 2023 RCA Annual Meeting Minutes

That the minutes of the 2023 RCA Annual Meeting be accepted.

MOVED: Saskatchewan Rowing Association

SECONDED: Row Ontario

MOTION CARRIED.

e. READING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2023 RCA SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION 4:

That we dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 2023 RCA Semi-Annual Meeting.

MOVED: Hanlan Boat Club

SECONDED: Dominion Day Regatta Association

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION 5: 2023 RCA Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes

That the minutes of the 2023 RCA Semi-Annual Meeting be accepted.

MOVED: Dominion Day Regatta Association

SECONDED: Argonaut Rowing Club

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION 6: 2023 RCA Special Meeting of Members Minutes

That we dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 2023 RCA Special Meeting of Members.

MOVED: Dominion Day Regatta Association

SECONDED: Hanlan Boat Club

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION 7: 2023 RCA Special Meeting of Members Minutes

That the minutes of the 2023 RCA Special Meeting of Members be accepted.

MOVED: Dominion Day Regatta Association

SECONDED: Hanlan Boat Club

MOTION CARRIED.

f. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

MOTION 8: Committee of the Whole

That the 2024 Rowing Canada Aviron Semi-Annual Meeting be moved into the committee of the whole.

MOVED: Canadian Indoor Rowing Association

SECONDED: Rowing PEI

MOTION CARRIED.

President, CEO and Treasurer's Reports:

An electronic version of the President, CEO and Treasurer's Reports were provided to the membership within the 2023 RCA Annual Report.

Report from the Committee on Dues and Fees

As per Section 8 of the RCA By-laws, the final report of the Committee on Dues and Fees was provided to the membership at least 21 days before the Semi-Annual Meeting.

A dues and fees webinar and conference call was also held for the membership on November 22, 2023 along with a plenary session, including supporting rationale, on January 27th 2024.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Dues and Fees Committee recommends an upward increase of approximately* 4% to the Base Participant Fee (\$26.25 to \$27.50) and Seat Fee (\$3.85 to \$4.00) which, while insufficient to fully keep up with increasing costs, is intended to limit its impact in the short term.

The Dues and Fees Committee also recommends an increase of approximately* 4% in Club Membership Dues (\$440 to \$460), Special Association/Associate Organization Dues (\$545 to \$575) and Provincial Rowing Association Dues (\$765 to \$800).

* rounded for simplified planning and accounting purposes

MOTION 9:

That the 2023 Rowing Canada Aviron Semi-Annual Meeting be moved out of committee of the whole.

MOVED: Welland International Flatwater Centre/City of Welland 2024

SECONDED: Dominion Day Regatta Association

MOTION CARRIED.

g. COMMITTEE ON DUES AND FEES REPORT

MOTION 10: Report of the Committee on Dues and Fees

That the report and recommendations of the 2023 Rowing Canada Aviron Committee on Dues and Fees be accepted.

MOVED: Central Ontario Rowing Association

SECONDED: Alberta Rowing Association

MOTION CARRIED.

h. ACCEPTANCE OF THE REPORTS

MOTION 11: 2023 Rowing Canada Aviron Annual Report

That the 2023 Rowing Canada Aviron Annual Report be accepted.

MOVED: Argonaut Rowing Club

SECONDED: Hanlan Boat Club

MOTION CARRIED.

i. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS - MOTIONS FOR RATIFICATION

CARA BY-LAWS: Section 24 - Amendment of the Articles and By-Laws

Over the past 10 months the RCA Board has taken immediate and positive action to undertake a full review of our governance framework, policies and practices, not only to ensure that RCA measures up to the standards of the Canadian Sports Governance Code, but to ensure that it reassesses itself to become a more responsive, resilient and accountable National Sport Organization focused on serving its community.

On December 13, 2023 the RCA Board of Directors agreed in principle to bring to the members the changes that need to be made to RCA's by-laws and supporting governance structures.

The first step under this review is to amend Section 24 of the By-Laws at the 2024 RCA Semi-Annual Meeting.

Rationale:

Section 24 sets out very rigid and limiting rules respecting the timing and process for the Board to be able to approve changes to the By-laws. With the deletion of the limiting language from Section 24(1), CARA will be able to consider and deal with by-law amendments at any time during the year, as needed, and do so in accordance

with the rules and protections for members set out in the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (the Act).

Section 24(2) adds the requirement that the Board receive 21 days notice of any by-law amendment proposal, and Section 24(3) preserves that all amendments require a special resolution of members for ratification. The rest of Section 24 is deleted – it repeats provisions already included within the Act.

As a result, in accordance with Section 24 of the CARA Bylaws, the RCA Board of Directors has by Special Resolution passed the following motion to amend Section 24, and this motion is provided for ratification by the RCA membership at the 2024 Semi-Annual Meeting:

MOTION 12: CARA BY-LAWS: Section 24 - Amendment of the Articles and By-Laws

MOVED: Hanlan Boat Club

SECONDED: Sudbury Rowing Club

That the Members of CARA ratify, by Special Resolution, the following amendment to the CARA By-laws:

Section 24 - Amendment of the Articles and By-Laws:

24.1 Changes to the Articles and By-Laws

Changes to the Articles and By-laws of CARA may be made from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Act, as modified by the following two sections.

24.2 Notice of Proposed Change

Notice of any proposed change must be given to all directors at least 21 days in advance of the Board of Directors meeting where such amendments are to be considered.

24.3 Resolution of Members

All changes concerning the by-laws which are passed by the Board of Directors shall be effective until the next meeting of the members, at which time all such changes must be ratified by a Special Resolution at the meeting.

Sections 24.4, 24.5 and 24.6 are deleted.

MOTION DEFEATED.

j. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF RACING

None.

k. OTHER BUSINESS

- k.1 Date of the Annual Meeting - 5:30 pm Pacific/8:30 pm Eastern, September 19, 2024 Via Zoom Link.
- k.2 Date of the 2025 RCA National Conference - January 24 to 25, 2025. RCA practice has been to alternate between the West and East.
- k.3 Semi-Annual Meeting -January 26, 2025.

Recognition:

Prior to Adjournment, RCA Staff and volunteers were recognized for their contribution to this year's National Conference.

RCA/Rowing staff who helped deliver presentations:

- ❖ Adam Parfitt
- ❖ Tom Morris
- ❖ Katie Bahain-Steenman
- ❖ Lisa Roddie (Row Ontario)
- ❖ Anneke Winegarden (CSI)
- ❖ Taylyr Dickinson

RCA Staff:

- ❖ Jennifer Fitzpatrick
- ❖ Colleen Miller
- ❖ Laurence Côté
- ❖ Alethia Clarke
- ❖ Colleen Coderre
- ❖ Rachel Wolff
- ❖ Sukhraj Saraow
- ❖ Lindsay Brown
- ❖ Frank Christie (Row Ontario)
- ❖ Nadine Boutin (Aviron Quebec)
- ❖ Also, Sid Murdoch who helped us at his last conference. Sid has decided to retire at the end of March. We thank him for his 23 years of service with RCA.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by President Purcer at 9:30 a.m. EST.