



# **2025 – Selection Overview BEACH SPRINTS**

## Contents

1.0 SCOPE:.....	3
1.1 COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025:.....	3
2.0 OBJECTIVE .....	3
3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.....	3
4.0 SELECTION PROCESS: .....	3
4.1 BEACH PANEL.....	3
4.2 CAMP INVITATION.....	4
4.3 THE SELECTION CAMP.....	4
5.0 NOMINATION OF CREWS .....	5
6.0 ASSESSMENT FEES.....	5
7.0 THE BEACH PANEL COMPOSITION .....	5
8.0 COACH SELECTION.....	6
8.1 COACH SELECTION PREREQUISITES .....	6

This document provides a general overview of the selection of RCA's 2025 National Beach Sprint Team.

**1.0 SCOPE:** This document outlines the selection process for representative teams aligned to the events available and the standard of performance.

### 1.1 COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025:

Event	Date	Location	Categories
World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships*	TBD	TBD	Open, U19, Para Inclusion
Commonwealth Rowing Association Beach Sprint Championships	November 21 – 23, 2025	Bridgetown, Barbados	Open, U21, U19

An athlete is considered U21 if they do not turn 21 years of age, or older, during the 2025 calendar year.

An athlete is considered U19 if they do not turn 19 years of age, or older, during the 2025 calendar year.

\* Please note that the 2025 World Rowing Beach Sprints event is in the process of being re-attributed following the withdrawal of the previously identified host. Following the announcement of the new host's date and location from World Rowing, RCA will follow up with selected athletes to confirm availability and a final assessment fee.

**2.0 OBJECTIVE:** RCA's performance objective is to select crews with the best chance of achieving the highest place finish at the events listed in Section 1.1 while aligning athletes with an appropriate level of competitive experience.

**3.0 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** Eligibility requirements are the same as those set out in the "Selection Eligibility Requirements" in [RCA's NextGen Selection Policy](#). Boat handlers interested in an invitation to the 2025 Selection Camp are required to submit an expression of interest. EOI can be submitted at any time up to July 15, 2025. The EOI form is [linked here](#).

## 4.0 SELECTION PROCESS

In 2025, RCA will implement two stages to select and nominate athletes to the 2025 World Beach Sprint Championships and Commonwealth Rowing Association Beach Sprint Championships:

Stage 1: Participate in RCA's National Beach Sprint Trials, July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, Rissers Beach, NS. This is a requirement for all athletes. Event information can be [found here](#). Boat handlers wishing to be considered should participate with at least one crew.

Stage 2: Selection Camp – the camp will be held for two days, July 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, Rissers Beach, NS, immediately following Stage 1. More information on the selection camp below.

### 4.1 BEACH PANEL

A Beach Panel will be established to observe and assess athlete and boat handler performances, with primary focus on the National Beach Selection Trials and Selection Camp.

Specific to the identification and nomination of crews for respective events, the panel will:

- Maintain a roster of eligible and available athletes for the identified representative events.
- Invite athletes to the selection camp at the conclusion of the Selection Trials.
- Determine the appropriate selection activity for the respective crew/event based on performances and observations during the trials.
- Validate the selection camp athlete, crew and boat handler outcomes.
- Maintain an overall view of the performance standards and performance readiness.

## 4.2 CAMP INVITATION

The Beach Panel will use the following events to assess athletes' performance to make invitations to selection camps.

### Rowers:

- Performance in National Selection Trials – Results of Men's, Women's, U19Men's, U19Women's solos and mixed doubles, and Para Inclusion mixed double:
  - In events with four or fewer entries, the top Canadian crew will be invited
  - In events with more than four entries, the top two Canadian crews will be invited
  - Time Trial results and other exceptional performances during the trials will be used by the Beach Panel to determine if additional Canadian crews will be invited.
- Additional performances that warrant consideration for invitation:
  - Exceptional performances at regional events
  - Exceptional performances with Beach Sprint Program assessments, as outlined in [RCA's National Assessment and Monitoring Strategy](#), submitted by July 15, 2025.
  - Overall availability for the respective representative events.

### Boat handlers:

- Performance in National Selection Trials
  - Boat handlers for the winning crews in the Men's, Women's, U19Men's, U19Women's solos and mixed doubles, and Para Inclusion mixed double.
  - Additional boat handlers whose performance was observed by the Beach Panel to be exceptional may also be invited.

Selection camp invitations for athletes and boat handlers will be communicated immediately following the National Selection Trials.

## 4.3 THE SELECTION CAMP

Selection Camp will commence immediately following the National Selection Trials.

### Rowers:

Selection will consist of a series of activities such as, but not limited to:

- Side by side racing in best of 3 format (i.e. for choosing between 2 boats).
- Round robin, where each crew races each other head-to-head, then the ones with the most wins race off (for a larger number of entries).
- Seat Racing + Time Trials, where a doubles time trial is done between 2 boats and then a swap in partners is made with a follow-up time trial to determine if there is a faster combination.
- Potential boat handlers will work with all crews and in different combinations.

Information will be communicated to camp athletes prior to each round of selection activity. Results will be published at the conclusion of each stage of selection.

#### Boat Handlers:

Due to the nature of the boat handler role, there is a subjective element to assessment. The selection of Boat handlers will consider the following:

- Demonstrated ability to exceptionally perform the duties of a boat handler;
- Compatibility with other athletes in the selected crews;
- Compatibility with other boat handlers;
- Rules require the team of boat handlers be made up of one male and one female, therefore boat handler gender will be a considered factor.

During the Selection Camp, boat handlers will be rotated through different crews, and Selection of boat handlers is at the discretion of the Beach Panel.

\*Additionally, Rowing Canada Aviron reserves the right to utilize staff and contractors as boat handlers.

## 5.0 NOMINATION OF CREWS

After the completion of stage 2 of the selection process, the results and nominations will be compiled by the Beach Panel for official communication.

For the purpose of establishing the appeal deadline in RCA's Appeal Policy specific to national team selection matters, official notification of the original decision will be considered the point in time athletes are informed, either verbally or in writing, of decisions impacting their progress towards selection. This can include their release from the program or the decision that will be forwarded to the Beach Selection Committee. The RCA Appeal Policy can be found at the following link.  
<https://rowingcanada.org/resources/>

## 6.0 ASSESSMENT FEES

The assessment fee for World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals will be determined once the final location of the event is determined.

The assessment fee for Commonwealth Rowing Association Beach Sprint Championships is to be confirmed once final logistics are confirmed. This will be a predominantly self-funded event.

## 7.0 THE BEACH PANEL COMPOSITION

The Beach Panel will be appointed and published in a National Selection Trials Event Bulletin. The Beach Panel will consist of:

- RCA High Performance Director (or designate)
- Two other voting members to be determined
- Observers (non-voting) to be determined

Members of the Beach Panel shall be independent. In the event that a Beach Panel member has a real or perceived conflict of interest with any individual being considered for nomination a Beach National Team, they shall declare the real or perceived conflict of interest to Adam Parfitt, RCA High Performance Director, and shall recuse themselves from any discussions and from making any decisions regarding selection.

## 8.0 COACH SELECTION

Coach expression of interest – Coaches interested in supporting a 2025 Beach Sprints Team should complete the EOI at the [following link](#), and be able to meet the prerequisites prior to July 15, 2025.

Selection of coaches for all teams will be at the sole discretion of the High-Performance Director. Selection considerations include previous experience, performance of athletes coached, coaching qualifications and long-term development strategies.

Whenever possible, RCA is committed to having an equal representation of female and male coaches across the Beach Sprints program.

### 8.1 COACH SELECTION PREREQUISITES

Minimum Qualifications: Coaches must be Fully Certified “[RCA Performance Coach](#)” with RCA Coastal Coach Trained status to support a Beach Team.

Selected coaches must also satisfy the following requirements before nomination:

- Active coach in good standing at an RCA Member club or organization;
- Completion of CCES True Sport 101;
- Completed Canadian Safe Sport Program e-learning module and consent form;
- Satisfactorily comply with RCA’s Screening Policy, including, without limitation, and required criminal record checks or vulnerable sector checks (as required); and,
- Be recognized as a Registered Coach or Chartered Professional Coach (ChPC) with the Coaching Association of Canada.

An announcement of the selected coaching staff will be made in conjunction with the announcement of athlete and crew nominations.

RCA reserves the right to select additional coaching staff as required to support selected teams. All certification requirements apply.

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