



UMPIRE EVALUATION POLICY and PROCEDURE

Effective date	August 1, 2025
Date last reviewed	July 2025
Scheduled review date	November 2027
Replaces and/or amends	Umpire Evaluation Policy and Procedure in force December 1, 2021
Approved by and date	RCA CEO, July 17, 2025
Appendix(-ces) to this Policy	-

1.1 POLICY

With the overall goal of improving rowing competitions through the improvement of umpiring in Canada, a regular and continuous evaluation of umpires shall be performed under the following criteria:

- 1.1. All licensed umpires will be evaluated regularly commencing in 2011, as per the RCA Umpire Licensing Policy.
- 1.2. Evaluations shall be performed by RCA umpire clinicians. Umpiring will be evaluated by RCA clinicians through global evaluations, umpire conversations and umpire attendance at annual seminars, as per the RCA Umpire Licensing Policy.
- 1.3. Global evaluations will be based on observations by clinicians of umpires working at the following five stations at a sprint regatta: Control Commission, Start, Judge at the Start, Race Umpire, and Finish, plus other stations depending on the type of regatta (head race, indoor, coastal, beach sprints).

- 1.4. Failure to be evaluated as outlined in this policy may result in an individual's umpire licence being suspended or revoked [RCA Umpire Licensing Policy].

2.0 PROCEDURE

- 2.1 The mandatory Umpire Annual Seminars will be offered in January, and a selection of optional Special Topic Seminars will be offered in February and March.
- 2.2 Provincial Rowing Associations (PRAs) will be responsible for organizing and ensuring completion of the evaluations within their respective province working with the RCA umpire clinicians in their province or region. If situations warrant it, clinicians based in another province may be engaged to conduct evaluations outside of the province in which they reside.
- 2.3 PRAs will file an annual report to the RCA Umpires Committee on the global evaluations performed, the conversations completed (including the names of umpires), and which umpires attended each seminar. The report shall contain information on the number of regattas at which global evaluations were performed, the names of the umpires working those regattas, and the results of the evaluation. The report shall assume that the evaluation was satisfactory. If the evaluation is unsatisfactory, the RCA Umpire Clinician will provide the RCA Umpires Committee with a remediation plan.
- 2.4 Clinicians should review the global evaluation with the Jury at the end of each evaluated regatta or in a follow-up communication. This will support the philosophy of continuous improvement inherent in the global evaluation approach.
- 2.5 The PRA annual reports shall be sent to the chair of the Umpires Committee by the end of November each year.
 - 2.5.1 Global evaluations will be recorded in a manner to be determined by the RCA Umpires Committee, a copy of which will be provided to the Chief Umpire of the regatta. The evaluator (clinician) will keep the original and provide information on the global evaluations to the PRA office.
 - 2.5.2 Each Umpire Conversation will be recorded on the respective form. The clinician will keep the original and provide a summary of all Umpire Conversations held each year to the RCA UC.
 - 2.5.3 The attendance list for each seminar will be forwarded to the PRA office. For the mandatory Annual Seminar held each January, a list of umpires completing the requirement and those not having completed the requirement will be provided to the PRA.
- 2.6 The three-year blocks for completion of the individual components of the umpire evaluation (Umpire Annual Seminar and Umpire conversation) will begin in 2025, with the first block being 2025-2027.