



UMPIRE LICENSING POLICY

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

1. Purpose – Supporting the highest level of competence amongst RCA Licensed Umpires is essential for delivering regattas that are fair and safe for all competitors. This policy outlines how to obtain and maintain an RCA Umpire Licence by describing the training and development requirements necessary so Umpires can remain current on new expectations and standards.
2. Definitions and Acronyms - The following terms have these meanings:
 - a. RCA - Rowing Canada Aviron
 - b. PRA - Provincial Rowing Association
 - c. RCA Umpire Licence - an accreditation achieved once an individual has completed training and passed the Level 2 Umpire written and practical examination.

- d. Assistant Umpire – an individual who has participated in a Level 1 Umpire Clinic and who may be in a practical training program.
- e. Associate Umpire – An individual who has completed both the Level 1 Assistant Umpire and Level 2 Associate Umpire Clinics and is now in the Level 2 practical training program
- f. RCA Licensed Umpire – An individual (herein after referred to as an “Umpire”) who has completed practical training and passed an exam and is maintaining an RCA Umpire Licence.
- g. Associate Chief Umpire – An Umpire who has completed the Level 3 Chief Umpire Clinic and is enrolled in the Level 3 Chief Umpire practical training program
- h. Chief Umpire – An Umpire who has passed the Level 3 Chief Umpire exam and has been awarded a Chief Umpire certificate.
- i. Deputy Chief Umpire – A certified Chief Umpire who is appointed to assist a Chief Umpire in the administration and delivery of a regatta.

ELIGIBILITY

- 3. An individual who is a registered participant in good standing with RCA may familiarize themselves with the RCA Rules of Racing and initiate the process of obtaining an RCA Umpire Licence. Individuals under the age of 18 are not eligible to obtain an RCA Umpire Licence.

OBTAINING AN RCA UMPIRE LICENCE

- 4. To obtain an RCA Umpire Licence, an individual must first become an Assistant Umpire by completing the online Level 1 Umpiring clinic.
- 5. An individual who has completed the Level 1 Umpire Clinic may obtain an RCA Umpire Licence through completion of all the following:
 - a. Attend an RCA Level 2 Associate Umpire’s training clinic;
 - b. Practice as a Level 2 Associate Umpire for a period of between one and three years;
 - c. Pass the Level 2 written and practical examination, (minimum age to take the exam is 18 years), and;
 - d. Register with the PRA of the province in which the Umpire resides and with RCA.

MAINTAINING AN RCA UMPIRE LICENCE

- 6. To maintain an RCA Umpire Licence, an Umpire is required to meet the following requirements:
 - a. On an annual basis, ensure their information in the RCA Web Registration System is up to date;
 - b. Be in good standing with RCA and with the PRA in the province in which they are a resident;
 - c. Be active at the local and/or provincial level in the previous year, serving as an Umpire in at least one local or provincial regatta annually, where possible;
 - d. Fulfill all umpire evaluation requirements in three-year blocks and be deemed to have met the requirements as described in the RCA Policy on

Umpire Evaluation;

- e. Attend the Umpire Annual Seminar every year and participate in an Umpire Conversation with a clinician and attend one Special Topic Seminar every three years;
- f. Must not umpire at a Canadian regatta that is not sanctioned by RCA;
- g. Abide by the policies of RCA, including the RCA Safe Sport Policy Manual and the Umpire Code of Conduct as described in the RCA Rules of Racing.

SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF AN RCA UMPIRE LICENCE

- 7. Umpires that do not adhere to the requirements necessary to maintain an RCA Umpire Licence may be subject to having their RCA Umpire Licence suspended or revoked.
- 8. Appeals of a final decision that results in the suspension or revocation of an RCA Umpire Licence will be dealt with in accordance with the RCA Appeal Policy.