



2026 RCA National Beach Sprint Tour

Local Beach Sprint Events

HOSTING AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Introduction

Building on the recent success of the annual RCA National Beach Sprint Tour, Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA) will again identify Local Events to include on the 2026 RCA National Beach Sprint Tour.

The 2026 RCA National Beach Sprint Tour will be structured to include specific Local Beach Sprint Events across Canada. New this year is that select events in June and early July will be identified to assist RCA in inviting top performers to a selection camp, as part of the process to represent Canada at the 2026 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 timeframe of May-September inclusive. RCA will support the Local Events through an event grant and with promotional assistance.

Purpose

The purpose of the 2026 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

- Assist RCA in identifying individuals to be invited to a selection camp as part of the process to represent Canada at the 2026 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.

Application Process

Local Organizing Committees of RCA Member Organizations may submit an application through the online [Application Form](#) by end of day Monday March 9, 2026.

Once the online Application Form is completed, please send Mike Bagshawe, mike_bagshawe@telus.net, 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 Safety & Events Committee Chair, Mike Bagshawe at mike_bagshawe@telus.net.

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 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 Process:

Applicants are encouraged to provide significant detail in the following portions of their application:

- Organizing Committee member experience with Beach Sprint and Coastal rowing, and the expertise of those leading the development initiatives;
- Water conditions, particularly the wave type, swell, current, usual wind, tidal, and average temperature

- Course layout, particularly how the integrity of the field of play will be maintained.

Events that do not meet the Minimum Event Requirements (Appendix A) will not be considered.

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 provide RCA with the contact emails for the regatta participants and key stakeholders, so a post-event survey can be sent. RCA will analyze the responses received and provide a summary to the LOC.

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”, plus recommendations for future events.
- A financial statement of revenues and expenses.

APPENDIX A

Minimum Event 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 required to run a fair competition.
9. 2 safety motorboats plus an additional motorboat for umpires.
10. Space for an adequate number of 10x10 tents (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. The Application Form is available [HERE](#).

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

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
 - i. Come and try for new participants
 - ii. Camp-style training for competitors
 - iii. Technical workshop aimed at improving specific performance elements (i.e. 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 Mike Bagshawe (mike_bagshawe@telus.net) with the subject heading “RCA National Beach Sprint Tour Application Documents”