



Clinicians' Discretion

OBTAINING AN RCA UMPIRE LICENCE

Current Licensing Policy:

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

Practical Experience Current Policy

For the practical experience, Associate Umpires are currently expected to attend a minimum of 10 two-hour shifts at four different regattas before being eligible to take the written and practical exam.

In provinces or regions with only one or two regattas per year, this practical experience requirement may take several years. Hence some Associate Umpires drop out before taking the exam, stating that 2-3 years is too long in their opinion to train for a volunteer role.

New Approach to Gaining Practical Experiences

The requirements for L2 umpire license are changed to permit Associate Umpires to write their exam with fewer than the required 20 hours of practical experience.

- It would be left to the discretion of the Clinician, what level of experience is needed by the Associate Umpire before taking the exam.
- The requirements for the written and practical exam do not change.
 - Obtain 80% on the written exam before proceeding to the practical exam.

- With a written exam score of 70-79%, they may proceed conditionally from the written to the practical, but must do very well (80%+) on the practical exam to be awarded a license
- If the Clinician observes on the practical portion of the exam that the newly licensed umpire needs more experience (for example, on starts, boat positioning, or something else), the Clinician can:
 - Prescribe a certain number of shifts to be completed by the newly licensed umpire while accompanied by an experienced licensed umpire, Chief Umpire, or Clinician.
 - Once the newly licensed umpire has fulfilled the requirements as set out by the Clinician, the clinician would spend some time (could be a day or less) with the newly licensed umpire at a regatta to ensure that the newly licensed umpire was fully equipped to umpire without supervision.

July 21, 2026
RCA Umpires Committee