

FROM THE LAUNCH

The Voice of RCA Umpires and Associates in Ontario



Education is at the forefront of Associate Umpire training

ROWONTARIO is taking great strides in the education and training of Associate Umpires. For several years, Mentor Umpires have been an integral part of the process. This season, Umpire Coaches are being introduced to offer an increased reach-out to Associates at regattas throughout the province.

At present, Mentor Umpires are: Eastern: Brian Storosko; Central: Judy Sutcliffe; Southwest: Jim Dover; North & North Central: Glenn Bailey; Niagara: Carol Purcer, Bill Ross, George Dart.

The role of a Mentor Umpire is to track Associate Umpires within their regions. Once an Associate Umpire has attended an RCA Umpire Clinic, ROWONTARIO assigns a Mentor to the Associate Umpire. ROWONTARIO will notify both the Mentor and the Associate Umpire of this relationship. Mentors will establish communication with the Associates in their region to aid in their training process while also monitoring them.

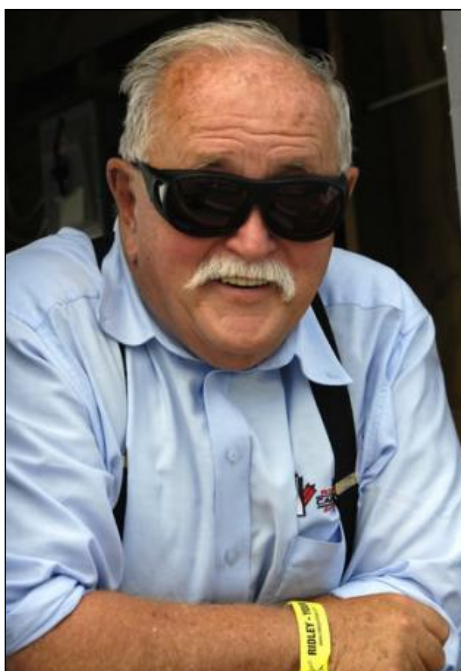
New this year is the addition of

Umpire Coaches. As it isn't always possible for Mentors to be on hand at the same regattas as their Associates, Umpire Coaches will fill that presence.

Mentors will monitor, and offer training to the Umpire Coaches within their region. When Mentor Umpires are not onsite at regattas, the Umpire Coaches' main role will be to step in and support the development of the associate. They will be advised of which Associates will be working at the various regattas so they can introduce themselves and be available to help out as needed.

The Umpire Coach will receive guidance from the Mentor on how to assist an Associate at a regatta and provide feedback via the Umpire Coach Regatta Debrief Form while also providing feedback to the Associate's Mentor.

A list of Umpire Coaches will be provided to the Chief Umpires who will pair Associates and Umpire Coaches when developing regatta assignments.



ROB MILLIKIN: A loss for the rowing community

ROB MILLIKIN, a man who wore many hats in the rowing community, died this past February.

Rob had been involved with rowing for over 56 years, with a hiatus of 30 years in the middle when he worked as an air traffic controller, and he and his wife raised a family.

He began rowing with the Leander Boat Club in 1953 and in 1989 he was one of the founders of the Durham Rowing Club, which is still running in Port Perry. Rob was founding University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) rowing head coach where he served for four years before retiring in 2010. He was also a former member of the ROWONTARIO Board of Directors, an RCA umpire and coach.

Among his many awards, Millikin was

presented, in 1999, with the Province of Ontario's Special Achievement Award (now the Syl Apps Award). In addition, he was the 2003 Ontario Rowing Association official of the year, Rowing Canada's official of the year in 2004 and in 2006 was named Rowing Canada's volunteer of the year.

Rob received one of Rowing Canada's highest honours when he was presented with the Aviron Centennial Medal of Merit for his contributions to the sport

His dedication to the UOIT Rowing program, its student-athletes, coaches and the school itself will live on as his legacy.

New and experienced umpires alike will recall the umpiring stories Rob shared across the table after a regatta offering his past experiences and unique perspectives.

SPRING 2011

Umpire News 2011

Welcome to the first issue of *From The Launch* for 2011 – the voice of RCA's ROWONTARIO umpires. The goal is to encourage dialogue among umpires throughout the province as we improve our skills, mentor associates and promote the sport of rowing. Submissions are encouraged and can be sent to joannekeenan50@gmail.com

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From The Launch is published seasonally in April, June, September and January.

Veterans & New Recruits

75 Associate Umpires join the ranks in 2010

IN 2010, ROWONTARIO recorded 92 active umpires of the 126 registered. You are deemed active if you attend more than one regatta a year.

While many umpires are based in southern Ontario, new umpires are encouraged to join from every where. This provides a great base from which to staff regattas throughout the province. Occasionally, regattas cannot be held if an adequate number of licensed umpires is not available. When you umpire, you make rowing possible

everywhere.

Last year also welcomed 75 Associate Umpires into the fold. Of these, 24 were active by participating in one regatta during the year.

Here are the licensed RCA Umpires in Ontario, along with the new recruits and where you will find them.

The Umpires of Ontario join together to welcome these associates. We look forward to seeing you on the water in 2011!

UMPIRES

Randy Allan
John Armitage
Glenn Bailey
Danette Baker
Don Baker Jr.
Don Baker Sr.
Bill Bartelds
Ranojoy Basu-Ray
Amanda
Beauchamp
Kyle Berketo
Ed Berkhout
Andy Binda
Robb Blacquiere
Tom Blacquiere
David Blakey
Chris Boyer
Tom Boyer
Jane Breitman

Stephanie Brooks
Bob Browne
Melanie Bryce
Joel Burgon
Peter Bursztyn
Elaine Bursztyn
Ken Campbell
Janine Chiasson
Murray Christie
Martha Coffey
Richard Cove
George Darte
Dave Derry
Peter Dirks
Joseph Dobransky
William Donegan
Jim Dover
Tim Dowd
Lynda Dundas
Harry Edmonstone
Susan Erskine

Richard Florio
Julia Fournier
Joe Frezell
Victor Georgescu
Allan Gill
Stewart Greavette
Carol Greiner
Ed Gudaitis
Hans Hansen
Penny Harfield
Louise Hastings
Kurt Herman
Kathryn Hodder
Linda Hrabok
Michael Ionson
Jane Jarvis
Ann Karantjas
Joanne Keenan
Fred Kens
Ron Kerr
Susan Kitchen

Dalia Krakofsky
Wes Kuran
Brian LeMoine
Jeannette
Lunenborg
Joseph Lyttle
James Lyttle
Carl MacCulloch
Mike Malanczuk
Jim Marino
Don Markarian
Fred Marlow
Gerry Martin
Jeff Miller
Matt Miller
Jim Minards
John Mirynech
Rich Neufeld
Gary Nystrom
Ruth Oldham
Caitlin Pauls

Michael Phelan
Rick Piccinin
Bob Pickles
Carol Purcer
Michael Purcer
Tariq Rana
Don Rickers
Tim Rigby
Bill Ross
Steven Sandor
Barbara Schneider
Sandi Sheldon
Andrew Smith
Gordon Smith
Meredith Smith
Gary Stinson
Jim Stone
Brian Storosko
Judy Sutcliffe
Ed Szaszi
Stewart Taylor

Ben TeKamp
Brian Thorne
John Tice
John Tiffin
Franc Tomsic
Lise Trent
Diane Van Kleef
Ruth Van Rooijen
Josef Van Ruyven
Clementine Van Veen
Derek Ventnor
Gilda Wainwright
James Walker
Ursula Wehner
Mark Wilson
Debbie Wood
Ross Yeo
Christopher Young

ASSOCIATE UMPIRES

Gary McIntosh
John Sherrick
Shawna Stewart
Joe Vince

Francis Kenny
Aidan Marsh
Christopher
Masson
Leslie Milbury
Paul Mudmoch
Mark Robson
Martin Rowland
Patricia Storosko
Patty Thorpe
Lilianne Walker
Mike Walker

Susan Welsh

NIAGARA

Lorna Hay-Gaudet
Dave Pelette
Scott Perrault
James Scott
Bill Sheldon
Diane Chivers
Lynn Cushnie
Debbie Norton
Marta Ross

Alexandra Stoddart
Melinda Warner
Peter Scott

Elaine Manocha
Aubrey Oldham
Dale Smith

NORTH CENTRAL

Barrie Robinson
Chris Chapman
Danielle Strohm
Gillian Kunza

Jurgen Schubert
Meghan Hogarth

SOUTHWEST

Mary Anne Krahn
Paul Edwards
Susan Fairley
Alan Oldham
Samantha Fairley

CENTRAL

Tom Beshoff
Gina Brannan
John Cary
Anne Constandis
Richard Koo
Dawn Martin
Ted Martin

EASTERN

Andre Berube
Marie-Sophie
Desaulniers
Christie Egber
Timothy Ensom
Alison Hale

Tom Blacquiere appointed chair of RCA Umpires Committee

ROWONTARIO's own Tom Blacquiere, of the Notre Dame Rowing Club, has been appointed to the volunteer position of Chair, RCA Umpires Committee. The announcement was made by Rowing Canada Aviron's Vice-President National Development, Peter Brook.

"I am impressed with Tom's achievements, and look forward to his leadership with the RCA Umpires Committee," said Brook. Blacquiere has an extensive background in umpiring, having received his RCA umpire licence in 1995. He has umpired at many local, provincial and national regattas, including acting as the chief umpire at the RCA Canadian Masters Championships in 2009. He has been a member of the RCA

Umpires Committee since 2006 and is the Vice President, Events and Umpires of ROWONTARIO. Blacquiere was awarded his international umpiring licence from FISA in September 2010.

The RCA Umpires Committee is responsible for standardizing umpiring, and maintaining and consistently improving the quality of umpiring in general and, in particular, at Canadian national regattas.

Blacquiere replaces outgoing committee chair Wes Kuran of Ottawa, Ontario. Kuran was chair of the committee from December 2006 to 2011.

Blacquiere, a teacher in Welland, Ontario, assumed this position effective March 1, 2011.

What would you have done?

Scenarios from the water

BEFORE WE HEAD onto the water this season, let's recount several scenarios from last year's Henley, courtesy of Joe Lyttle, Chief Umpire. For the results, see page 5.

Scenario #1: Protest From Crew A in a 2-Boat Race: Junior Men Cox Four, Semi 2, 2 To Final

As the Fours were launching there was confusion among the officials concerning the need for both coxies to carry weights. The officials reviewed errors that were present on the weigh-in paperwork. After the weight issue was sorted out the crews were assured that the starting line officials would be notified, and the race delayed to allow 30 minutes of warm-up. The Fours had to race up to the start allowing no time for their proper warm up.

As they were launching, semi #1 raced by. Coxie from Crew A asked about warm-up time and was assured the start time would be held to allow his crew 30 minutes. This commitment was not honoured.

Crew A requested an added lane in the grand final or a complete rerow.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

Scenario #2: Protest from Crew A in a 4-Boat Race: Under 23 Lwt Women Four, Heat 1, 3 To Final

After continued warnings in the first 1000 metres Crew B (Lane 5) was given a final warning. After continued warnings Crew B was still in the lane of Crew A (Lane 4) as they attempted a sprint finish. Bow person felt that a sprint finish was not possible as their boat's progress was being impeded.

@250m Crew B in Crew A's lane and stayed there as Crew B was warned to return to their lane.

@ 800-900m there was another warning

that Crew B would be disqualified. @ 1200m Crew C (Lane 3) went off course, as Crew B was in Crew A's lane, Crew A into Crew C's lane. Crew B and Crew A were asked to return to their lanes; Crew A did, Crew B stayed in Crew A's lane. Crew A advanced to a tie position with Crew B, and then Crew B came back into their lane and continued to impede their progress.

Before the finish, Crew A had let it run then had to hold. The Bow person felt she could not call a sprint finish as progress was impeded.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

Scenario #3: Protest: Under 23 Lwt Men Four, Heat

3, 2 To Final

While approaching the starting line, Crew A was having equipment problems with their steering (rudder). They approached the safety personnel and advised him of their problem. The umpire approached their boat and was notified of their equipment problem. The official told them to go to the starting line. At the start of the race they took 7 stokes and immediately steered into Lane 5 and 4. They raised their hands and notified the official launch that they were still having the same equipment problems. They notified personnel on the dock of their technical problems. When they advised their coach, she filed a protest.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Share your learning experiences

1. In each edition of *From the Launch*, we'll be featuring your on-water experiences to inspire thought, discussion and action. Please share scenarios of past regattas by briefly describing a situation you have witnessed or been involved in, the umpire's decision, what you would do as the umpire, and the actual outcome.

Chief Umpires will be asked to submit their incidents and protests so they may be re-played and discussed via this newsletter. Send them to joannekeenan50@gmail.com

2. ROWONTARIO is developing an online practice test bank. All umpires are asked to submit a question with multiple choice answers – in each of the five umpiring stations:

- On-Water Umpire
- Judge at the Start/Aligner
- Control Commission
- Finish Judge
- Start



Please send them to Ashley Lethbridge at: admin@rowontario.ca



So you want to be a Chief Umpire....

Here's what you need to do to make the grade

IF YOU'RE AN RCA certified umpire with 3-5 years of umpiring and looking for a new challenge, you might be interested in taking on the role of Chief Umpire for one of the province's smaller regattas.

By working through the various positions of the Jury, Organizing Committee and Regatta, you are well on your way to taking the next step.

Other requirements include excellent organizational skills and the ability to work in a multi-tasking environment. You'll want to be an expert on the Rules of Racing that comes from working regattas on the water and off. You'll also want to have advanced supervision communication, delegation of duties and dispute resolution skills.

And, of course, the Chief Umpire conducts him or herself in a manner that helps create a positive experience for all involved.

You've worked regattas over the years under Chief Umpires peppering them with questions throughout your shifts. Here's what they're doing while you're on the water.

SUMMARY: The Chief Umpire is in charge of the jury and shall allot duties to each member and supervise their activities. The Chief Umpire shall chair Jury meetings, Board of the Jury meetings and attend Organizing Committee meetings to ensure proper co-ordination with the OC.

RELATIONSHIPS: Reports to: The Organizing Committee consults with ROWONTARIO for the appointment of the Chief Umpire for ROWONTARIO sanctioned Regattas, and with the RCA Umpires Committee for RCA National Regattas. The following positions report to the Chief Umpire:

1. Chief of the Control Commission
2. Weigh-in Chief
3. Starter
4. Judge at the Start / Aligner
5. Race Umpires
6. Chief Judge of the Finish

The Organizing Committee consults with the Chief Umpire to appoint the members of the Control Commission.

Other contacts: Rowers, Coxswains, Coaches, Team Managers, Regatta Chair, Safety Advisor, Medical Advisor,

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES/DUTIES:

1. The Chief Umpire in collaboration with the Regatta Chair ensures that the regatta is run in accordance with the RCA Rules of Racing (5.2.4)

2. The Chief Umpire is consulted by the Organizing Committee to appoint the mem-

bers of the Control Commission (5.2.6)

3. The Chief Umpire has the authority to allow boats on the racing course and the movement of all approved vessels on the water during racing (8.8)

4. The Chief Umpire or any RCA Umpire participates in the draw for the first round of heats (9.4)

5. In the event of a crew withdrawal, exclusion or disqualification the Chief Umpire may modify the draw or make a new Draw

6. The Chief Umpire consults with the appropriate members of the Jury and the Chair of the Organizing Committee and may make changes to the program if the weather creates unfair or un-row-able conditions (9.5)

7. The Chief Umpire is advised by the Umpire or the Starter of a crew's objection to being excluded or disqualified at the start (10.8)

8. The Chief Umpire maybe called upon to decide on the next steps to be taken if a crew sustains damage to its boat or equipment while still in the start zone (10.9)

9. The Chief Umpire will be advised immediately of any impending objections by a crew (10.14.1) and will be consulted with to achieve resolution (10.14.3)

10. The Chief Umpire receives the written protest from a crew (10.16)

**The balance of responsibilities can be found in
The Associate Umpire Handbook.**

**Where's
the Best Place to
Watch a Regatta?**

**Recruit friends, family, spouses, fellow rowers, rec rowers, &
rower siblings to become an Umpire at the following clinics**

June 4, 2011
9am-5pm

Brock University, St. Catharines
Fee: \$30 - www.umpireclinicjune42011.eventbrite.com
Registration Deadline: May 25 at 5:00pm

July 30, 2011
9am-5pm

Alumni House, Henley Island St. Catharines
Fee: \$30 - www.umpireclinicjuly30.eventbrite.com
Registration Deadline:
July 20 at 5:00pm

The chilling facts

Hypothermia is a real possibility in spring rowing

SPRING IS HERE and most rowing clubs are already on the water. In most of Canada, that means cold water which can easily cause hypothermia should a rower, or even an umpire, tumble in. It pays to be prepared to deal with any cold water emergency.

Hypothermia is not just a winter thing. You need a safety plan before you go out – and a rescue plan to make sure you get back.

The usual safety conditions apply.

A safety boat should accompany rowers and be equipped with appropriate PFDs for all rowers.

- Be vigilant. Hypothermia can creep up on you.
- Keep warm in air by keeping active.
- Keep warm in water by keeping still.
- If a rower isn't making sense, he/she may be cold, not stupid.
- In cold water we are all poor swimmers.
- You become -

- o dead cold in air slowly
- o dead cold in water quickly
- o If you become dead cold in water with no lifejacket – you may die.

If hypothermia is suspected hospital treatment is essential. Meanwhile:

- o Keep Still
- o Keep Horizontal
- o Keep Sheltered
- o Keep Wrapped

In cases of hypothermia, let the hospital do the heating.

Mark Your Calendars Upcoming 2011 Regattas

May 7 - Head of the Martindale, St. Catharines
May 8 - St. Catharines Mother's Day Regatta
May 14 & 15 - South Niagara High School Invitational
May 28 - WOSSR Championship Regatta in London
May 28 & 29 - RCA National Development Trials
June 3, 4, 5 - CSSRA 66th Annual Regatta
June 6 & 7 - 2011 RCA CanAmMex Trials
June 11 - Barrie Sprints
June 25 - CORA Guelph
June 25 - Thunder Bay Regatta

It's up to you

Send in your submissions for Summer Issue 2011

THE NEXT ISSUE of *From the Launch* will be sent out in June. We need submissions for Umpires and Associates. Send submissions to joannekeenan50@gmail.com

Next issue will feature:

Let's Go Shopping - products we've found to make life on the water easier - backpacks, waterproof items, warm gear, sun gear, etc.

Regatta Survival Kit -- what's in yours?

The Chauffeur -- Got a favourite boat driver? Tell us about him/her. Don't forget a picture.

Umpire Paparizzis - share those pix you've been taking from the launch. Let us know if we can post it on our Facebook page too.

Bragging Rights - Did you get married, have a baby, become a grandparent, have a rower make gold. Let us share it with the rowing community. Be sure to include a picture.

And don't forget to send a protest scenario you've been involved in, or an on-the-water situation you've seen or experienced.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

RESULT #1: The jury allowed the protest, and Crew A was put in Lane 8 of the final. Crew A Finished 6th in final.

RESULT #2: The jury allowed the protest, and Crew A was put into final. Crew B was issued a yellow card for the

final. Crew A finished 6th in final. Lane 6 Crew B finished 3rd in final.

RESULT #3: The Jury allowed the protest, and the Crew was put into the final Crew A finished 6th in the final.