

World Rowing Rules of Racing Coastal Rowing -Endurance & Beach Sprint Formats-

Version: March 2025

Umpiring Commission

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SECTION I – COASTAL ROWING GENERAL (Rule RC #)

Coastal Rowing Regattas

Coastal Rowing Endurance

- Long-distance racing (typically 4–6 km)
- On open sea or large inland waters
- Uses *Coastal Rowing Boats* (Rule RC 10)
- Governed by **Section II** of the Rules and Regulations

Rowing Beach Sprint

- Short, head-to-head racing with a beach run – row – run sequence
- Uses the same *Coastal Rowing Boats* (Rule RC 10)
- Governed by **Section III** of the Rules and Regulations



Men's and Women's Events

At International Coastal Rowing regattas and World Rowing Coastal Championships in Endurance and Beach Sprint formats, Rule 13 of World Rowing Rules of Racing and its By-Laws as to sex eligibility apply.



Safety and Health of Rowers

Applies to both Endurance and Beach Sprint regattas

Fitness & Readiness

- Rowers must be in good physical condition to compete safely.
- Participation should match their level of health and fitness.

Swimming Ability

- Must be able to swim **at least 50 m** and keep the head **above water unassisted for 3 minutes**.

Health Screening

- **Endurance Championships:** pre-competition health check **strongly recommended**.
- **Beach Sprint Championships:** health check **mandatory** before competing.

Additional Provisions

- These safety requirements complement the detailed rules in **RCE 11** (Endurance) and **RCB 10** (Beach Sprint).

Coxswains

Part of the Crew

Coxswains are full members of the crew

References to *rowers* include *coxswains*, unless stated otherwise

Open Category

A **men's crew** may be coxed by a **woman**, and vice versa

The **Executive Committee** may approve exceptions

Age categories apply equally to coxswains

Minimum Weight Requirement

Minimum weight:
55.0 kg
(in racing uniform)

If underweight, may carry up to **15.0 kg of deadweight**, placed **close to the coxswain**, not part of racing equipment

Weighing Procedure

All coxswains weighed per **World Rowing Rule 22 (Bye-Law)**

Mixed Coastal Rowing Events

50% of the crew shall be eligible to row in women's events and 50% of the crew should not be eligible for women's events, excluding the coxswains.



Coastal Rowing Boats & Equipment

☑ Approved Boats Only

- Must meet **World Rowing design, construction, and safety standards.**
- Only certified *Coastal Rowing Boats* may be used in competitions.

📖 Applicable Bye-Laws (Rule 29)

Flotation • Quick-release foot stretchers • Oars • Identifications •
Natural properties • Communications & electronics

⚙️ Design & Construction

- Detailed technical requirements set out in the **Bye-law to Rule RC 9.**

NEW Innovations in Equipment

- Any new **boats, oars, equipment, or clothing** must meet **Rule 29** standards and be **approved by World Rowing** before use.
- **Unapproved innovations** cannot be used in competition.

Coastal Rowing Boats & Equipment II

Safety Requirements

Coastal Endurance Regattas

- **Life jackets:** one per crew; **coxswains must wear** at all times.
- **Towing eye + 15 m buoyant line:** strong enough to tow a swamped boat; loose end reachable by crew.
- **Electronics:** GPS and radios allowed if approved by OC or maritime authority.

Beach Sprint Regattas

- Life jackets **not required** in the boat (but must be **available on request**).
- **No towing line** required.
- **Communications & electronics:** follow **Rule 29 Bye-law 5** in full.

Design and Construction of Coastal Rowing Boats I

Measurement Requirements

- **Maximum length:** defined limit (no minimum length).

C1X	6.00 m
C2X	7.50 m
C4+, C4X+	10.70 m

- **Minimum weight:** as specified by class.

C1X	35 kg
C2X	60 kg
C4+, C4X+	130 kg

- **Minimum width:** measured externally at two points:
 - Maximum beam
 - Secondary beam point (at defined height from keel)

		Secondary Beam Measurement Point	
Boat Type	Width Overall (Point 1)	Height of Measurement Point above Deepest Point of Boat	Width at Measurement Point (Point 2)
C1x	0.75 m	0.19 m	0.55 m
C2x	1.0 m	0.23 m	0.70 m
C4+/C4x+	1.3 m	0.30 m	0.90 m

Design and Construction of Coastal Rowing Boats II

❓ Crew & Coxswain Position

- All rowers seated **in line** along boat axis.
- Coxed boats: coxswain must sit **upright at the stern**, facing rowers.

❓ Safety Construction Standards

- Minimum **3 watertight compartments**, with hatches or access ports.
- **Self-bailing hulls** — water drains automatically via bailers or sloped cockpit.
- **Ballast/weights** must be **securely fixed** to the boat structure.

Boat Numbers and Crew Identification Numbers I

Coastal Rowing Endurance Regattas

Boat Numbers

- Every boat must be **registered** with the Organising Committee **before training or racing**.
- **Registration responsibility:** Member Federation or Club.
- Must display **allocated boat number** on **both sides of the bow**.
- Characters: **≥ 20 cm high**, in **contrasting colour**.
- Failure to register or display correctly → **sanction possible**.

Crew Identification Numbers

- Displayed **in addition** to the boat number.
- Format for WR Championships: [**Country Code + Crew Rank**] e.g. FRA09.
- Characters: **≥ 10 cm high**, contrasting color.
- Placement:
 - On both sides of the boat (near bow), **or**
 - On the **bow deck**, visible from both sides.
- For **beach finishes**, the **runner** must wear the **crew number** visibly.

Boat Numbers and Crew Identification Numbers II

Coastal Rowing Endurance Regattas



Boat Numbers and Crew Identification Numbers III

Beach Rowing Sprint Regattas

- No formal boat or crew numbers required.
- **Organising Committee** applies **discreet ID marks** for correct lane and boat allocation.



Innovations in Equipment

1 Approval Requirement

- Any **innovation in equipment** — including **boats, oars, components, or clothing** — must comply with the standards of **Rule 30 of the World Rowing Rules of Racing**.
- This applies to **all International Coastal Regattas** and **World Rowing Coastal Events** (Endurance and Beach formats).

2 Use of New Equipment

- Crews **may not compete** with equipment innovations that have **not been previously approved** by World Rowing.
- Approval ensures **fairness, safety,** and **technical consistency** across all events.

Purpose: To maintain equal competition conditions and uphold World Rowing's equipment integrity standards.

Regatta roles and responsibilities I

President of the Jury

- Leads and **coordinates the Jury**.
- **Allocates duties**, supervises umpires, chairs Jury meetings.
- Ensures communication and coordination with:
 - **Principal Race Officer (PRO)**
 - **Race Director (RD)**
 - **Organising Committee (OC)**
- Has **final authority on safety decisions**.
- Chairs the **Race Committee** and the **Board of the Jury**.

Organising Committee (OC)

Includes key officers:

- **Race Director, Safety Officer, Medical Officer (MD),
Safeguarding Officer, Sustainability Officer**

Responsibilities:

- Comply with all maritime & safety rules.
- Provide rescue services and medical cover.
- Ensure event runs under WR Rules & Bye-laws.

Regatta roles and responsibilities II

World Rowing Appointed Officials

- For International & WR Events:
- **Technical Delegate (TD)**
- **President of the Jury**
- **Principal Race Officer (PRO)**
- **WR Doctor**
- **WR Safeguarding Officer**



Main Roles Explained I

◇ Technical Delegate (TD)

- Expert in venue, course, and infrastructure.
- Works with OC & RD before and during racing.
- Checks timing/data systems and technical readiness.

◇ Principal Race Officer (PRO)

- Maritime & surf-conditions specialist.
- Advises on course layout, weather, and sea state.
- Coordinates with PoJ, TD & RD on race safety decisions.

◇ Race Director (RD)

- Local expert with venue knowledge.
- Liaison with maritime authority & rescue services.
- Member of Race Committee; safety decisions in consultation with PoJ — **PoJ decision prevails.**



Main Roles Explained II

Race Committee (for WR Events)

Members:



 **Main role:** Decide on actions in case of **adverse weather or unsafe conditions** affecting racing.

 **Guiding principle:** Safety → Fairness → Continuity of competition.

Identifications, Sponsorship & Uniforms I

General Principles

- Same publicity & ID rules as **Rule 39 (World Rowing Rules of Racing)**.
- Additional specific rules apply to **Coastal Endurance** and **Beach Sprint** events.

Rowers' Clothing Identifications

- Each rower must display:
 - **Family name** (Roman letters) (e.g., *ALONSO*)
 - **Three-letter federation code** (e.g., *ESP*)
 - Centered on the torso, name **above** the code.
- For WR Championships:
 - Special **WR bib or T-shirt** may be required (provided by WR).
 - Racing shirt style: **singlet or sleeveless**.

Racing Shirt	Font	Height	Width (Maximum)	Case
FRONT: Family name	Arial	50 mm	150 mm	Uppercase
FRONT: Country code	Arial	50 mm	100 mm	Uppercase
BACK: Country code	Arial	100 mm		Uppercase

Identifications, Sponsorship & Uniforms II



Crew Uniforms

All crew members must wear **identical racing uniform:**

- Club or federation colors.
- Composite crews: same uniform *or* each their own club kit.

Coxswains: may wear extra clothing in team colors.

Boat identification I

Boat Identifications

- Sponsor/federation IDs allowed **only outside reserved areas**.
- **Reserved spaces** on each side for:
 - Boat number & crew ID (Endurance)
 - WR/OC logos & manufacturer symbols
- **Pool boats:** no sponsor/crew identification allowed.
- **Manufacturer logo:** max **100 cm²**, one per side, in addition to the symbol.

- The following Identifications shall be positioned on each side of the boat as measured from the bow of the boat

	C1x	C2x	C4x+
Manufacturer symbol	0-15 cm	0-15 cm	0-15 cm
World Rowing/OC sponsor	155-255 cm	215-315 cm	215-335 cm

- The total area (cm²) and length (cm) allowed on each side

	C1x	C2x	C4x+
Manufacturer symbol	50 cm ²	50 cm ²	50 cm ²
World Rowing/OC sponsor	1200 cm ²	1200 cm ²	1600 cm ²
	80 cm	80 cm	100 cm

Boat identification II

12 Boat Numbers & Sponsor Areas

- **International regattas:** OC sponsor logo may appear **above or below** boat number (≤ 10 cm high).
- **WR Coastal Events:** same rule, space reserved for **WR sponsors**.

⚓ Oars & Blades

- **Pool oars:** advertising rights belong to OC.
- **Blade colours:**
 - Use registered **federation or club colours**.
 - Pool oars: **plain colour** adopted by the OC, approved by WR.



Entries

- **All valid entries** received by the deadline **must be accepted**.
- If **only one crew** enters an event → the event is **cancelled** (entry authority notified).
- **Entry lists** published promptly after closing.
- **Objections** to invalid entries can be lodged with the Organising Committee (International) or World Rowing (WR Events) — decision based on facts and rules.

Record number of nations competing at the 2025 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals

The event, set to make its Olympic debut at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, will see fifty-five nations participating, a record number (compared to 51 in 2024) and 342 athletes competing in ten Championships boat classes, the most ever offered at the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.

[READ MORE →](#)

Withdrawals & Crew Changes

🚫 Withdrawals

- Must be notified **in writing**:
 - **≥ 1 hour** before Team Captains' Meeting (International).
 - **≥ 3 hours** before Draw (World Rowing Events).
- Late withdrawals → **fin**es:
 - Endurance: **€100** • Beach Sprint: **€500**
- No fine if withdrawal due to **medical or safety reasons** (approved).
- Once withdrawn → **irrevocable**.

👥 Crew Changes

Before Draw:

Up to **50% of crew + coxswain** may be substituted.

Replacements must belong to the **same club or federation**.

After Draw:

Only for **illness or injury** (medical proof required).

Must be approved by **OC** (International) or **WR Doctor** (WR Events).

Replaced rower **cannot return**.

Beach Sprints:

No crew changes allowed once in **Final 8**.

Other items

Rule RC 18 – Anti-Doping

- **Doping is strictly prohibited.**
- Governed by the **World Anti-Doping Code**, adopted as part of **World Rowing Rules**.
- Applies to **all International Coastal and World Rowing Coastal Events**.
- Controlled under **Rule 86** and **Appendix R10** (Anti-Doping Bye-laws).

Rule RC 19 – Exceptional Cases

- In special or unforeseen situations:
 - The **President of the Jury** forms and leads a body to decide the matter.
 - At **World Rowing Events**, decisions are made by the **Executive Committee**.

SECTION II – ENDURANCE FORMAT (RCE#)



We will come back to this later

SECTION III – BEACH SPRINT FORMAT (RCB#)

Eligibility & Nationality

Eligibility

- Open to **all rowers authorised** by their **Member Federation**.
- Must comply with all **World Rowing Rules & Bye-laws**.

Nationality

- To represent a country at the **World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships**, rowers must be **nationals of that country**.
- Proof required: **passport** or **national ID card**.

Dual or Changed Nationality

- Governed by **Rule 12** of the World Rowing Rules of Racing.
- The **Executive Committee** may grant **exceptions** after consulting the federations involved.

Age Categories & Boat Classes & WRBS Championships Event Programme

Age Categories	Boat Classes	WRBS Event Programme
<p>Seniors Under 23 Under 19 Masters</p>	<p>Solo (1x) Double Sculls (2x) Coxed Quadruple Sculls (4x+)</p>	<p>Men (M) 1x Women (W) 1x Mixed (Mix) 2x, 4x+ Under 19 Men (JM) 1x, 2x Under 19 Women (JW) 1x, 2x Under 19 Mixed (JMix) 2x Inclusion Mixed 2x* (INMix) 2x</p> <p><i>*An Inclusion Mix 2x crew shall comprise one rower who can row in a women's event and one man. Only one rower shall be a para rower and they shall be classified as PR3 PI.</i></p>

Boats & Equipment

Boat Type

- Only **Coastal Rowing Boats** (as defined in **Rule RC 9**) may be used.

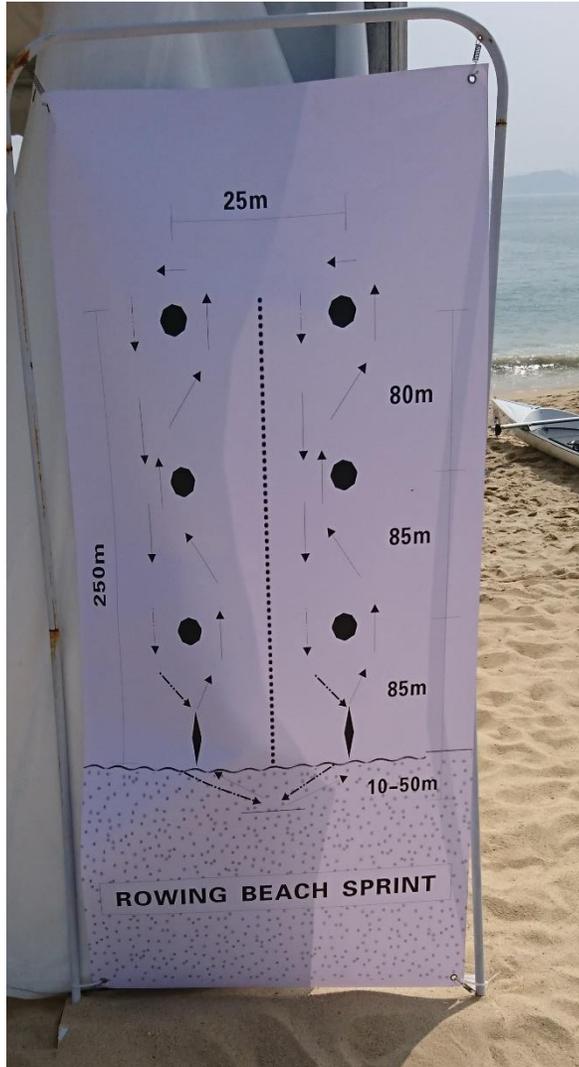
Equipment Exceptions (Beach Sprints)

- **Life jackets:** not mandatory unless required by local maritime law.
 - Must be **available on request**.
- **Buoyant line (15 m):** not required.

Pool Boats

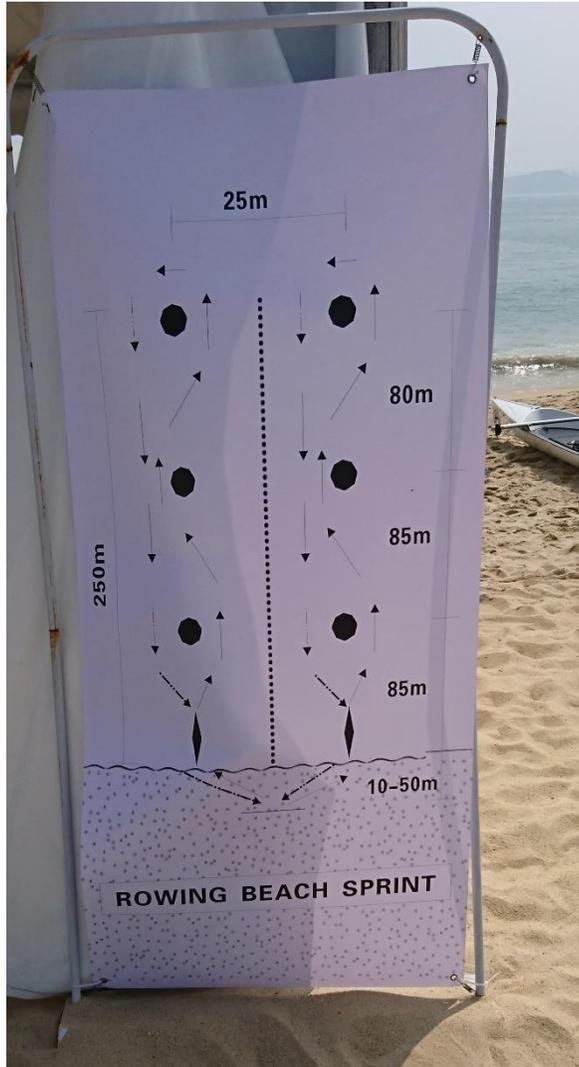
- **International Events:** OC *may* require use of shared **pool boats**.
- **World Rowing Events:** use of **pool boats is mandatory**.
- **Rigging:** fixed to **standard measurements** (published in Competition Notice), must **not be altered** during the regatta

Race Course I



- 🏊 General Principles
 - Course on a **smooth, sandy beach** — no rocks or obstructions.
 - **Wide start area** to avoid interference.
 - **Equal distance** for all lanes in both running and rowing sections.
- 🏊 Course Structure
 - **Start Run (10–50 m)** – from Start/Finish line to the water.
 - **Rowing Section (~250 m total)** – 3 buoys per lane:
 - 85 m → 85 m → 80 m spacing (min. 2, max. 4 lanes).
 - **Finish Run (10–50 m)** – back to Start/Finish line.
- *(Distances may vary with local conditions; first buoy beyond wave break.)*

Race Course II



📍 Course Markers

- Plan must appear in **Competition Notice** and at **Control Commission**.
- **Inflatable buoys:** 150 cm high for turns, smaller near shore.
- **Equal distances** between buoys and lanes (≥ 25 m apart).
- Avoid opposite boat directions; adjust for **tides** as needed.
- Each lane's **finish flag** marks boat landing; runners pass **outside** it to finish.

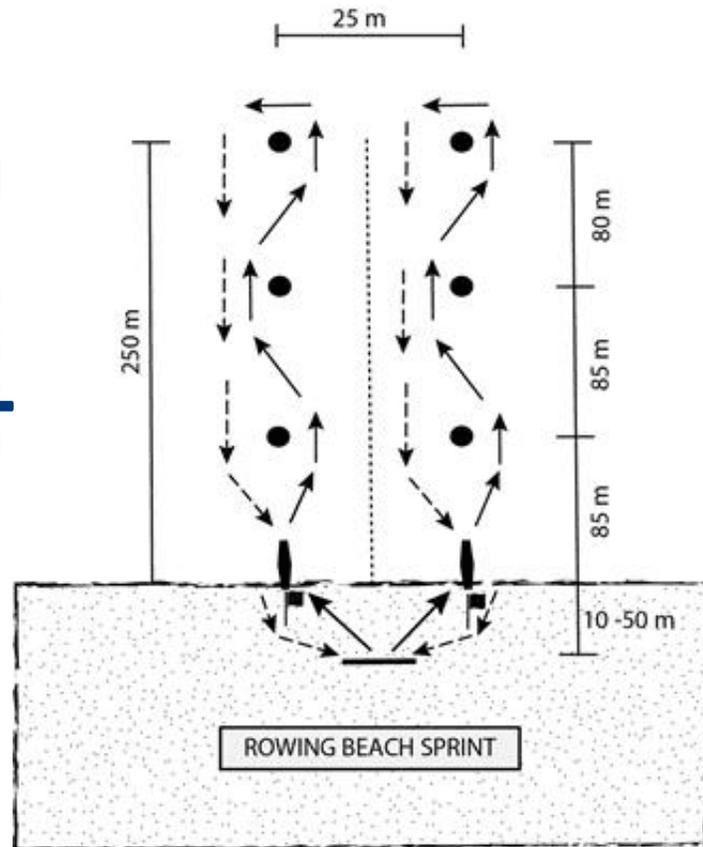
🚦 Start & Finish Lines

- **Start line:** clear, fixed, ≥ 3 m wide, perpendicular to course.
- **Finish line:** ≥ 3 m wide; funnel shape (2 lanes) or extended (≥ 3 lanes).
- Finish can be:
 - Line crossing
 - Tape
 - Flag touch
 - Button press/timing chip.
- Method announced in the **Competition Notice**

Race Format I

World Rowing Beach Sprints - Coastal Rules of Racing
RCB 7 Race Formats - Option 1
Slalom out / Straight back

Option 1



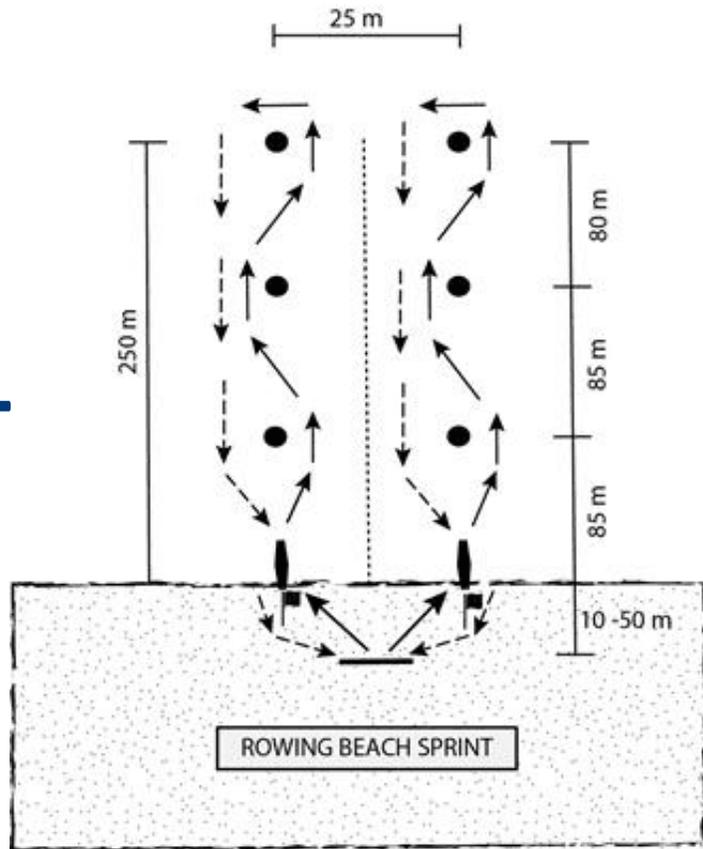
Option 1 – “Slalom Out / Straight Back” (Side-by-Side Racing)

- Crews start **side-by-side**.
- Slalom around **three buoys** in sequence, turn the last one, and row straight back to the beach.
- **Result** = finishing order (plus any time penalties).
- **Default format** in normal conditions.

Race Format II

World Rowing Beach Sprints - Coastal Rules of Racing
RCB 7 Race Formats - Option 1
Slalom out / Straight back

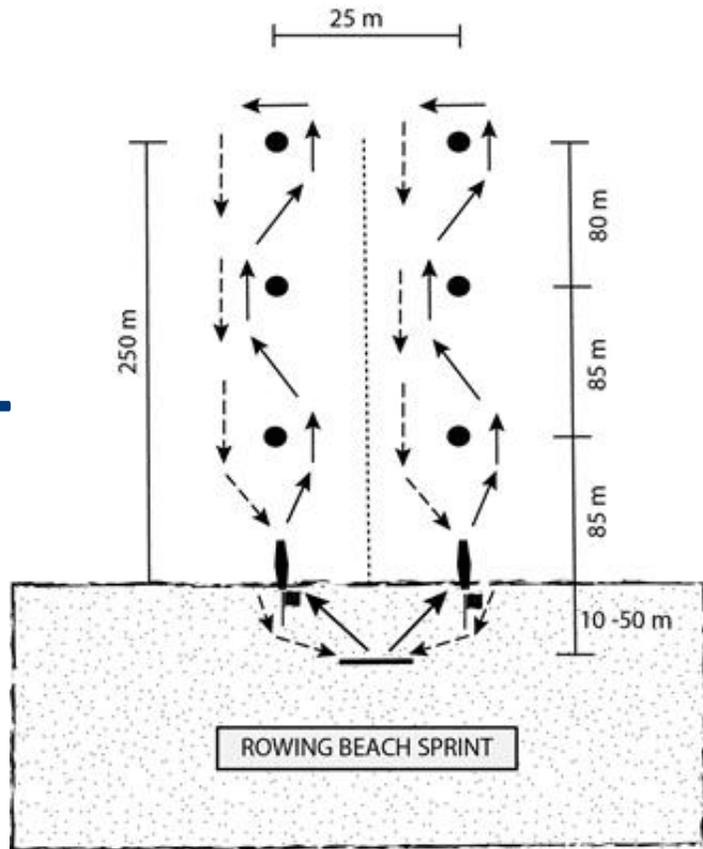
Option 1



Race Format III

World Rowing Beach Sprints - Coastal Rules of Racing
RCB 7 Race Formats - Option 1
Slalom out / Straight back

Option 1



Crews not taking a straight line course back to the beach or arriving at the beach at other than the designated point shall not be penalised as long as they do not interfere with another crew and they otherwise comply with the requirements of these Rules.

Crews must go around each of the three buoys in turn in the correct direction on the outward sector. The diagram below refers.

Race Format IV

Option 2 – “Processional Time Trial” (Processional Racing)

Crews start **one after another** at set intervals, using the **same lane**.

Slalom around three buoys in the outbound lane, turn 90° at the outer buoy, row back in the inbound lane, finish with a **run to the finish line**.

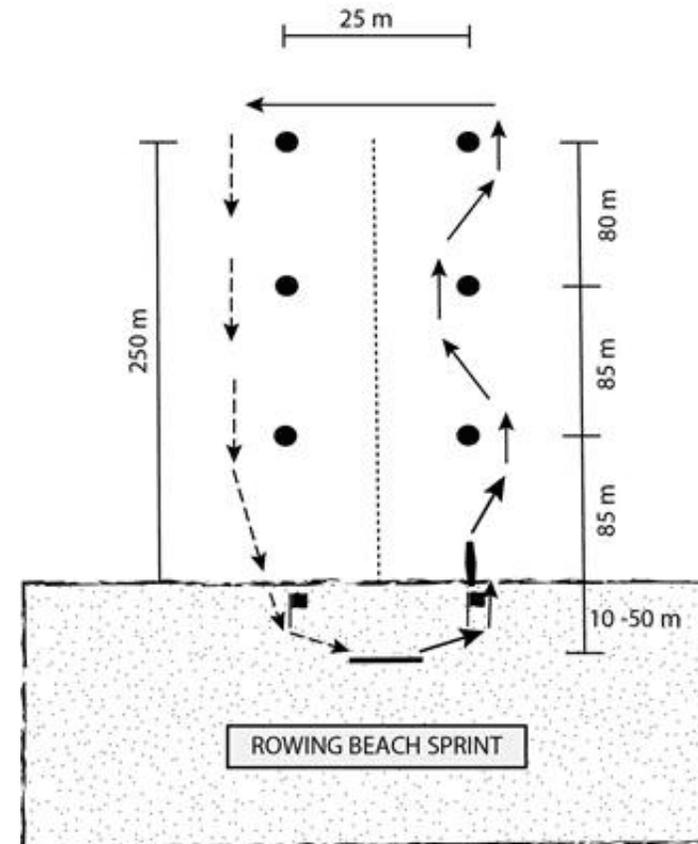
Result = time (plus any penalties).

Used when:

- Entries exceed time available for side-by-side racing.
- Adverse conditions reduce racing time.

Option 2

World Rowing Beach Sprints - Coastal Rules of Racing
RCB 7 Race Formats - Option 2
Processional Time Trial

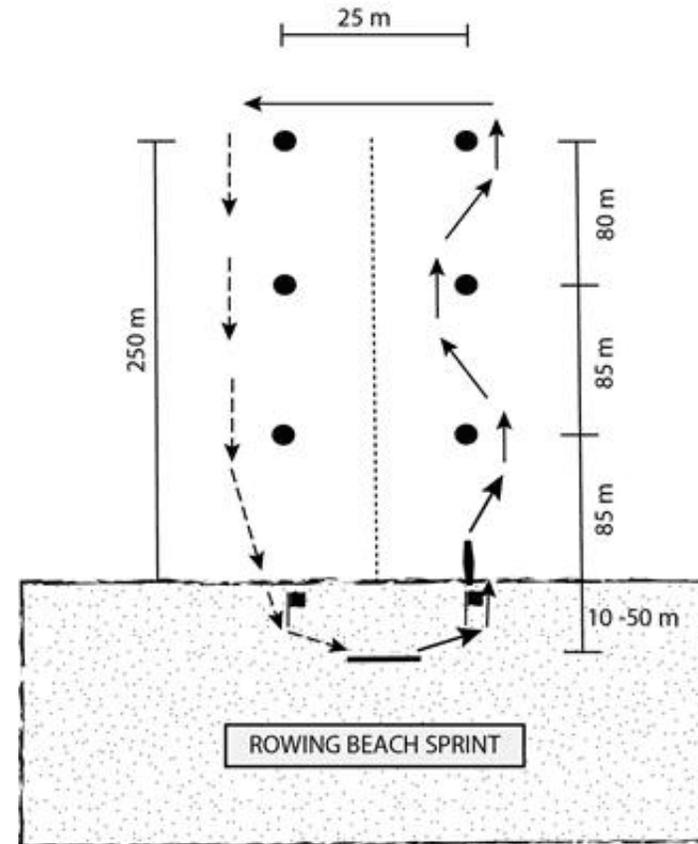


Race Format V



World Rowing Beach Sprints - Coastal Rules of Racing
RCB 7 Race Formats - Option 2
Processional Time Trial

Option 2

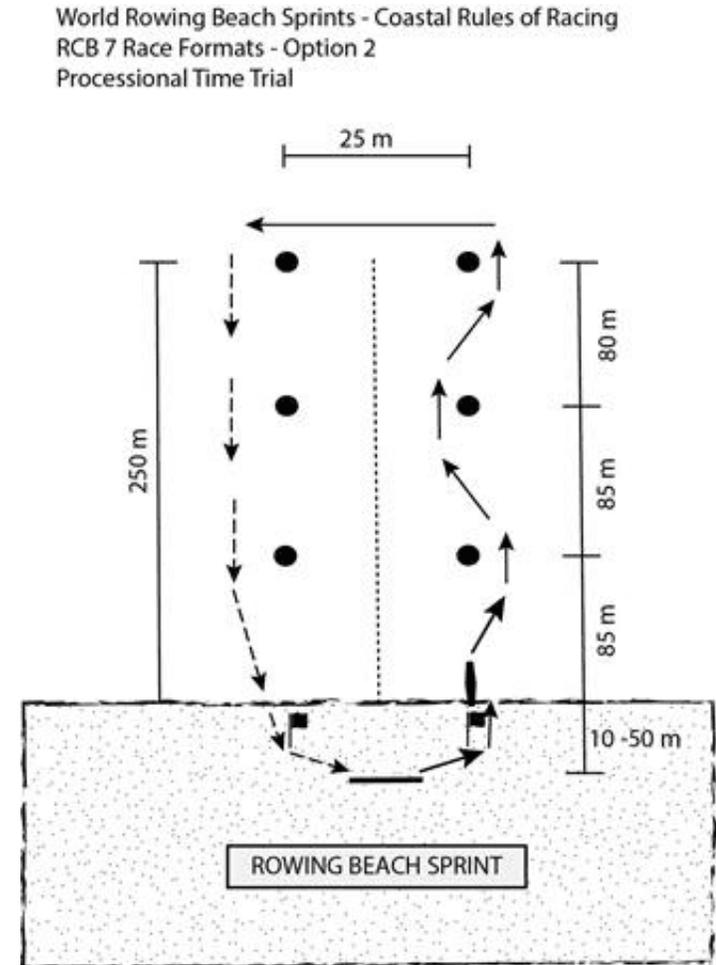


Race Format VI

Crews must go around each buoy in the correct order and direction and shall not interfere with other crews.

A crew which is caught by a following crew must move aside to let the faster crew overtake without interfering with them.

Option 2



Number of lanes

- Minimum:** 2 lanes
- Maximum (in principle):** 4 lanes

Fairness Requirements

Beach running distance and **water conditions** must be **reasonably equal** for all lanes.

Determining Factors

- Available **space on the beach and water**
- **Number of crews** entered in each event

Safety – General Principles

Overall Principle

- The **Organising Committee** must ensure safe conditions.
- However, **each rower and team official** holds the **ultimate responsibility** for competing safely.
- Team Managers' Meeting attendance is mandatory.

Rowers' Obligations

MUST:

Know and follow the **World Rowing Rules for Coastal Rowing**.

Know **what to do in case of swamping or capsize**.

Always act responsibly for their **own and others' safety**.

General Ability of Crews

Any **Jury member** may stop a crew from going on the water if it is deemed unsafe.

In case of disagreement, the **President of the Jury** makes the final decision.

The Jury I

**President of the
Jury***

Starter*

Judge at the Start*

Race Umpire*

**Lane Umpires
(1 per lane)**

**Turning Mark
Umpire**

**Judge at the
Finish***

Challenge Umpire*

**Control
Commission
(one senior
member*)**

The Jury II

General Principles

- Jury members may **hold dual roles**.
- The **President of the Jury** may appoint **assistants**.
- At least **one Jury member** must have clear sight of the **end turning buoys**.
- The **number of Jury members** may increase if there are **more than two lanes**.



Duties of the Jury I

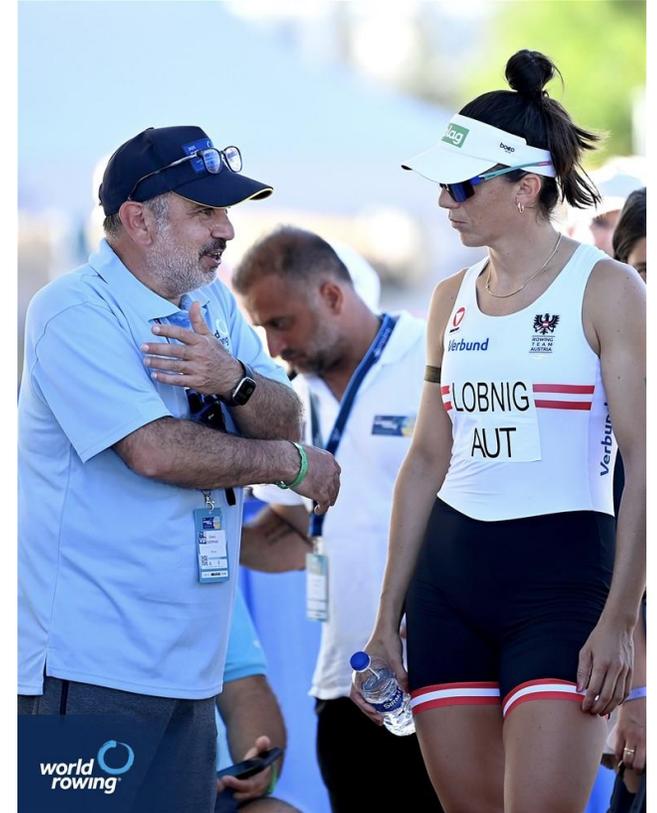
Control Commission

Verifies:

- Correct **display of rower names** and **federation acronyms** on uniforms (Rule RC 14).
- Crews race in the **boats and lanes assigned**.

Starter & Judge at the Start

- Ensure the **starting procedure** is correctly followed.
- Must be positioned **elevated**, with a **clear view** of the Start/Finish line.
- **Judge at the Start** determines false starts and applies Rule RCB 21.
- The **Starter** may also act as Judge at the Start if positioned appropriately.



Duties of the Jury II

Race Umpire

- Positioned on land, elevated, with full view of the race.
- Has precedence over Lane and Turning Mark Umpires.
- Ensures **fairness, safety and rule compliance**.
- May **stop, restart, or sanction** as required.
- Raises **white flag** (race in order) or **red flag** (not in order).

Lane Umpires

- One per lane, positioned on the beach.
- Check boats are aligned at the start.
- Report **faulty or false starts** to the Judge at the Start (via red flag).
- Ensures that the crews goes around all buoys correctly

Turning Mark Umpire

- Positioned by the outermost buoy.
- Signals to the Race Umpire:
 -  **White flag** – all buoys rounded correctly.
 -  **Red flag** – error or interference.
- Reports details of any infringement after the race.



Duties of the Jury III



Judge at the Finish

- Determines the **finishing order** of runners.
- Confirms that the race was in order.
- **Validates the official results.**

Challenge Umpire

- **Receives challenges** from crews.
- **Collects evidence** and **forwards** it to the Challenge Panel.

World Rowing Beach Sprint Progression System I

The goal is to reduce the field to the Final Eight crews who will compete for medals.

The Final Eight Crews – Key Principle

Once the **Final Eight crews** are determined, a **standard structure** and **strict race protocol** apply to ensure fairness, consistency, and timely racing.

1 Competition Format

- All Final Eight rounds shall be raced **on two lanes**.
- Sequence of races:
 - **4 Quarterfinals** 8 → 4 crews
 - **2 Semi-finals** 4 → 2 crews
 - **2 Finals:**
 - 🥉 Race for **Bronze Medal - 3rd–4th place** (held first)
 - 🥇 Race for **Gold Medal - 1st–2nd place** (held second)
- A **consistent time schedule** must be maintained across all rounds.

World Rowing Beach Sprint Progression System II

2 Mandatory Readiness

- Once the Final Eight stage begins, **crews must be ready** at their **scheduled start time**.
- If a crew is **not ready to race** at the scheduled start time — *for any reason (including illness or injury)* — the crew shall be **deemed withdrawn** and recorded as **DNS (Did Not Start)**.
- **No delays or rescheduling** will be permitted, except under exceptional circumstances.

3 Withdrawals and Ranking

- If a crew **withdraws** during any Final Eight round:
 - That crew shall be **ranked last** in that round.
- If a **replacement crew** is entered in the quarterfinals, it shall **assume the position and ranking** of the withdrawn crew.
- The provisions of **Rule RCB 15.3** apply for any withdrawals at this stage.

4 Authority for Exceptional Cases

- Decisions in exceptional circumstances are made by: The **President of the Jury** , International Regattas, or The **Executive Committee or its delegate(s)** – at World Rowing Events.

World Rowing Beach Sprint Progression System III

17+ Entries with direct eliminations

Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5															
TIME TRIAL 1		TIME TRIAL 2		KNOCKOUT ROUND		QUARTER FINALS		SEMI FINALS		FINALS															
				LAST 16		LAST 8																			
TT1	1	TT2	9.TT1	K1	1.TT1	Q1	1.O1	S1	1.Q1	FA	1.SAB1														
	2		10.TT1		8.TT2		1.O8		1.Q2		1.SAB2														
	3		11.TT1	K2	2.TT1	Q2	1.O4	S2	1.Q3	FB	2.SAB1														
	4		12.TT1		7.TT2		1.O5		1.Q4		2.SAB2														
	5		13.TT1	K3	3.TT1	Q3	1.O2																		
	6		14.TT1		6.TT2		1.O7																		
	7		15.TT1	K4	4.TT1	Q4	1.O3																		
	8		16.TT1		5.TT2		1.O6																		
	9		17.TT1	K5	5.TT1																				
	10		18.TT1		4.TT2																				
	11		19.TT1	K6	6.TT1																				
	12		20.TT1, ...		3.TT2																				
	13			K7	7.TT1																				
	14				2.TT2																				
	15			K8	8.TT1																				
	16				1.TT2																				
	17																								
	18																								
	19																								
	20...																								

The Draw and Lane Determination I

1 Initial Draw – Preliminary Heats or Time Trials

- The **Draw for the first round** takes place at the **Team Managers' Meeting**.
- It is **supervised by the Jury** and shall be **random**, except when **seeding** applies.
- The Draw determines:
 - Which **crews race in which heats**, and which **lane** each crew will use (or, for time trials, the **starting order**).

The Draw and Lane Determination II

2 Seeding (World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships)

- If **seeding** is used, the **Executive Committee** appoints a **Seeding Panel**, criteria and methods must be **published in advance**.
 - **Placement principles:**
 - Highest-seeded crews → placed on **opposite sides** of the draw.
 - Descending seedings follow the same pattern.
 - **Unseeded crews** → placed by **random draw**, under Jury supervision.
 - For **Time Trials:**
 - Seeded crews start **in ranking order** (in principle highest first).
 - Unseeded crews start **in random order** thereafter.
- } Newest Development is for the slowest crews to start first with the fastest (seeded) crews last

The Draw and Lane Determination III

3 Lane Selection – Following Rounds

- Applies to rounds **after the first** that are **not time trials**.
- **Up to 10 minutes before** the first race of each round, all crews must:
 - Indicate their **preferred lane** to an official designated by the **President of the Jury**.
- The **same lane choice** applies for the **Quarterfinals, Semifinals, and Finals**.

4 Lane Priority

- **Priority crew** =
 - The crew progressing **directly from Round 1 to Round 3**, or
 - The crew with the **faster previous round time**.
- If times are **identical**, a **random draw** decides priority.
- The **priority crew** gets its **preferred lane**; the other crew takes the remaining lane.
- If the priority crew fails to declare, the **non-priority crew** gets its choice.

The Draw and Lane Determination IV

5 Confirmation

- Once lanes are assigned:
 - The **official** informs both crews, and
 - Notifies **timing and results officials** to prepare the **start list**.

 *Result: transparent, fair and consistent lane allocation process — ensuring both sport integrity and smooth race flow.*

Example of the moments when the crews select their preferred lane

17+ Entries with direct eliminations

Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 3		Round 4		Round 5							
TIME TRIAL 1		TIME TRIAL 2		KNOCKOUT ROUND		QUARTER FINALS		SEMI FINALS		FINALS							
				LAST 16				LAST 8									
TT1	1	TT2	9.TT1	O1	1.TT1	Q1	1.O1	S1	1.Q1	FA	1.SAB1						
	2		10.TT1		8.TT2		1.O8		1.Q2		1.SAB2						
	3		11.TT1	O2	2.TT1	Q2	1.O4	S2	1.Q3	FB	2.SAB1						
	4		12.TT1		7.TT2		1.O5		1.Q4		2.SAB2						
	5		13.TT1	O3	3.TT1	Q3	1.O2										
	6		14.TT1		6.TT2		1.O7										
	7		15.TT1	O4	4.TT1	Q4	1.O3										
	8		16.TT1		5.TT2		1.O6										
	9	17.TT1	O5	5.TT1													
	10	18.TT1		4.TT2													
	11	19.TT1	O6	6.TT1													
	12	20.TT1, ...		3.TT2													
	13		O7	7.TT1													
	14			2.TT2													
	15		O8	8.TT1													
	16			1.TT2													
	17																
	18																
	19																
	20...																

Team Manager

Each **participating member federation** must appoint a **Team Manager**.

The Team Manager (or delegate) must:

- Attend **all official meetings**.
- Relay **all race and safety information** to rowers and coaches.
- Handle **official communications** with World Rowing, including:
 - Crew withdrawals 
 - Rowers' substitutions 

Responsibilities

- Ensure accurate and timely **information flow** within the team.
- Serve as the **primary contact** for event officials.
- Maintain **compliance** with World Rowing communication protocols.

Non-Compliance

 Failure to appoint a Team Manager, or Attend meetings / communicate information properly → May result in **sanction by the Executive Committee**.

Withdrawals, Exclusions, Disqualifications & Final Rankings I

1 General Rule

- Applies in addition to Rule RC 17,. Covers how crews are recorded and ranked after the Draw.

2 Before Racing Begins

-  Crew withdraws before first race or is excluded/disqualified at any stage →
 Not ranked in that event.

Withdrawals, Exclusions, Disqualifications & Final Rankings II

3 After Racing Has Begun (Except Final Eight)

- **Withdraws before race** → marked **DNS**, ranked **last in that round** (equal if multiple).
- **Stops rowing / doesn't finish** → marked **DNF**, ranked **last in that round** (above DNS).
- **DNF > DNS** in ranking order.
- **Progression continues** with the stipulated number of crews.
- **DNF crews do not race again.**
- If a technical issue prevents finishing, the **President of the Jury** (or **Executive Committee** at WR events) may place that crew **last in the race** rather than unranked.

Withdrawals, Exclusions, Disqualifications & Final Rankings III

4 Rounds of the Final Eight

- ⌚ **Withdraw ≥ 30 min before** QF start \rightarrow next-fastest crew (from previous round) **replaces** withdrawn crew;
President of Jury supervises new draw.
- ⌚ **Withdraw < 30 min before** QF start \rightarrow no redraw; opponent races **alone**.
- Any crew **withdrawing** in Final Eight is **ranked last** in that round.
- Replacement crew assumes the **ranking position** of the one replaced.
- In any **Final**:
 - **Withdraw before start** \rightarrow DNS
 - **Stops mid-race** \rightarrow DNF
 - Both placed **last in that Final**.

Withdrawals, Exclusions, Disqualifications & Final Rankings IV

5 Final Event Rankings

-  Published after the regatta concludes.
- **Crews in Finals** ranked by **finish position**:
Final A > Final B ...
- **Crews not reaching Finals** ranked by:

1 Round reached

2 finishing position in that round

3 Time (if equal positions → faster crew ranked higher).



Re-Rows

A **Re-Row** is a **second running** of a race.

Decision to Re-Row

- The **Umpire** decides whether a **Re-Row** is required.
- The **Re-Row** must cover the **full distance** of the original race.

Timing of the Re-Row

- Normally takes place **immediately** once the decision is made.
- Alternatively, the **Umpire**, in consultation with the **President of the Jury**, may set another start time.

Purpose: To restore fairness when circumstances prevent a fair result in the original race.



Adverse Weather Conditions

Awareness and Responsibility

- All rowers, clubs, and federations must recognise the **risks of coastal racing**, particularly the need to be **competent and safe in wave and surf conditions**. 🌊
- Crews may **withdraw for safety reasons** by giving **written notice** → In that case there is **no penalty** for the crew.

In Case of Adverse Conditions

- **International Beach Sprint Regattas** → Decisions taken by the **President of the Jury** and the **Race Director**.
- **World Rowing Beach Sprint Events** → Decisions taken by the **Race Committee**, except that **race or regatta cancellations** are the responsibility of the **Executive Committee**.

Safety Priority

In **all cases**, the **President of the Jury** may take **immediate action** when necessary to:

- ✓ **Protect rowers and officials, and**
- ✓ **Ensure fairness and safe competition.**



Boat Handlers I

Role and Purpose

- Support the **departure and arrival** of crews on the beach.
- **Handle boats safely** to reduce risk of **damage or injury**.
- Up to **two boat handlers per boat**.
- In **rough conditions**, the **President of the Jury** may **increase or require** more handlers.

Responsibilities

- Boat handlers are **provided by the teams** and are recognised as **official support crew**.
- If two or more are assigned → must include **one man and one woman**.
- Must wear **matched uniforms or bibs**, clearly **distinguishable from the crew**, and compliant with **identification rules**.



Boat Handlers II

During the Race

- Assist crews by:
 - **Holding the boat** for boarding and departure.
 - Helping with **rudder fixing, etc.**
 - Must **not board** the boat or stand with water **above shoulder level.**
- Can give **verbal or visual steering assistance** only.
 - ⚠ **No electronic or technical aids** (radio, headsets, lights, etc.)

At the Finish

- May **“catch” the boat** as it reaches the beach to control its arrival.
- Once the **runner exits the water**:
 - Boat handlers **must stay with the boat**, they may **not assist or run** with the runner.
 - Then ensure **quick removal** of the boat from the water.



Compliance

Boat handlers must follow **all instructions** from race officials., they are always subject to the Rules of Racing.

The runner & Other Crew Members I

General Principle

- Each crew designates **one Runner** responsible for the **land segment** of the race.
- The Runner may differ between **start and finish** but must always be a **member of the crew**.

Start Procedure

- The **Runner** stands with **both feet behind the Start line**
- Other crew members (except Solo 1x):
 - Stand **in the water beside the boat**.
 - Shall not start to board their boat
 - or have any part of any rower's torso or legs in or on the boat before the Start signal

At the signal:

- The **Runner sprints** to the boat.
- Crew may **board immediately** once the signal is given.

Conduct During the Run

- **No assistance or physical guidance** allowed from team members or boat handlers.
- **Mixed Events:**
 - Start and finish must have **different Runners** — one **man**, one **woman**.
- **Women's 4x+ events:**
 - All Runners must be **women**.



The runner & Other Crew Members III

Finish Procedure Side by Side

- After leaving the boat, the Runner must:
 - Run on the **outside of the lane flag** (relative to the Finish line).
 - Cross the **Finish line** after passing the flag correctly and completes de finish action.

Processional Time Trials

- Runner must pass **on the outside of the flag**:
 - When running from **Start line to boat**, and
 - Again, when running from **boat to Finish line**.

Penalties

⚠ If the Runner **fails to pass on the correct side of the flag**, the crew receives a **10-second Time Penalty**.



At the Start and The Starting Procedure I

Starter and Judge at the Start

• Starter

- Positioned **elevated**, either **beside or behind the Start line**, with a **clear view** of all boats.
- May be **assisted by other umpires** under their authority.

• Judge at the Start

- Positioned to **properly oversee the line** and ensure a fair start.
- When the Starter is on the Start line, they **may also serve as Judge at the Start**.
- The **President of the Jury** may assign **additional umpires** to assist if needed.

Crew Members

- All crews must be **present in the Start area** and in **racing uniform**
🕒 **3 minutes before** the official start time.
- The **Starter controls** the crews during this period.
- Crews **not in position** by 3 minutes before may receive a **Yellow Card** ⚠️
- The Starter may **start the race without waiting** for late crews.



At the Start and The Starting Procedure II

Boats and Alignment

- Once on the water, boats must be:
 - **Lined up** in their allotted start positions.
 - **Held by the crew** (except the Runner) and up to **two boat handlers**.
- Boats must be **reasonably in line with other boat and shall be positioned so that the centres of boats are in a line with the buoys in their lane**.
- The **Judge at the Start** ensures proper alignment and may request assistance from other umpires.

Countdown to Start

- From **3 minutes before the Start**, the **official procedure** follows.
- All race officials and crews must adhere strictly to this sequence.
- The starting announcements and signals shall be clearly audible and visible to all rowers in the race.

The Starting procedure (head to head)

Time (mm:ss)	Starter / Announcer	Athletes
- 3:00	THREE MINUTES! *	All crew members in Start Zone under the control of the starter After introduction crews turn immediately back to their position
-2:45 → -1:45	Crews presentation by announcer	
-1:00 → -0:45	ONE MINUTE! * PUT THE BOATS ON THE WATER! *	Runner to be ready behind Start Line Crew + Boat handler put the boat into the water
-00:30 → -00:20	GET READY!	
-00:20 →	<i>Music to stop</i> ATTENTION! Red flag or traffic light Dropping flag or green light + HOOTER	Start of the race by the runners, the crew in the water starts boarding

**The starter my delegate this commands to the announcer, shall be responsible they are made on time and correctly.*

Beach Start – Start procedure

- Note: after the command GET READY the Starter can start at **any time**:

Why ?

- Because they have to consider the wave situation to give to every crew the «same» water conditions

False Start I

A **false start** occurs when:

- The **Runner's feet** are **not both behind the Start line** at the signal, **or**
- Any crew member **starts to board the boat early**, **or**
- Any rower's **torso or legs** are **in/on the boat before** the Start signal.

 The **Judge at the Start** is the **sole authority** to determine a false start but may seek **advice from other Umpires** before confirming the decision.

False Start II

Head to Head Races

The **Judge at the Start** raises a **red flag** ▶ .

The **Starter** stops the race by:

Waving a red flag, and

Sounding repeated blasts on the horn/audible signal.

All crews must **stop immediately** and **return to their start positions**.

The **Judge at the Start** informs the **Starter** which crew caused the false start.

The Starter awards that crew a **Yellow Card** ⚠ .

A crew committing **two false starts** or receiving **two Yellow Cards** in the same race →

▶ **Red Card** ✖ → **Excluded from the event**.

Processional Time Trials

The **Judge at the Start** may allow the crew to **continue racing**.

A **10-second Time Penalty** ⌚ is added to their final race time.

Responsability of the Rowers I

1 Equipment Use

- Crews using **pool boats** must race with the **standard rigging** (Rule RCB 5.2.c).
- ⚠️ **Any modification** to the standard setup may result in a **30-second Time Penalty** imposed by the Jury.

2 Turning the Buoys

- It is **permitted** to touch buoys with **boat or oars**.
- The **keel must pass around the correct side** of each buoy.
- Crews must:
 - **Round all buoys correctly**, and
 - **Complete the full course** .
 - ❌ Failing to round any buoy correctly → **DNF (Did Not Finish)**.

3 Coxed Boats

- The **coxswain must remain in the boat** for the entire rowing section.
- If the coxswain leaves the boat during the rowing section → crew will be **unranked** and shown as **DNF**.

Responsability of the Rowers II

4 Return to the Beach

- Crews must:
 - Keep the boat **upright and under control** until reaching the beach.
 - Maintain **contact with the boat** at all times.
- If capsized while returning:
 - **Crew safety and equipment recovery** take priority over finishing.

5 Finish Procedure

- Once the boat reaches the beach:
 - The **designated Runner** disembarks and follows the **marked route** to the **Finish line**.

6 Safety & Conduct

- Crews must stay alert to **weather, water, and other crews**.
- Umpires may **exclude or sanction** crews rowing in a **dangerous or uncontrolled manner**.



Interference

A crew **causes interference** when its **oars, sculls, or boat**:

- **Encroach into another crew's water**, and cause a **disadvantage** to that crew — either by **contact** or by forcing them to **change course** to avoid it.

 The **Race Umpire alone** decides whether interference has occurred and whether it **affected the result** of the other crew.

Possible Sanctions

If interference is confirmed, the Race Umpire may:

- **✕ Exclude** the crew at fault, **or**
-  **Award a 10-second Time Penalty**, **or**
-  **Apply any other appropriate sanction** under the Rules.

Crew Responsibility:

- Remaining in their proper course and in their own water
- Preventing interference is the **crew's own responsibility**.

Conclusion of the race

The race for each crew **ends** the instant the **Runner** reaches the **Finish point** and **completes the required action**.

Timing & Photo Finish

- Official times are recorded to **1/100th of a second** 🕒 .
- If two crews record the **same time**, a **photo finish** or other approved method is used to determine the order.

Umpire Confirmation → A race is **concluded** when the **Umpire raises a white flag** or otherwise **confirms the result**.

Determining the Result

- The **finishing order** determines the result, **except** when a **Time Penalty** has been awarded, In that case, results are based on **elapsed times** adjusted for the **penalty**.

Technical Failures

If any **timing, sound, or visual display** fails, but the Runner has **completed the required finish action**, and the **Finish Judge** confirms the order → The **finish stands** and the result is valid.

Dead Heats

A **dead heat** occurs when **two or more crews finish so closely** that no clear difference can be determined.

Before the Final Eight

Re-row Required

Crews involved in a dead heat must **re-row over the same course**.

Exceptions:

If **both crews progress** to the next round →

- ▶ **No re-row**. Progression order decided by **random draw** (supervised by a Jury member).

Timing:

Re-row must occur **within 10 minutes** 🕒 of the original race.

If the re-row also results in a dead heat →

- ▶ Crews must **race again within 15 minutes**.

This process continues until a result is achieved.

Rounds of the Final Eight

If a dead heat occurs in any Final Eight round (except Finals):

The crew with the faster time in the previous round advances.
If those times are identical, the comparison moves to the next previous round.

If still equal → Random draw supervised by the Jury decides.

Finals

If a dead heat occurs in a Final:

The crews are given equal placing 🏆 .
The next placing(s) are left vacant.

Challenges

1 General Principle

- At **Beach Rowing Sprint regattas**, no **Objection, Protest, or Appeal** may be lodged.
- The **only procedure** available is through a **Challenge**, as described in this Rule and its Bye-laws.

2 Who May Lodge a Challenge

- Only a **rower or crew** who:
 - Has been **sanctioned, or**
 - Wishes to **contest the official result** (as decided by the **Judge at the Finish**)
 - ▶ may lodge a **Challenge**.
- Challenges must follow the **official procedure**.

3 Finality

- The **decision of the Challenge Panel** is **final** — there is **no further right of appeal**.

Challenges II

Challenge Rights & Process

- Each crew receives **one Challenge Card** before their first race of the event.
- A Challenge must be submitted by **handing the card** to a **Race Umpire**:
 - Within **5 minutes** of:
 - The **finish of the race**, or
 - The **announcement of the sanction or result**, whichever is later.
- **Late Challenges are not valid.**

Limitations

- Each crew may lodge **only one Challenge** per event.
- If a **Challenge is successful**, the crew **retains its right** to challenge again in later rounds.
- In such cases, the **Challenge Card is returned** for future use.

Challenge Panel

- All Challenges are reviewed by a **Challenge Panel**.
- The Panel decides whether the Challenge has **merit**.
- If accepted → the Panel issues a **decision** before:
 - The **next round of racing**, or
 - The **medal ceremony** (Finals A/B).
- Decisions are **final and binding**.
- The Panel's reasoning will be **provided in writing** if requested by the crew or its **Member Federation**.
- If deemed **without merit**, the Panel may **reject the Challenge** without further explanation.

Challenge Panel

1 Composition

- The **Challenge Panel** consists of **three members**:
 - The **President of the Jury** (mandatory member)
 - Two additional members appointed by:
 - The **Executive Committee** → for **World Rowing** events
 - The **President of the Jury** → for **International Beach Sprint** regattas
 - Up to **three substitute members** .

2 Conflict of Interest

- If any panel member is **directly involved in the dispute**, they must be **replaced**.
- The **President of the Jury** will appoint a **substitute** who is **not involved** in the matter.

3 Qualification Requirement

- At least **two members** of the Challenge Panel must be **International Umpires**.

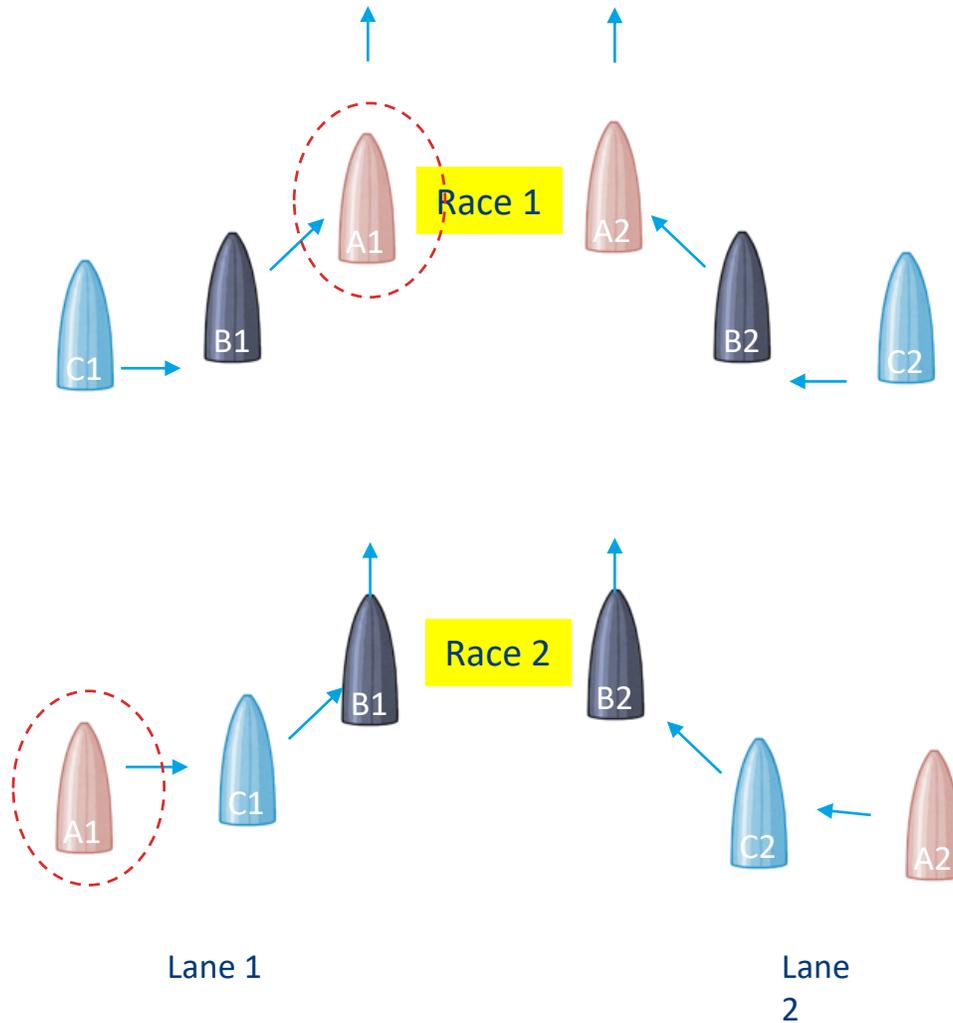
Purpose: To ensure all Challenges are reviewed **fairly, independently, and consistently** according to World Rowing standards.



Boats

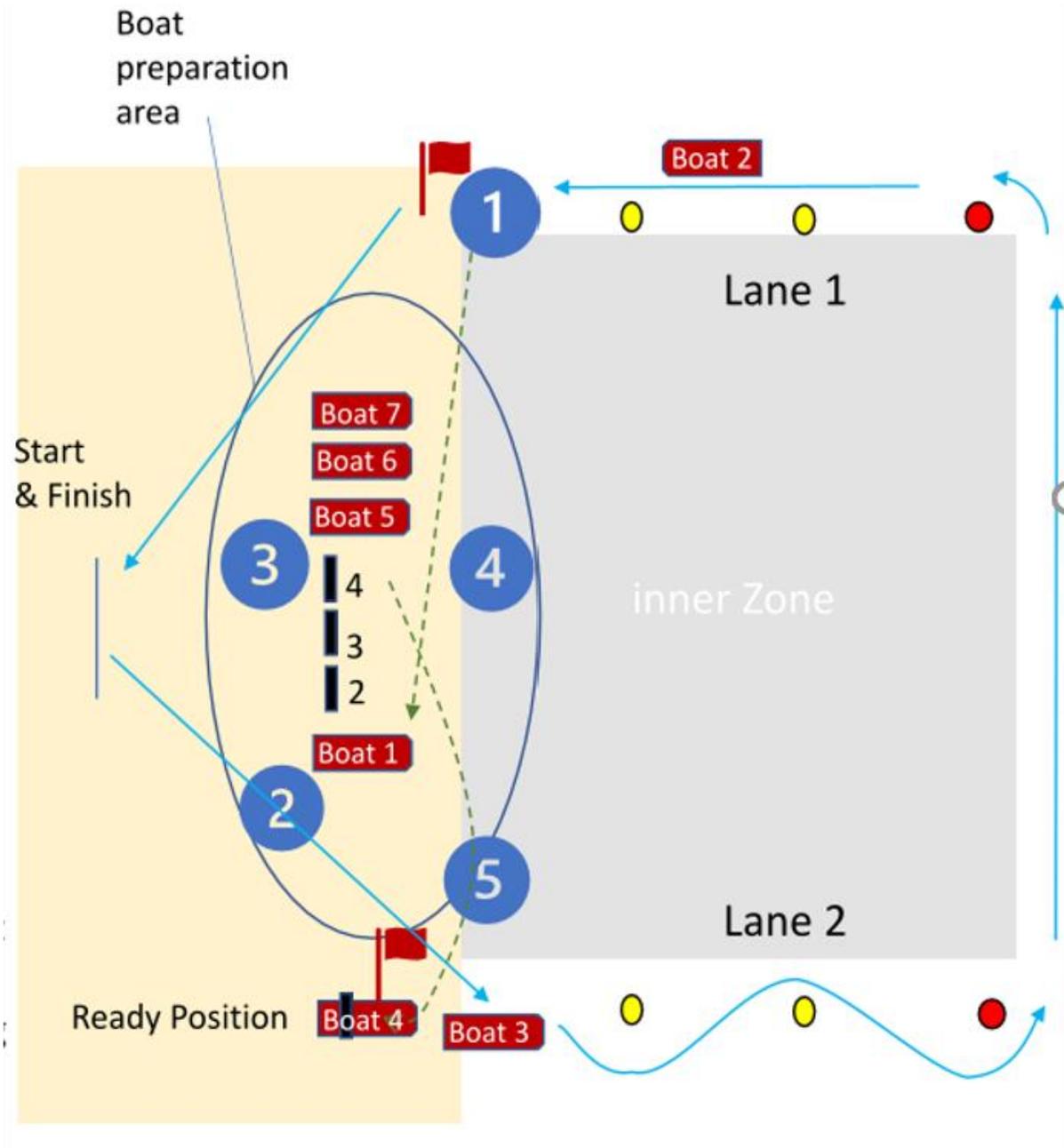
- For Time trials – we will use the 1-2-3-4-5-6-7 boats (7 boat rotation).
- For Head to Head races we will only use A-B-C boats (3x2 boat rotation)
- Boats are marked with small discrete marks attached with Velcro type material to identify the boat
- There should be spare boats that can be substituted in the event of boat damage with the new boat getting the identity of the replaced boat.
- The pool boats have a standard rig should be published in the event bulletin
 - Crews are not allowed to change anything that is part of the standard rig and maybe penalized if they make changes

Pool Boat ROTATION – Head to Head Racing



- Each pool boat is matched in pairs, this is signalled by a letter A, B, C etc...
- Each pool boat is then allocated to a lane – either Lane 1 or 2.
- The labelling will look like this:
 - Lane 1 -> A1, B1, C1 etc...
 - Lane 2 -> A2, B2, C2 etc..
- Boats will be rotated and boats with the same letters will race against each other.
- TT -> 7 boat rotation
- Last 8 -> 3 boat rotation

Pool Boat ROTATION – Processional Time Trial



SECRET

SECTION IV – CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Prevalence and Concluding Provisions

Prevalence

- The **Rules, Bye-Laws, and related documents** may be published:
 - In **multiple formats**, and
 - In **English** and **French** language versions.

In Case of Conflict the **English-language PDF** most recently published on the **World Rowing website** shall prevail.

Concluding Provisions

These **Rules of Racing** were **approved and entered into force immediately** by the **World Rowing Quadrennial Congress**, held in **Lausanne, Switzerland**, from **14–15 March 2025**.



Questions?



THANK YOU!



Coastal Rowing *Endurance*



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Coastal Rowing

A coastal rowing regatta is held on open water like:

- Sea, Oceans
- Lakes offering “coastal” conditions

An endurance coastal race distance is, in principle between **6km** and **8km** long, and can be shortened for different reasons.

(Proposed Change “between 4km and 6km to reflect actual practices)

A coastal race has no protected lanes and crews are free to navigate, if they remain in safe conditions and not interfering with others.

App R18 art. 14), 15).

In principle:

- There should be a maximum of 18 crews in a race.
- Progressions should be based on placing rather than times.

World Rowing has developing a progression system for Coastal events.

App R18 art. 20)

.

World Rowing Coastal Championships

World Rowing Coastal Championships:

Men:

C1x, C2x, C4x+

Women:

C1x, C2x, C4x+

Mixed:

C2X

Other recognized boat class, not on WRCC: C4+

Seniors

Under 19

**(proposed change:
Add U23 and Masters but will
not be part of World Coastal
Championship)**

App R18 art.6)-11)



Captain's meeting



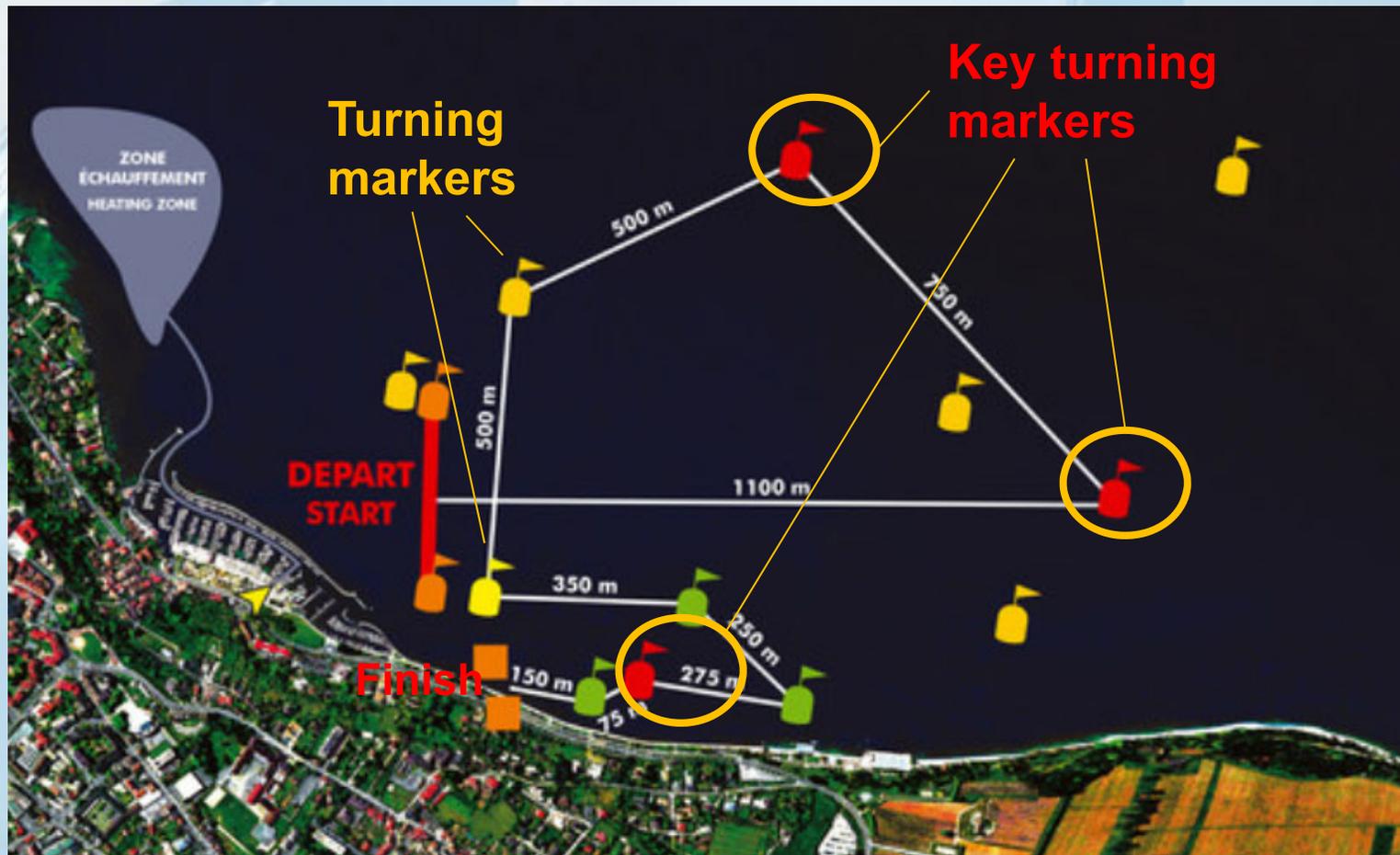
Captains' Meeting mandatory for:

- Team managers
- Coxswains
- Crew captains

All information for
the safe running of
the regatta

App R18 art. 19)b)

Coastal racing course:



What is a key turning point?

- A key turning point is defined as the location of possible increased risk of interference due to the angle of the turn, or start line / finish line proximity
- It is a point where presence of a Jury member is mandatory

Who is designating a "key turning point"?

- The President of the Jury and the Race Director agreed on the Key turning points

When it is designated?

- Prior to the Crew's captain meeting

Jury at the Control Commission (CC)



Jury members: Which position and where?

- **Responsible of the Control Commission (RCC)**
 - Moving to the different CC locations (at the point of need)
- CC member at the **registration table**
 - Close to the pontoon or beach (outgoing and incoming)
- CC member **checking safety / Identity**
 - At the pontoon / beach (outgoing and incoming)
- CC member responsible for **coxswain weigh-in and boat weighing**
 - At the scales

CC member at the registration table

- Organize and check that the **crew captain** registered outgoing & incoming



Control commission

CC member at the pontoon / Beach

- Check safety
- Check bow numbers
- Check rowers' uniform

CC member at the pontoon / Beach

➤ Check safety

✓ Buoyant line of **15 meters** attached to a towing eye (reachable by rowers)

✓ Life jacket in the boat for each rower. Coxswain must wear it when on the water

✓ App R18 art. 12)c)



CC member at the pontoon / Beach

- Check bow numbers



Boat ID
408

Crew ID
FRA03

App R18 art. 12)
d),e)

Jury at the start



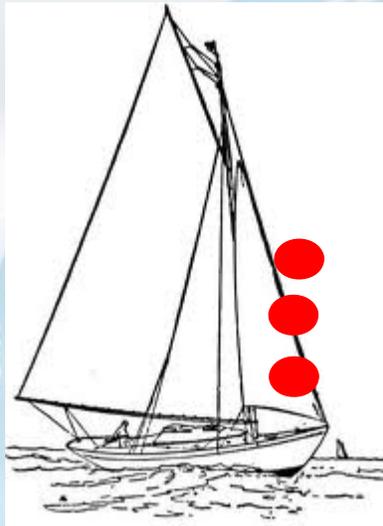
Jury members: who is where?

- The **starter and assistant starter** (assistants may be NTOs)
 - In the starter boat or on the bank
 - behind the start line

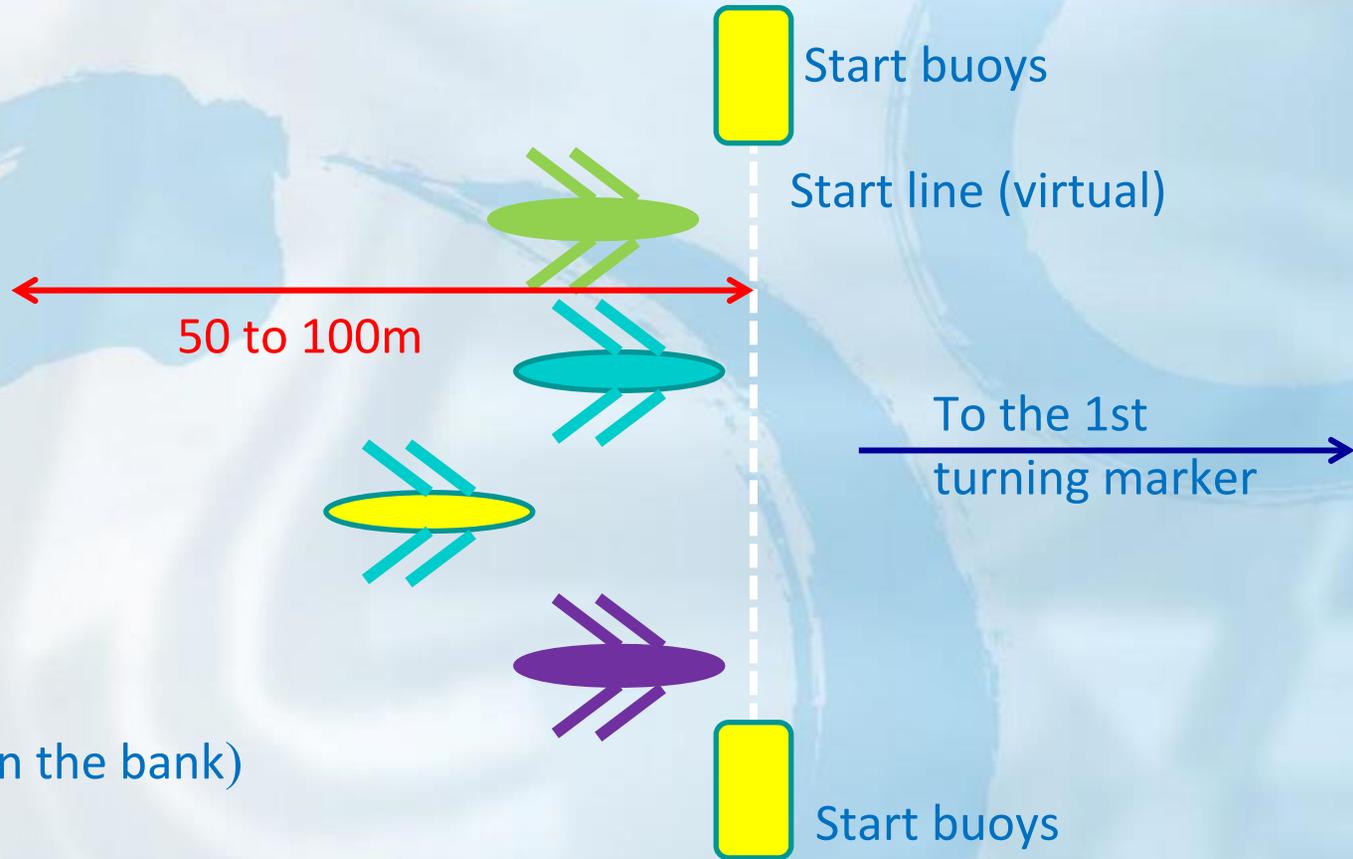
- The **Judge at the start**
 - All along the start line before the start time
 - Beside the start line during the start procedure

- **No aligner!**

The Jury – Start area



Starter boat (or on the bank)



Judge at the start boat

The starter and starter team

- The starter is responsible of the time and countdown.
 - He is holding a chronometer
- The start team
 - Under the responsibility of the starter
 - Share the duties :
 - Balls movement
 - Hooter/Horn
- (It is important for the starter team to test movement of balls before the first start)



Starter and starter team

- Start procedure lasts 3 minutes: The Starter starts the race at the exact time of the racing schedule and is not allowed to anticipate the start.
- The start procedure is in 4 phases:
 - 3 minutes before the start
 - 2 minutes before the start
 - 1 minutes before the start
 - START
- Ex: If the C1WX is starting at 10:00 on the program, the start procedure will begin at 09:57.

Start team

Starter and starter team **Start procedure**

3 minutes before the start:

- Starter team hoist the 3 balls – The 3 minutes start when first ball start to move
- 3 small blasts with hooter

2 minutes before the start

- Starter team drop one ball
- 2 small blasts with hooter

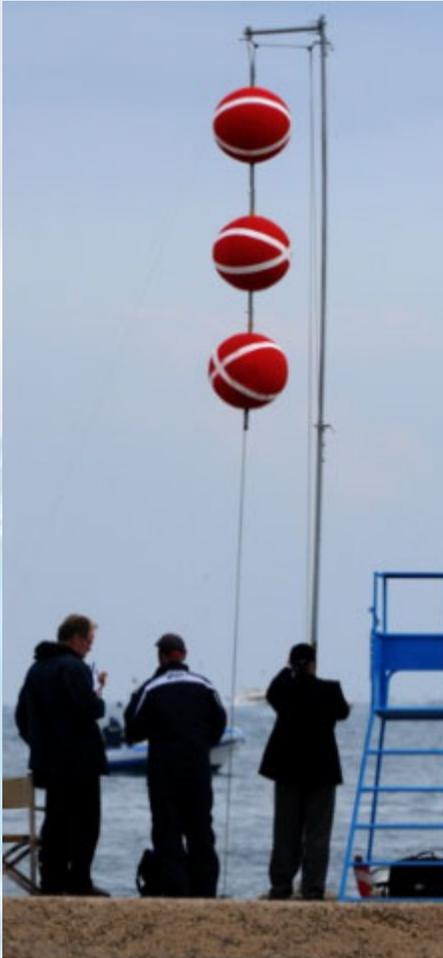
1 minute before the start

- Starter team drop another ball
- 1 small blast with hooter

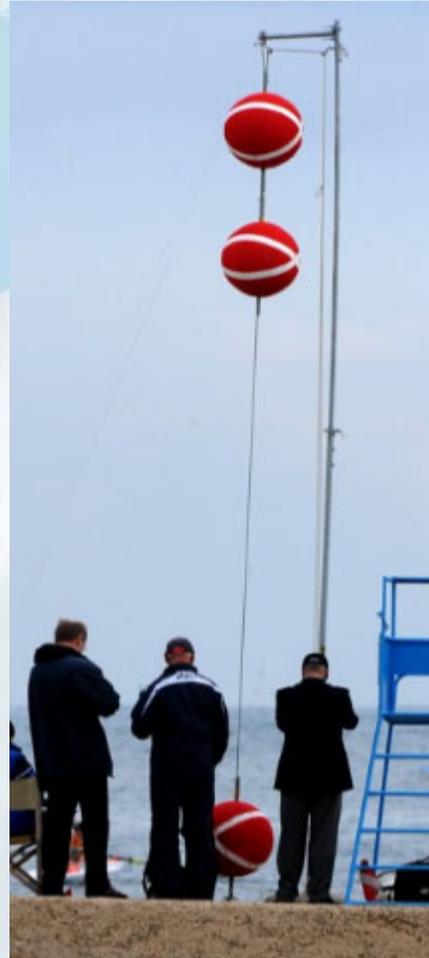
Start time

- Starter team drop the last ball
- 1 long blast with hooter

Start procedure in pictures



3 Minutes



2 Minutes



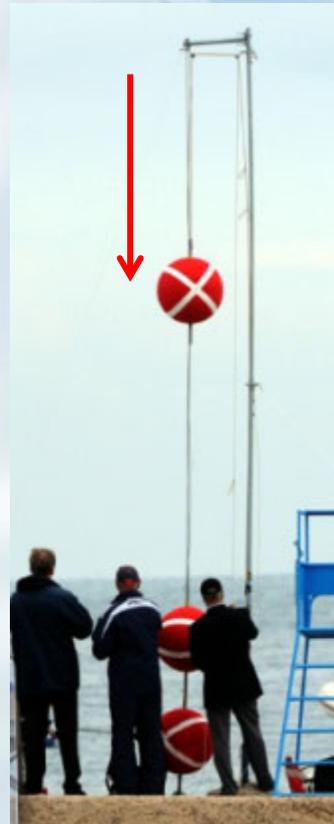
1 Minute



Start

Exact start time ?

- **When the last ball at the top of the mast starts to move**
- Sound signal is only as a secondary information!



Example of Start Installation



- Victoria, CAN, 2018

Rowers and boats at the start



Rowers can position their boats where they want. However, they must stay behind the start line.

Judge at the start **is not obliged** to instruct crews to go back behind the line.

App R18 art. 24)

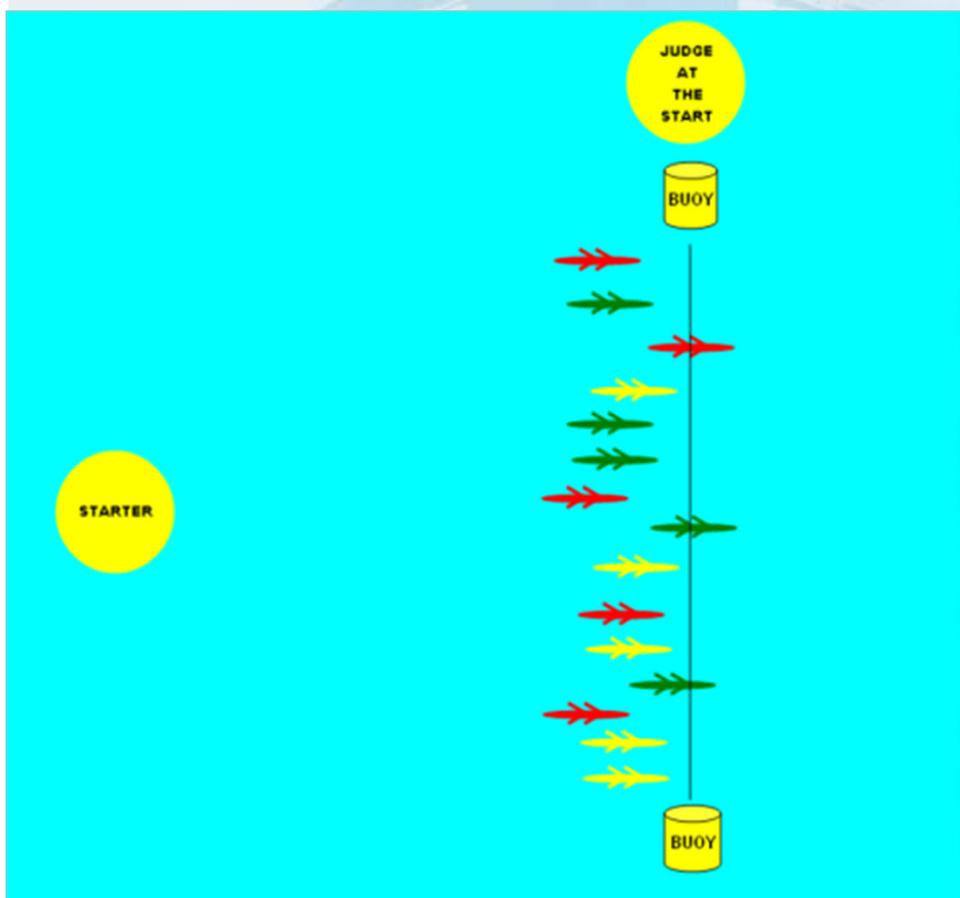
Judge at the start

- General principal for the duty of judge at the start is the same as olympic rowing: allow or not a race to start.
- Difference is:
 - No alignment needed
 - No instruction from the judge at the start to the stater (no white flag required)
- Consequences for duties
 1. Before the start: Judge at the start is allowed but not obliged to navigate on the start line and indicate to crews to avoid interference (nevertheless, boats are responsible for their own position).
 2. In the last minute before the start, Judge at the start positions him/herself on the side/buoy to observe the start line and boats that could commit offences.
 3. In case of false start, several scenarios are possible
 4. If the race needs to be stopped, Judge at the start show the red flag to starter

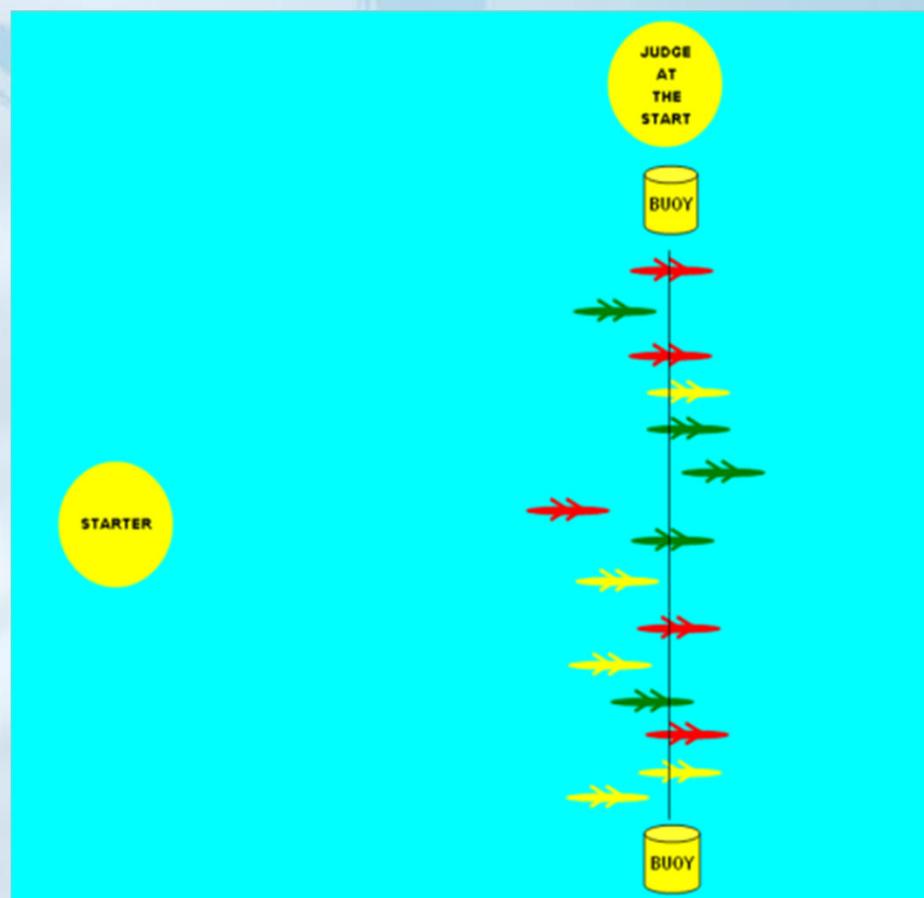


False start - general principle

Individual False Start



Multiple False Start



False start

(App R18 art. 25)

➤ A false start is committed when a boat crosses the start line before the start command is given

➤ Individual false start:

➔ If the Judge at Start can clearly identify the crews who committed the false start. Judge at Start let the race continue and inform the Starter to raise 1 ball
Inform by radio the Penalty Umpire and Judge at the Finish of Crew ID(s) having a 2mn penalty

➤ Multiple false start

➔ The Judge at Start cannot identify the crews committing the false start*
Judge at Start raises his/her red flag to the Starter to stop the race
Ensure that the Starter get information and that he/she begins the false start procedure with flag and repeated short blasts on the hooter.

*Exception: If the multiple false start is due to difficult weather conditions without creating unfair situation, Judge at Start may let the race continue. App R18 art.25)d)ii)



False start

➤ Procedure

- In case of multiple false start requiring stopping the race according to the decision of the Judge at the start
 - Starter is waving with the red flag
 - Starter team member is repeating as long as needed short blast with the hooter.

Mass false start	 Waving	Starter waving red flag	 <i>repeated</i>	Repeated short blasts of hooter
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- To help, Umpire on the water may relay information with megaphones and red flag
- As soon as all boats are in the vicinity of the start area, starter may start again the 3 minutes start procedure, in accordance with the president of the Jury for the new start time.
- There is no red card (exclusion) due to second offense

Beach start and Beach finish

New concept

- ◆ First test in Bari WRCC in 2011 during test event
- ◆ Regular beach starts in Victoria, CAN, 2018
- ◆ Main goal is to promote Coastal rowing, closer to spectators.



Beach start – Procedure



Boats ready on the beach for the race

Each crew may have up to two beach handlers who will help hold the boat in the water. (they can also help catch arriving boats)



Starter announces

« 2minutes »

« Put the boats in the water »

The crews place their boats in the water.

Crew members stand beside their boats but no part of their legs or torso can be in or on the boat



Beach start - Procedure



After the boats are in the water - Starter will give the start commands



Crew member at the start line can run to the boat



Crews allowed to jump-in and go

False start –Beach Start

App R18 art. 25)

- A crew commits a false start when any crew member starts to board their boat or if any part of any rower's torso or legs are in or on the boat before the start signal is given.
- Judge at the start let the race continue inform by radio the Penalty Umpire and Judge at the Finish of Crew ID(s) having a 2mn penalty





Please note that the Start Procedure was specifically modified for the conditions at Victoria

Jury on the water



Jury members: Which position and where?

- Race umpire
 - In a boat following the attributed race
 - At the key position / Around the key position of the race related to the progression system

- Key turning mark umpire
 - In a boat or on the bank if possible
 - At 1 or several attributed turning markers



Race umpire

- Race umpire equipment
 - Red flag (to relay a false start)
 - White flag (validation of the race)
 - Hooter
 - Megaphone
 - Binoculars (optional)
 - Communication system (radio)



Duties of the Race Umpire are to ensure:

- Safety of rowers
- Fairness
- Correct application of the rules in the specific part of « responsibility of rowers »
- In case of **severe** interferences, he can impose different penalties.



Responsibilities of crews racing

- Do not interfere with other crews to gain advantage
- Do not change course to prevent another from passing
- Complete the full course, including rounding the turning markers

Penalties

- In case of **severe** interference:
 - A crew may receive time penalties or penalty loop or turn
 - Disqualification (in case of deliberate cooperation to disadvantage a crew)
- In case of non completed course
 - A crew is mentioned DNF at the finish



Interferences

– Severe Collision

- There is damage to the boat
 - Personal injury
 - Forcing another boat off the racecourse or to miss a turning marker buoy
 - A rower is struck by the blades of another boat
- Any member of the Jury who observes a severe collision can decide who is at fault and may impose
- A time penalty (60 seconds) which can be served by a penalty loop, a penalty turn, penalty box or added to race time
 - Red Card for blatant disregard for the safety of other rowers



- Key word: Endurance

App R 18 art. 30, RoR art. 65

- Usual and new types of sanctions:
 - Reprimand
 - Time penalty
 - Yellow Card 2 Yellow Cards → Red Card
 - Relegation REL
 - Disqualification DSQ

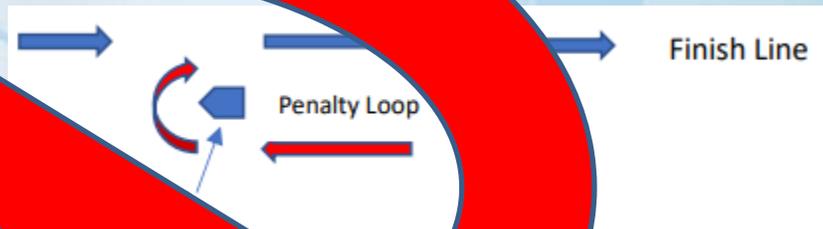
Sanctions Time Penalties

App R 18 art. 31

- The goal is to have the order the crews cross the finish line is their ranking for the race
- Therefore, in principle the crew should work off their time penalty during the race.
- If this is not possible: the time has to be added to the finish time.

Time Penalties

- Water finish
 - Penalty Loop
 - Penalty Turn



= 2 times around

- Water and Beach finish
 - Penalty Box



- **Tasks, Function and Position** App R18 art. 31)
 - To monitor the progress of the race and gather all the information about penalties from
 - Starter
 - Race Umpire(s)
 - Key turning Mark Umpires
 - To announce the penalties to the crew
 - To take note of the time crews need to do the penalty loop or the 720° turn*
 - If a Penalty box → To send the runner (beach) or crew(water) after penalty has been served to finish the race

*if the sanction is later overturned, the time can be adjusted to the crew's finish time

- Equipment of penalty Umpire
 - The penalty and/or time has to be shown to the crews by a board
- Tasks of the crew
 - Fulfill the penalty otherwise they will be EXC
 - Leaving and returning to the course for reason of penalty (turn or penalty loop) does not give the right of way

Interference

Objections and protests regarding the judgement of the Jury as to whether there was or was not interference and which crew caused an interference and any sanctions imposed on the crew for interference will not be accepted.

Objections concerning the conduct of the race must be notified immediately after the finish of the race, before the crew leaves the finish area and before the umpire raises the white flag.

App R18 art. 32 – RoR art. 27

Attitude of the Umpire on the water

- Mainly observing movement of boats
- Giving instruction to crews if required in case of obstruction during overtaking

Overtaking

- It is the responsibility of the overtaking crew to avoid a severe collision with the crew being overtaken.
- If a crew being overtaken obstructs or causes a severe collision with the overtaking crew by changing its course or in any other manner, the umpire may give instruction and may penalize the crew at fault.

Communication with rowers

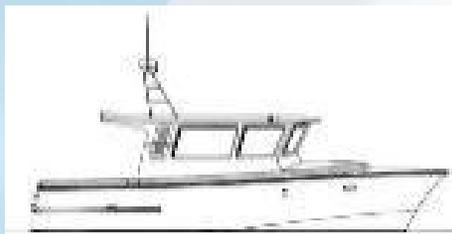
- Race Umpire shall use only a megaphone to give information or penalty to the crews.
- The penalties are
 - with water finish: either penalty turn or penalty loop
 - With beach finish: penalty box

Communication with Penalty Umpire

- In case of penalty, communication needs to be done as soon as possible with the Penalty Umpire and Responsible at Finish
- Communication is done by radio
- At the end of the race and after the last boat reached the finish line, Umpire show his/her white flag if satisfied of the race.

Key turning mark Umpire

- Shall position his/her boat in a manner he/she has the best view of the boat turning around the marker, without obstructing crews visibility of the marker



- A crew's oars can touch a bouy but the hull of the boat must pass on the correct side of the bouy

Key turning mark Umpire

- Responsibility
 - Observe the proper rounding over the marker of all crews
 - Observe respect of interference and overtaking rules at the marker
- Interference and overtaking rules
 - Umpire could instruct crews that are about to make an interference and, if needed, could give time penalty of 60 seconds.
 - A crew that missed a turning marker is allowed to come back by the inside part of the race, at its sole responsibility.
- Communication

Umpire at the key turning marker

- Information to communicate
 - As soon as a race has completed the turn at a marker, the related Umpire at the mark shall say to other colleagues by radio:

“Turning point X - Race number X completed”

or

“Turning point X – Race number X – missing boat / boat stopping: Crew IDs”

- In case of penalties given:
 - Inform the crew by megaphone of 60 seconds penalty
 - Inform the Penalty Umpire and Responsible at the Finish by radio

Turning mark Umpire

- Be attentive, mainly with rough waters!



Number
???

Jury at the Finish



Jury members: Which position and where?

- Responsible at the Finish
 - On the land, close to the finish technical team and timekeepers
 - Judge at the Finish
 - On the land, between wire and markers or near the buttons the athletes must push (if used)
- Or
- On a boat at the level of the finish line if conditions do not offer other alternative

Responsibility of rowers

- Crews have finished their race when they have:
 - Crossed the finish line by
 - Crossing the line in between the 2 buoys or markers (allowed to come back)



Responsible at the finish

- Apart from the usual check and validation of result sheets
 - Responsible at the finish is collecting all time penalties received by radio from Starter, Race Umpires or Umpire at turning marker and verifying with the Penalty Umpire that the penalties have been “served”

Judge at the finish

- Judge at the finish on the bank
 - Recording numbers of crews reaching the finish line.
 - A sound signal informs crews that they have reached the finish line.
- Judge at the Finish on the boat
 - When the distance between finish line and finish tower do not allow a clear view of crew numbers, the Judge at the Finish may be on a boat level with the finish line and records crew numbers in the order of appearance.
 - On regular basis, Judge at the Finish transmits the order of crew numbers collected to the responsible at the finish.

Dead-heat

- In case of dead-heat during preliminary round at the key progressing ranking, all crews involved should progress to next stage.
- If advancing both is not possible because of number of boats is insufficient: Random draw.
- If the situation occurred in Final: Same ranking for all crews involved.

Beach finish

Beach finish



Finish line to cross
prepared

A button that rowers must push to stop timing maybe used
No Flag to run around



Wide enough for several
finishers

Beach finish



Jump out of the boat (1 member)

And cross the finish line

In principle normal procedure

However:

Result is only known after finish of all crews (normal)

Protest can be launched later than in 'Olympic' rowing

Questions?

