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To Provincial Rowing Associations & Member Rowing Clubs / Organizations

June 30, 2008

Re: 2008 National Rowing Championships
&
Hosting the 2009 – 2011 National Rowing Championships: Bids Now Being Accepted

I am pleased to announce that the 2008 National Rowing Championships will be held in London, Ontario on Fanshawe Lake, September 26th – 28th. Our host will be the London Rowing Society headed by Michael Murphy, who will act as the Regatta Chair.

The London Rowing Society has extensive experience hosting regattas such as the Commonwealth Rowing Association Championships, the 2001 Canada Games regatta and the Ontario Championships, plus regional regattas. Very recently a new Albano buoy system was installed on the regatta course and infrastructure improvements were made to better accommodate Adaptive rowers.

The 2008 National Rowing Championships enters its third year of existence with some significant changes as the result of a number of recommendations that were made by the NRC Review Committee over the past winter and approved by the Board of Directors this spring. Six new events have been added to the programme: a men's and women's quad and eight and a Canada Games aged eligible double for women and men. The quad and eight events are an adaptation of the New Zealand national championships and are included on the programme to encourage the provinces to combine various age groups on their team with national team members from their province to provide the more junior athletes with a unique competition experience. To enable this type of crew selection to take place, the 2008 NRC requires national training centre athletes to compete at the regatta in their respective provincial colours.

The details on the 2008 NRC are found in the attached Technical Package.

The entry fees for the 2008 NRC are as follows: singles \$50, pairs/doubles \$60, quads \$85, eights \$95. The entry deadline is September 12th, 2008. Provincial associations are requested to send entry forms to the London Rowing Society. The order of events and details such as the RCA travel subsidy information will follow in a regatta Bulletin in late July. Provinces will be required to submit their crew eligibility lists to the Organizing Committee and to RCA by August 29th, 2008.

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Member of F.I.S.A., Canadian Olympic Committee/Membre de F.I.S.A., Comité Olympique Canadienne

2009-2011 NRC Hosting & Bid Guidelines

Rowing Canada Aviron is now accepting bids from organizations within the Membership to host the 2009, 2010 and 2011 NRC regattas. We are asking that potential Organizing Committees bid to host the regatta for three consecutive years. Applications to host the regatta for one or two years only will not be considered. We are seeking a three-year commitment from the bidding organization.

Details on the hosting requirements for the NRC and bid application process can be found in the attached hosting and bid guidelines. The closing date for bids is August 31, 2008.

I would encourage all clubs and rowing organizations that have the technical infrastructure and hosting experience as outlined in the attached documents to seriously consider putting together a bid to host our national championships.

Questions on the technical aspects of hosting or bidding on the regatta, or the Technical Package, may be directed to our Domestic Development Officer – Sport Technical, Dave Derry at dderry@rowingcanada.org or 905-682-1747 (W).

I look forward to seeing your crews compete in London this fall and to receiving bids from across the country to host this great regatta.

Sincerely,

Peter Brook
V.P. Domestic Competition
Email: p.brook@sasktel.net

Copy to: RCA Board of Directors
 Mike Murphy
 RCA Safety and Events Committee
 Dave Derry

HOSTING & BID GUIDELINES

for the

NATIONAL ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Introduction

The first part of this document sets the framework for hosting the RCA National Rowing Championships (NRC) and the second part outlines how to bid to host the regatta. An integral part of this paper is the RCA NRC Technical Package (TP) found in Appendix 'A'. A regatta Organizing Committee (OC) planning to host the NRC also needs to be familiar with the RCA Rules of Racing, in particular, parts 5, Regatta Organization; 7, Date and Program; 9, The Draw and Progression System to Finals, and 11, The Jury and Support to the Jury. In addition, OC's must be cognizant of the regatta safety and other staging requirements set out in the RCA Regatta Sanction paper available from the provincial rowing associations and the Rowing Canada Aviron office.

HOSTING THE REGATTA

Hosting Eligibility

Any member rowing club / rowing organization / provincial rowing association in good standing may apply to host the NRC provided the proposed venue meets the technical criteria set out in the Technical Package and fulfills the requirements outlined in the bid section of this document.

Date and Location of the National Rowing Championships

As stipulated in the Technical Package, the NRC will be held annually, on the last Friday, Saturday and Sunday of September. It is also a requirement that the regatta be held in the same location for three years to enable the Organizing Committee to build on the success of each regatta and to maximize the ability of the host to fundraise for the regatta and thus, create a legacy from hosting the NRC.

Organizing Committee Responsibilities

Successful staging of the regatta requires close co-operation between the host Organizing Committee and RCA. The successful bidding rowing club / rowing organization / provincial rowing association, shall appoint a local Organizing Committee that is based in the municipality of the venue. The OC shall appoint a Regatta Chair. RCA shall assign a representative of its Safety and Events Committee (S&EC) and/or an RCA staff person to



liaise with the Regatta Chair and the Organizing Committee. If any problems arise, the OC must notify the S&EC representative or staff person without delay.

Hosting Agreement and Regatta Sanction

The OC will be required to sign a three year Hosting Agreement that will formalize the commitments of RCA and the OC. The responsibilities of each party, as outlined in this document, will form the basis of the agreement. The agreement is to be signed on or before the annual fall meeting of the RCA Board of Directors or before the date of the current year's NRC regatta, whichever comes first. In addition to the Hosting Agreement, the respective provincial rowing association and RCA must sanction the regatta in each year of the three-year period.

Organizing Committee Meetings

The OC shall be responsible for the planning and management of all activities leading up to and including the regatta. The Regatta Chair shall hold formal meetings to plan and manage the regatta. Minutes of these meetings shall be sent to the S&EC rep and RCA staff person.

Correspondence

The OC shall initiate all correspondence relating to the regatta. The OC may call upon the RCA offices for administrative support such as general communication, and to translate regatta material into French upon request. There shall be no fee charged by RCA for this service. Correspondence shall include the Regatta Package as noted in the Rules of Racing and any subsequent regatta Bulletins leading up to the event. The Regatta Package is to be available by March 1st of each year of the three-year agreement.

Facilities and Equipment and Regatta Volunteers

In addition to the infrastructure requirements outlined in section 10 of the Technical Package, the OC shall be responsible for providing the following facilities and equipment:

- enclosed meeting location for coaches and officials meetings, etc.
- enclosed regatta office room(s)
- adequate washrooms and supplies for athletes, volunteers, and officials
- shelters and change rooms
- a weigh-in center with weigh scales and test weights
- adequate storage space for boats and oars
- access to a telephone and high speed Internet for the OC and media
- appropriate shelter for medical staff
- a public address system
- computer(s) and printer(s) for the draw, progression system, results posting
- digital camcorder and computer to record photo finishes, time trial times and interval times
- a back up manual timing system
- office quality photocopier



- adequate space for a doping control station
- medal presentation area
- other items and facilities as outlined in the sanctioning document.

The above items represent the minimum facilities and equipment that should be provided. The OC should ensure that adequate “back-up” equipment is available on site, and may supplement the list as necessary.

A number of regatta volunteers are required to successfully organize, stage and run a national level regatta. The following is a brief list of personnel needed and is not exhaustive:

- persons needed to assist the Jury members on the Control Commission
- doping control chaperones
- Regatta Safety Advisor
- rescue boat drivers and rescue personnel
- Regatta Medical Advisor
- first aid / athletic therapists
- massage therapist / physiotherapist
- umpire boat drivers
- starting pontoon boat holders
- course marshals
- interval timers and finish line assistants
- PA announcer(s)
- Start line assistants
- computer personnel for the draw, progression system, race sheet publication and results posting
- food service providers
- course maintenance / power boat maintenance personnel

Entries and Fees

The OC is encouraged to use an on-line / Web based system to receive and record entries to develop the regatta draw. The closing date for entries shall be 14 days prior to the first day of the competition. The OC shall receive all entries for the Regatta on an entry form approved by RCA. Entry fees are to be collected by the OC and recorded as regatta revenue as noted in the Finances section in this document. Regatta fees will be a budget line item of the OC’s regatta operating budget and as such, will be agreed upon by the OC and RCA in the context of the Hosting Agreement. All regatta fees are to be circulated to the provincial rowing associations by March 1st of each year of the hosting agreement.

As soon as possible after the close of entries, and well before the preliminary draw is posted, the OC will forward to RCA the names of the entrants for RCA to verify that the entrants are in good standing with RCA.



Late Entries

Late entries may be received by the OC, with a fee to be listed in the regatta budget. Late entries may be accepted if the acceptance does not result in an additional race(s). A late entry deadline is to be set by the OC and included in the Regatta Package.

Administration of late entries and collection of the appropriate fees shall be the responsibility of the OC. The OC shall provide RCA with a summary of the late entries and the fees collected.

Incomplete Entries

Incomplete entries (for example, entries which do not provide the required competitor's age for a Junior or Under 23 event) are not to be accepted.

Scratches and Scratch Fee

Provinces may scratch an entry before the draw date without penalty. A scratch made after the draw date shall be subject to a scratch fee to be collected by the OC.

Regatta Draw

A preliminary draw is to be posted by the OC not less than five days before the start of the regatta.

Team and Jury Accommodations

The OC shall attempt to arrange group rate discounts with the local hotels and block sufficient number of rooms for the provincial teams (2006 and 2007 regattas approximately 275 athlete and coaches) and rooms for the Jury (16 umpires) and RCA Executive and staff (2-6 persons). Information on the hotel rates and cut off dates is to be included in the regatta package.

Course Open for Training

The OC shall be able to allow team boat trailers to arrive as early as the Wednesday before the regatta begins and shall have the rowing course open for practice on the Thursday, before Friday's racing begins. During the Thursday practice hours, on-water rescue boats are to be in operation and first aid available on land as per the RCA Sanction requirements.



Follow Up Report

Within 30 days of the end of the regatta, the OC shall provide RCA with a follow-up 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 provincial rowing association
- the final OC structure and responsibilities and the number of volunteers who worked at the regatta
- observations of “what worked” and “what didn’t”
- recommendations for future regattas
- a draft financial statement of revenues and expenses

The report will be circulated to the Members of RCA as part of the AGM package.

ROWING CANADA AVIRON RESPONSIBILITIES

The Regatta is to be staged with close co-operation between the OC and RCA. RCA will act as a resource available to the Organizing Committee and shall provide assistance as required and requested by the Organizing Committee. RCA will also provide the following services as well as any specific services identified in the Hosting Agreement.

Correspondence & Translation

RCA will mail any regatta correspondence as requested by the OC and provide a service at no cost to the OC to translate regatta material into French, upon request.

Medals

RCA shall supply, at RCA’s cost, the required number of Gold, Silver and Bronze medals to the OC. Following the Regatta, the OC must return to RCA any medals, which were not presented.

Competitor Registration

RCA will confirm with the OC if the competitors, whose names have been forwarded to RCA, as outlined above, are in good standing with RCA.

Regatta Sanction

RCA shall provide the required regatta sanction if the application for sanction has been approved by the respective provincial rowing association and the application meets the minimum standards as determined by the RCA Safety & Events Committee.



Jury of Umpires

A Jury of 16 umpires from across the country, appointed by the RCA Umpires Committee (UC), in consultation with the Regatta Chair, will be responsible for overseeing the operation of the regatta. The Chief Umpire of the Jury, appointed by the UC, in consultation with the Regatta Chair, will co-ordinate all umpires necessary to run the regatta in a safe and fair manner according to the RCA Rules of Racing and the RCA Sanction policy.

A breakdown of the roles the jury members fill in the operation of a regatta is provided here to assist the OC in providing volunteer support to the Jury:

- Chief Umpire
- Starter
- Judge at the Start
- Time Trial pre-start Umpire
- On-water Umpires (generally a minimum of 6)
- Chief Judge at the Finish
- Finish judges
- Control Commission Umpires
- Board of the Jury (to hear protests)

As a national regatta, the transportation, accommodation and meals (except lunches) for the NRC Jury will be covered by RCA. The cost of lunches for the Jury, during the regatta, shall be covered by the OC.

Other Considerations

Television

The television rights to the Regatta belong to RCA, although they may be granted to the OC upon request. If these rights are assigned to the OC, RCA must be apprised of all negotiations and must be a signing party of any agreement pursuant to such negotiations. All income and expenses arising from the sale of these rights shall be identified in the financial accounting for the regatta. Should RCA wish to pursue a telecast of a particular regatta, this must be agreed to by the OC, including all related costs and revenues.

Sponsorship and Advertising

No sponsorship will be permitted from tobacco or liquor companies. All relevant Sport Canada policies shall apply. Copies of these policies shall be available from RCA upon request.

Merchandising

The OC shall be responsible for any merchandising initiatives, although the Organizing Committee shall notify RCA, in general terms, of the initiatives e.g., the sale of shirts, etc.



whether it be by the OC or by a third party under an agreement with the OC. All surpluses generated from these initiatives remain with the OC.

RCA may set up a kiosk on site for the sale of its properties and may request complimentary vendor space for RCA sponsors. Specifics on the terms related to RCA's sponsors participation at the regatta will be referenced in the Hosting Agreement.

FINANCES

Financial Accounting

Detailed financial accounting must be kept by the OC in a format that has been approved by RCA. Regatta revenue, expenses, surpluses and deficits shall be recorded. A final accounting for the regatta must be provided within 90 days of the event.

Regatta Revenue

The following items shall be considered as revenue to the Regatta. This list is intended to present examples and is not exhaustive. Final details will be negotiated between RCA and the OC, and will be identified in the Hosting Agreement.

- entry fees
- sponsorship revenues
- advertising revenues
- grants
- donations

Regatta Expenses

The following items shall be considered as expenses to the Regatta. This list is intended to present examples and is not exhaustive. Final details will be negotiated between RCA and the OC, and will be identified in the Hosting Agreement.

- gas and oil for the umpire boats
- reasonable expenses incurred by volunteers
- lunches for regatta volunteers and Jury members
- equipment rental for essential equipment which may not be otherwise available
- security services
- sanitation services
- medical services
- mailing costs

Other items may be added to the list if approved by both parties. For example, a sponsor may wish to contribute a specific facility, such as a part of the course. Such items will be dealt with on a specific case basis by RCA and the OC.



Surplus / Deficit

It is expected that the Organizing Committee operate the regatta on a self – financing basis and not incur a deficit. In the first two years of hosting the regatta any surplus funds should go into an account to be used for the next year’s regatta. Any surplus funds at the end of the three-year hosting agreement should be used however the host club determines.

BIDDING TO HOST THE NATIONAL ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Member clubs / rowing organizations / provincial rowing associations that bid to host the National Rowing Championships do so with the understanding that the bid is to host the regatta for three consecutive years. Bids received to host for one or two years will not be considered.

Bid Submission Deadline and Format

Bids to host the NRC for the years 2009, 2010, and 2011 must be submitted to the RCA office by August 31st, 2008. Bids should be submitted in electronic format, preferably in PDF files. If the submission is made in hard copy, twelve copies are required. Bids are to be sent to the attention of Sid Murdoch, Administrative Officer, RCA, 201-1234 Esquimalt Road, Victoria, BC, V9A 3N8 rca@rowingcanada.org.

Bid Documentation

Bidding organizations wishing to host the regatta must realize that the RCA Safety and Events Committee recommendation will be based upon the bid document as received. As a minimum, the bid documents should contain the following information:

- A detailed description of the candidate’s abilities to host the event, including any other rowing events the candidate has hosted at that venue;
- A proposed Organizing Committee structure and the names of the individuals who will fill key positions;
- A detailed, technical description of the regatta course and its installations, including buoy system, number of lanes, direction of the course in relation to the prevailing winds (include details on susceptibility to adverse wind conditions), starting installations, timing and reporting equipment, docking facilities, and medal presentation facilities;
- Likely weather conditions
- A plan of the regatta course showing the location of all buildings and structures, both permanent and temporary, and defining their use during the regatta;
- A description of the boathouse or boat storage area, including boat and oar capacity, security, and availability of shelter;



- An outline of the facilities available to competitors, including change rooms, showers, toilets, sheltered rest areas, and food services;
- A description of the facilities available for the management of the event, including coaches and officials meeting area, regatta office, communications center, media facilities, doping control facilities, and spectator facilities;
- A general description of the accommodations available and their proximity to the course, transit arrangements, and parking availability;
- Possible arrangements for provincial rowing teams that must borrow equipment.
- A detailed Operations Budget
- Any other details which might assist your application;
- A cover letter signed by the president or chair of the bidding organization;
- If the bid is from a club, or a rowing organization, a letter of support from the provincial rowing association.

Selection Process

All submitted bids will be forwarded to the RCA Safety and Events Committee (S&EC) for review and recommendation. The Committee will meet in early September 2008 to establish a prioritized list of the submissions and recommend a host. The Committee may request input from other committees or individuals from within RCA during the review process. If necessary, the S&EC may request further information from any submitting candidate. Any additional information shall be available to all members of the S&EC in electronic format or 12 copies, if required. The S&EC will vote to establish a recommendation and if necessary, add conditions to the recommendation. The committee's recommendation will be made to the Vice President Domestic Competition, who will in turn make a recommendation to the RCA Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors at their fall 2008 meeting. If the Directors approve the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the successful bidding organization will be notified by telephone and in writing.

If possible, a representative of the Organizing Committee of the 2009-2011 NRC should be present at the 2008 NRC, where the formal announcement will be made awarding the regatta to the host of the next National Rowing Championships.

Questions on the hosting requirements and/or the bid process/requirements may be directed to Dave Derry, RCA Domestic Development Officer- Sport Technical, dderry@rowingcanada.org 905-682-1747 office.

June 2008



Rowing Canada Aviron
National Rowing Championships

TECHNICAL PACKAGE

This Technical Package outlines the competitor eligibility requirements, type of events, progression format and infrastructure requirements necessary for the RCA National Rowing Championships (NRC). It is intended for use by the provincial / territorial rowing associations planning to send teams to the event and for the Organizing Committee hosting the regatta. For the Organizing Committee, this document is an integral part of the RCA Bid / Hosting Guidelines Package.

The RCA Rules of Racing shall apply for the organization and operation of the NRC unless stated otherwise. Provincial team managers, coaches and the Organizing Committee are to be familiar with the RCA Rules of Racing.

1. NRC Vision

“The National Rowing Championships is a regatta to be held in the fall of each year to mark the end of the sprint racing rowing season. It shall be open to competition for all rowers in the country and be scheduled to facilitate this. From its entries the fastest rowers on that day shall be determined and crowned national champions and the rest shall be ranked accordingly.”

2. Regatta Date

The date of the 2008 National Rowing Championships shall be Friday, September 26th, Saturday, September 27th and Sunday, September 28th. The fixture for future NRC regattas shall be the last Friday/Saturday/Sunday of September.

3. Right of Entry

- 3.1 The NRC shall be open only to entries received from RCA member provincial / territorial rowing associations. Athletes training at the national team training centres shall enter the NRC under the colours of their respective provincial / territorial rowing association.
- 3.2 The provincial or territorial rowing associations shall pay the entry fees for all of the athletes wearing the colours of their provincial or territorial association, including the national training centre athletes rowing for their respective province or territory. The province or territory will supply the provincial or territorial singlet to each athlete rowing for it. The national training centres shall cover the transportation, accommodation and meal expenses for the national training centre athletes who compete at the NRC.

- 3.3 Athletes shall row in their provincial or territorial colours, including when competing in composite boats.
 - 3.4 Composite crews may be made up of any combination of athletes representing any combination of provinces / territories, without restriction. Composite entries of provincially / territorially based athletes for the pairs and doubles events shall be made at the discretion of the provinces / territories making the entry(s). Composite entries of national training centre based athletes for the pairs events shall be made at the discretion of the national training centre coaches. Composite entries for the quads and eights shall be made at the discretion of the provinces / territories and in consultation with the national training centre coaches if national training centre athletes are involved.
 - 3.5 There shall be no limit on the number of athletes per province / territory, nor the number of entries a province or territory could make in any one event.
 - 3.6 Competitors will be limited to compete in one event per day except when combining into a quadruple sculls or eights events or the Canada Games age eligible double sculls events.
 - 3.7 Athletes must meet their province's or territory's minimum performance criteria to be entered into the event.
 - 3.8 There shall be no minimum or maximum age to compete in the NRC.
 - 3.9 A club registration cut-off date to prevent a province / territory from "stacking" crews, will be used for NRC entries. For the 2008 NRC the cut-off date is Friday, August 29th 2008.
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4. Events

- 4.1 Races shall be held for the following able bodied boat classes: single sculls (1x), pair (2-), quadruple sculls (4x) and eight (8+). For adaptive competition the Leg, Trunk and Arms Mixed pair (LTAMix2-) and the Arms only single sculls for men and women (AM1x), (AW1x) will be the types of events for the next few years.
- 4.2 The RCA age categories of Senior, Under 23, and Junior shall be utilized in the able bodied boat classes except in the quadruple sculls and eight, which shall be open events.
- 4.3 In addition to the above events, Canada Games age eligible double sculls events for men and women shall be held. These races will aid in the identification of future Canada Games and Under 23 athletes. The age limit shall be the Canada Games age limit minus one year of age for each year the NRC is distant from the subsequent Summer Games year. For example, in 2008 the maximum age of the 2x entrant would be under 20 years as of December 31st 2008; for the 2009 NRC the maximum age would be under 17 years as of December 31st 2009.

4.4 The events at the National Rowing Championships shall be:

Women Single Sculls	W1x
Lightweight Women Single Sculls	LW1x
Under 23 Women Single Sculls	BW1x
Under 23 Lightweight Women Single Sculls	BLW1x
Junior Women Single Sculls	JW1x
Canada Games age eligible Women Double Sculls	CGW2x
Women Pair	W2-
Under 23 Women Pair	BW2-
Junior Women Pair	JW2-
Women's Quadruple Sculls (open)	W4x
Women's Eight (open)	W8+
Men Single Sculls	M1x
Lightweight Men Single Sculls	LM1x
Under 23 Men Single Sculls	BM1x
Under 23 Lightweight Men Single Sculls	BLM1x
Junior Men Single Sculls	JM1x
Canada Games age eligible Men Double Sculls	CGM2x
Men Pair	M2-
Lightweight Men Pair	LM2-
Under 23 Lightweight Men Pair	BLM2-
Junior Men Pair	JM2-
Men's Quadruple Sculls (open)	M4x
Men's Eight (open)	M8+
Arms only Women Single Sculls	AW1x
Arms only Men Single Sculls	AM1x
Legs, trunk and arms Mixed Pair	LTAMix2-

5. Athlete Weight and Weigh-in

- 5.1 For coxswains of the open eight events, FISA Rules 20 and 21 shall be applied.
- 5.2 The FISA maximum weight for a single sculler (male 72.5 kg, female 59 kg) shall be permitted in the lightweight single sculls events as well as in the lightweight pair oared events. The weigh-in protocol for athletes as described in the FISA Rules of Racing [FISA Rule 24] shall be followed at the NRC.

6. Racing Distance

- 6.1 The races in the NRC will be held on a standard 2000m six lane, fully buoyed course (1000m for adaptive races). A racing distance of 1800m could be utilized for the able bodied competitors if the venue chosen by RCA was equal to the other requirements of the RCA Rules of Racing.

7. Progression System

- 7.1 On the Friday, the time trials for the small boats shall be held. On Saturday, the semi-finals and finals in these events shall be held. Sunday, the time trials, semi-finals and finals for the quads and eights shall be held. There shall be no repêchages at the NRC. The fastest twelve boats in the time trial will advance to the A and B semi-finals and then to final A and B. Crews placing 13th and slower in the time trial are to be placed directly into final C, D, E etc.
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8. Medals

- 8.1 Medals will awarded to the first place, second place and third place crews.
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9. Equipment

- 9.1 Each province / territory as well as the national training centres, are responsible for the provision of all boats, oars and sculls as required for each race.
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10. Infrastructure Requirements

The following are the minimum infrastructure requirements to be met by any club or association bidding to host the National Rowing Championships:

- 10.1 The standard minimum course length for hosting the NRC shall be a 2000m racing distance. A course length of 1800m could be considered if other aspects of the venue met the infrastructure requirements. A 1500m course, however, shall not be considered.
- 10.2 The minimum number of lanes shall be seven i.e., six plus an “up” lane.
- 10.3 The minimum lane width should be 13.5m. A course with lanes 12.5m wide could be considered.
- 10.4 A true Albano buoy system with buoy spacing every 10m is preferred to hold a NRC. The minimum acceptable lane markings is seven lines for six racing lanes with buoys spaced 12.5m apart.
- 10.5 No stream on the race course is preferable. Any stream existing should be so slight as to not give rise to unequal conditions on the different lanes.
- 10.6 A starter’s tower located above and behind the start line is preferred. If this not available, then at an absolute minimum, sound speakers must be located on each starting platform to allow each crew to hear the start signal at the same instant. A light system, in conjunction with the audio system, is preferable over an audio only system.

- 10.7 Start pontoons with adjustable fingers to allow the bows of boats of different classes to be aligned on the zero line so that each class races over 2000m exactly, is preferred. An absolute minimum requirement is that in each race the boat bows can be aligned evenly. The start pontoons, therefore, would need to be designed to accommodate this requirement. A proper sighting device would need to be provided for the judge at the start/aligner.
- 10.8 Start pontoons for 1000m Adaptive races are required.
- 10.9 Steering aids in the start zone are preferred.
- 10.10 Interval timing for each 500m is required.
- 10.11 The event host will commit to providing reasonable hosting standards, including those for athletes with and without a disability.

Content based on resolutions of the RCA Board of Directors February 20, 2008

June 2008