



**ROWING AUSTRALIA RULES OF RACING  
AND RELATED BY-LAWS**

# Rule Book

**2016/2017 Edition**

**RA Board Approved  
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RA Board Rules Committee:	John Boulton, Andrew Guerin, Cameron McKenzie-McHarg, Cameron Allen
RA Umpires Committee Chair:	Victor Walter
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RA Para-rowing Staff:	Gordon Marcks, Tara Huntley

## **PART I - SCOPE**

### **RULE 1 ROWING, BOATS, REGATTAS, ROWERS**

Rowing is the propulsion of a displacement boat, with or without coxswain, by the muscular force of one or more rowers, using oars as simple levers of the second order and sitting with their backs to the direction of movement of the boat. Rowing on a machine or in a tank which simulates the action of rowing in a boat is also considered as rowing.

In a rowing boat, all load bearing parts including the axes of moving parts, must be firmly fixed to the body of the boat, but the rower's seat may move along the axis of the boat.

A rowing regatta is a sporting competition consisting of one or more events divided, if necessary, into a number of races, in one or more classes of boats for rowers divided, as a general rule, into different categories of sex, age or weight.

### **RULE 2 APPLICATION**

RA is empowered under the Articles to govern the conduct and control regattas and competitions at selected and approved venues in Australia. These events are the pinnacle of regattas conducted in Australia. These rules are created to ensure the orderly conduct of such events.

- 2.1 These Rules and the relevant By-Laws shall apply to the conduct of all regattas and competitions including where appropriate Ergometer Rowing Competitions conducted under the auspices of RA and provide direction for the administration of competition within the sport.
- 2.2 Any Member Association, club or individual who participates in any capacity in a rowing competition governed by these Rules is deemed to accept without exception or reservation the application of these Rules, the related By-Laws, particularly those relating to the authority and jurisdiction of RA and of the Australian Court of Arbitration for Sport.
- 2.3 Each Member Association is responsible for ensuring that the organisation of any RA Event within its State or Territory complies with the requirements of these Rules.
- 2.4 In addition, these Rules of racing and By-laws shall be supplemented by Event Regulations.

### **RULE 3 EXCEPTIONS**

- 3.1 The host Member Association or the Organising Committee, acting in agreement with RA may, in exceptional cases, depart from these provisions.
- 3.2 In any such case, the Board shall be notified immediately after the regatta and the reasons for such change shall be given.

### **RULE 4 CODES AND POLICIES**

Each competitor, coach, official and employee of RA agrees, in entering into any RA Event, or being involved in the conduct of any RA Event, and while a member of, or having nominated for, any team representing RA, to abide by, and conform to, the terms of any Code or Policy that the Board may adopt and maintain to govern the conduct of such persons from the date of commencement of the RA Event, appointment as a coach or employee or the date of nomination for or selection to any team until the later of:

- 72 hours after their release from an RA Event;
- 7 days after their release from a trial; or
- 6 weeks after their release from a representative team.

Current Codes and Policies shall be maintained on the Rowing Australia website.

## **RULE 5 BLANK**

This rule is purposely left blank.

## **RULE 6 BLANK**

This rule is purposely left blank.

## **RULE 7 RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE**

### 7.1 Registration with Member Associations

7.1.1 Clubs and Schools must be registered with their Member Association in order to be eligible to enter RA Events. Members of RA approved Associations such as Sporting Institutes and Defence Rowing must be registered with their Member Association through a club or school.

7.1.2 Any School competing in an RA Event shall comply with RULE 18.5, and RULE 29.1.

### 7.2 Transfer Between Interstate Clubs

7.2.1 All competitors who wish to compete for a Club in a different State other than the Club they last competed for or were registered with, must apply for and be granted, a transfer prior to being eligible to enter an RA Event and be permitted to race.

7.2.2 A competitor requiring a transfer shall apply to the Member Association with which he/she was last affiliated.

7.2.3 Such competitor shall not be entitled to row for a Club affiliated with a Member Association other than the Member Association with which they were affiliated in their prior year unless:

7.2.3.1 they receive a clearance and approval to transfer from the prior Member Association; or

7.2.3.2 A period of 21 days has elapsed from the date of their service of a request for transfer has been delivered to the Member Association from whom they seek clearance, and that Member Association has not indicated their objection pursuant to the provisions of RULE 7.2.4.

7.2.4 A Member Association shall be entitled to refuse a clearance and transfer approval to any applicant if:

7.2.4.1 Any monies are outstanding to it or a Club affiliated with it;

7.2.4.2 Disciplinary action has been taken and the terms of such action have not been fulfilled.

### 7.3 State or Territory of Origin

#### Purpose

Member Associations wish to ensure that all rowers who commenced their rowing career in a State or Territory, and no matter where they are resident in Australia, are available to compete for that State or Territory in the Interstate Events unless he/she has applied for and been granted a change of domicile.

7.3.1 For the purposes of this Rule:

**“Domicile or State of Domicile”**, shall mean the state of residence, including a person’s housing, and/or work commitment, postal address and period of permanent residence;

**“Rower”** shall mean all competitive oarspersons, including coxswains, in all categories of sweep oared or sculling boats catered for in the Interstate Events, regardless of their status at the time they were first affiliated as provided in 7.3.3.

**“State of Origin”** subject to this Rule shall mean the State or Territory of first affiliation of a rower with RA, through their Member Association.

7.3.2 Except as provided in this Rule, all rowers competing in the Interstate Events must row for the State or Territory through which they were first affiliated with RA through their Member Association in accordance with Article 7 of the Constitution.

If a rower:

7.3.2.1 is domiciled in a State or Territory other than their State or Territory of Origin; and

7.3.2.2 has been a registered rower with the Member Association in the State or Territory of Domicile for a continuous period of six (6) months in the case of a Youth rower or two (2) years in the case of all other rowers;

then the rower may request, through the Member Association of the State or Territory of Domicile, by written application to the Board, by no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> January in the year of competition, a clearance to compete for the State or Territory of Domicile rather than the State of Origin.

7.3.3 An application for clearance must provide evidence of the rower’s membership of a Club and the Member Association for a continuous period of not less than six months in the case of a Youth rower, or two years in the case of all other rowers, prior to the date of application for clearance, and the onus of proof shall be with the applicant.

7.3.4 The Board, through the CEO, shall forward a copy of the application to the Member Association of the State of Origin within two working days of its receipt, and the Member Association of the State of Origin shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of being forwarded from the Board to object to the granting of the requested clearance.

7.3.5 If no objection from the Member Association of the State of Origin is received within the period specified, a clearance will be deemed effective from the expiration of that period, and the State of Origin and the State of Domicile will be notified accordingly.

7.3.6 Upon receipt of a written objection, the Board will appoint a panel of three Councillors of RA who represent Member Associations not involved in the application for clearance to receive submissions from the respective Member Associations, who shall then submit their decision to the Board for ratification. The Board shall then advise the parties of their decision, and such decision shall be binding on all parties.

## **RULE 8 DEFINITIONS**

8.1 “RA Event” a rowing event conducted under the auspices of RA including the Interstate Rowing Championships and National Rowing Championships as defined in these Rules and other events approved by the Board. The regattas at which these events are held shall be conducted under these Rules and related By-Laws.

8.2 “Interstate Events” are events conducted at the Interstate Rowing Championships, open only to crews and scullers representing Member Associations and such crews and scullers shall only compete in the registered colours of their State or Territory Associations.

8.3 “Interstate Masters Events” are events conducted at the Australian Masters Rowing Championships, open only to crews and scullers representing Member Associations and such

crews and scullers shall only compete in the registered colours of their State or Territory Associations.

- 8.4 "National Rowing Championships" are events open to all competitors and to all crews comprised of competitors who are members of Clubs affiliated to Member Associations or Members of Clubs affiliated to other National Rowing Federations recognised by RA.
- 8.5 "Australian Rowing Championships" shall mean the National Rowing Championships and the Interstate Rowing Championships conducted at the same venue on consecutive days and shall be described at all times and in all documents as "The (insert sponsor and year) Australian Rowing Championships", or any additional name which The Board approves.
- 8.6 "The Board" shall mean the Board of RA.
- 8.7 "Member Associations" shall mean the members of RA.
- 8.8 "RA" shall mean Rowing Australia Ltd.
- 8.9 "Organising Committee" shall mean the committee or other body appointed by RA or a Member Association awarded the right to conduct an RA Event for the purposes of conducting the event.
- 8.10 "Clubs" means an organisation holding membership of a Member Association.
- 8.11 "Code" means any code of conduct adopted by RA to govern the conduct of competitors, coaches, officials and employees of RA.
- 8.12 The "Technical Delegate" means the person appointed to that position by the Board in accordance with Rule 14, including a person appointed temporarily in the absence of the encumbered.
- 8.13 "RA Events Staff" shall be any employees of RA nominated by the CEO to provide Events and Events-related services to a specific RA Event.
- 8.14 "Umpires Committee" means the sub-committee of RA appointed by the Board
- 8.15 "FISA" means the International Federation of Rowing Associations.

## **RULE 9 RA EVENTS**

### **9.1 Control by RA**

RA Events shall take place under the authority of RA, which may give directions to the Organising Committee through the RA Events Staff, Technical Delegate and/or the President of the Jury to supervise and verify the application of the RA Rules of Racing and By-Laws or any variation of them approved by RA. Details of any departures from the RA Rules of Racing or By-Laws must be provided to competing Member Associations at least 3 months prior to the Regatta.

### **9.2 Date for the Event**

RA shall determine the dates for the conduct of all RA Events.

### **9.3 Venue Selection for the Event**

9.3.1 The Board shall approve the venue and Member Association to host an RA Event, through a Board approved method such as a venue rotation or expression of interest process, under the provisions of these Rules and to the specifications determined by the Board.

- 9.3.2 If required, the Board shall ensure that the Member Association which has been selected to conduct the RA Event is notified at least 18 months prior to the conduct of the event.
- 9.3.3 A Member Association selected to host an RA Event will need to display to the Board that they are capable of conducting the event within the provisions of these Rules and staging terms, and have successfully conducted a major event to the satisfaction of the Board or it's delegate, at the proposed venue at least 12 months prior to the date of conduct of the proposed RA Event.
- 9.3.4 Should any Member Association be unable to display to the Board that they are able to meet the required standard for the conduct of the RA Event at least twelve months before the conduct of the event, then the Board shall be entitled to award the conduct of that event to an alternate Member Association, and on such venue and on such commercial arrangements, as it sees fit.

#### 9.4 Notice of Regatta

- 9.4.1 RA and/or the Member Association shall release the dates and venue of the regatta as soon as practical after the decision has been made, but no later than 12 months prior to the regatta.
- 9.4.2 The following items must be released by RA and/or the Member Association at least six months prior to the regatta:
  - 9.4.2.1 the place, time(s) and days(s) of the RA Event;
  - 9.4.2.2 the program of races;
  - 9.4.2.3 the amount of entry fees and deposits;
  - 9.4.2.4 a plan of the course accompanied by a statement outlining those respects in which the course does not meet the requirements of RA as detailed in these Rules, such variations having previously been approved by the Board;
  - 9.4.2.5 the date and closing time for entries; and
  - 9.4.2.6 the address for entries and correspondence.

#### 9.5 Entries

- 9.5.1 Entries into all RA events are to be made via the online regatta entry platform specified by RA.

#### 9.6 Staging Agreement

Any Member Association that is awarded the conduct of an RA Event shall enter into a Staging Agreement within three months of the Event being awarded, which shall provide, amongst other things:

- 9.6.1 The monetary agreements between the Member Association and RA;
- 9.6.2 Dates for the conduct of the RA Event;
- 9.6.3 Appropriate recognition and involvement of sponsors of RA;
- 9.6.4 Monitoring of the preparations for the conduct of the RA Event;
- 9.6.5 Inspection of facilities;
- 9.6.6 Insurance;
- 9.6.7 Naming of the RA Event;
- 9.6.8 Division of responsibilities for the conduct of the RA Event;
- 9.6.9 Promotion of the ideals of RA, and their recognition;



- 9.6.10 Creation of an Organising Committee for the conduct of the RA Event, and the representation of RA on that Committee;
  - 9.6.11 Appointing of a representative of the Organising Committee to the RA Masters Commission for the term of the Agreement, in the case of the Australian Masters Rowing Championships;
  - 9.6.12 Recognition by the Member Association that the RA Event is the intellectual property of RA;
  - 9.6.13 Agreed reporting processes;
  - 9.6.14 Arrangements for the sale of merchandise;
  - 9.6.15 Any other terms and conditions on which the parties may agree.
- 9.7 Staging Fees and Contributions to RA
- 9.7.1 A Member Association conducting the Australian Rowing Championships
    - 9.7.1.1 shall contribute a Staging Fee to RA agreed to by both parties, within 30 days of the conclusion of the regatta, or at a schedule agreed to by both parties.
  - 9.7.2 A Member Association conducting the Australian Masters Rowing Championships
    - 9.7.2.1 shall contribute a Staging Fee to RA agreed to by both to parties, within 30 days of the conclusion of the regatta, or at a schedule agreed to by both parties.
  - 9.7.3 The staging fee represents a return on the intellectual property owned by RA but ceded, in part by way of Staging Agreement, to the Member Association hosting the Event.
- 9.8 Trophy Levy
- 9.8.1 The Member Association conducting an Australian Rowing Championships
    - 9.8.1.1 shall contribute Fifty Cents Australian (AU\$0.50) from each seat fee collected to the funds of RA within thirty days of the conclusion of the regatta.
  - 9.8.2 The Member Association conducting an Australian Masters Rowing Championship
    - 9.8.2.1 shall contribute Fifty Cents Australian (AU\$0.50) from each seat fee collected to the funds of RA within thirty days of the conclusion of the regatta.
  - 9.8.3 Such contributions shall be accumulated in a separate fund or account and shall be used solely for the purpose of acquiring, refurbishing, upgrading, updating and generally retaining at a high standard all perpetual trophies of RA.
  - 9.8.4 The fund shall also be used for the provision of safety boxes, security devices and insurances necessary to cover the perpetual trophies on an annual basis including transport to and from and presentation at the Australian Rowing Championships and Australian Masters Rowing Championships.
- 9.9 Reports on Conduct of Regatta
- 9.9.1 Report on Arrangements for RA Events
 

Three months prior to the start of an RA Event the Organising Committee of a Member Association conducting an RA Event shall inform the Board via the RA Events Staff and/or the Technical Delegate of the arrangements for the regatta and the schedule for the completion of those arrangements.
- 9.10 Report on Regatta
- A Member Association conducting an RA Event shall provide a written report and financial statement, duly audited and certified, to the Chief Executive Officer of RA in time for inclusion in the agenda papers of the Annual General Meeting following the regatta. The Chief Executive Officer of RA shall forward copies of the report to all Board Members, RA Office-bearers, Councillors and the Secretary of each Member Association.

#### 9.10.1 Briefing of Competitors

Prior to all RA Events the coaches, rowers, coxswains, scullers, umpires and starters shall be called to a meeting to be convened by the Organising Committee, which meeting shall be conducted by the Umpires Committee and the Technical Delegate. At such meeting RA's Rules of Racing shall be explained and attendees informed that such Rules and the Code will be strictly enforced. The venue and timing of the meeting shall be advised by the Organising Committee to all competing crews.

### **RULE 10 INTERSTATE EVENTS**

#### 10.1 Purpose

The Interstate Events are promoted to develop the competition between representative crews from the Member Associations and the conduct of such events is essential to the development and profile of the sport of rowing.

#### 10.2 Date for Conduct

10.2.1 Unless the Board shall otherwise determine, the Interstate events between the Member Associations shall be conducted upon the last day of the Australian Rowing Championships each year on dates determined by the Board;

10.2.2 and as the last events on the penultimate day of competition at the Australian Masters Rowing Championships.

#### 10.3 State Colours

Each Member Association crew shall wear its racing colours when competing as a Member Association crew and the following racing colours have been registered by the Member Association with, and approved by, RA as their respective colours:

- New South Wales: Light blue top, Waratah on left breast;
- Queensland: Maroon top with white 'Q' on the left breast;
- South Australia: Red top with navy blue and gold stripes and with a State monogram on left breast;
- Tasmania: Myrtle green top with a map of Tasmania in primrose surrounding a rampant lion in rose;
- Victoria: Navy blue top with a white letter 'V' on left breast;
- Western Australia: Gold and black top;
- Australian Capital Territory: Royal Blue and Gold top.

The Member Associations may, at least three months prior to the conduct of an Interstate Event, apply to the Board for approval to change or vary its racing colours, and for the registration of alternate State colours.

#### 10.4 Status of Competitors

10.4.1 Subject to RULE 7.3, Interstate events shall be open to competitors who are citizens of Australia or that have been a resident in the State or Territory of Australia for which they intend to compete for a continuous period of not less than 12 months prior to the close of entries.

10.4.2 The status of competitors set out in these Rules shall apply to each of the Interstate Events.

- 10.4.3 These Rules relating to lightweight rowers shall apply to Lightweight rowers in Interstate Events.
- 10.4.4 These Rules relating to replacement and changes to crews shall apply to Interstate Events.
- 10.4.5 These Rules relating to coxswains shall apply to coxswains in the Interstate Events.
- 10.4.6 Unless otherwise determined by the Council, not more than one entry shall be made from each Member Association for each Interstate Rowing Championship for any one or more of such Championships, which such determination shall be made one year prior to it taking effect.
- 10.4.7 Unless otherwise determined by the Board, each crew shall comprise representatives of a single Member Association.

## 10.5 Events

10.5.1 The Interstate Events shall consist of the following races with their respective trophies:

- Women's Legs, Trunk and Arms Single Scull
- Men's Legs, Trunk and Arms Single Scull
- Women's Single Scull for the Nell Slatter Trophy
- Men's Single Scull for the President's Cup
- Women's Lightweight Quad Scull for the Victoria Cup
- Men's Lightweight Four for the Penrith Cup
- Women's Youth Eight for the Bicentennial Trophy
- Men's Youth Eight for the Wilkinson Cup
- Women's Eight for the Queen Elizabeth II Trophy and ULVA Trophy
- Men's Eight for the King's Cup

10.5.2 The Interstate Masters Events shall consist of the following races with their respective trophies:

- Men's Masters Quad Scull for the Interstate Masters Championship Trophy
- Women's Masters Quad Scull for the Veteran's Cup
- Men's Masters Eight for the Brian Vear Memorial Trophy
- Women's Masters Eight for the Interstate Masters Championship Trophy

All Interstate Rowing Championships shall be rowed as straight final races, except where a variation of this Rule is made by the Board and/or where entries exceed the number of lanes approved for racing on any particular course.

## 10.6 Overall Points Score

10.6.1 At the conclusion of the Interstate Events at the Australian Rowing Championships, RA will present the Rowing Australia Cup, which may be known as "Sponsor Name" Rowing Australia Cup and shall be presented on an annual basis to the Member Association which secures the highest overall score for events conducted in the Interstate Regatta.

10.6.2 States shall be awarded points in each event on the following basis:

- First place: 8 points
- Second place: 6 points

- Third place: 5 points
- Fourth place: 4 points
- Fifth place: 3 points
- Sixth place: 2 points
- Seventh place: 1 point

#### 10.7 Interstate Regatta Draw

The draw for starting positions for Interstate Events shall be conducted at such time and place as arranged by the Chairman of the Organising Committee in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer of RA.

### **RULE 11 TROPHIES AND MEDALLIONS**

- 11.1 The perpetual trophies of RA shall be under the control of the Chief Executive Officer of RA. The trophies may be released by the Chief Executive Officer to:
- 11.1.1 the Organising Committee for exhibition and subsequent presentation to winning representative crews; or
  - 11.1.2 the Member Association of the winning representative crews for special occasion.  
Provided that the Organising Committee or Member Association requesting possession of the trophies:
    - 11.1.2.1 indemnifies RA for all approved transport costs;
    - 11.1.2.2 provides adequate and acceptable undertakings as to security of the trophies to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer; and
    - 11.1.2.3 returns the trophies to the control of the Chief Executive Officer within such time frame as he may direct.
- 11.2 The perpetual trophies shall be insured by RA for such sum as the Board may from time to time determine.
- 11.3 The perpetual trophies, while in the control of the Chief Executive Officer, shall be kept in safe custody.
- 11.4 The perpetual trophies shall not leave Australia.
- 11.5 After each RA Event, a uniform silver gilt plate or other suitable form shall be affixed to or inscribed upon each Trophy. On each gilt plate or other suitable form shall be inscribed the year and name of the winning crew and where possible the member(s) of the winning crew.
- 11.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of this Rule regarding care and control of the perpetual trophies, the ownership thereof shall always remain with RA.
- 11.7 The members of the crews, coxswains and coaches winning RA Events shall be presented with suitably inscribed quality medallions or trophies inscribed with the venue, event and date. Such trophies shall be of a type approved by RA.
- 11.7.1 Edward Kenny Memorial Medallions shall be presented to the members of the crew, coxswain and coach winning the Eight Oared Championship of Australia for the King's Cup.
  - 11.7.2 Edward Kenny Memorial Medallions shall be presented to the sculler winning the Interstate Men's Single Scull for the President's Cup and his coach.
  - 11.7.3 City of Penrith Medals shall be presented to the members of the crew and coach winning the Interstate Men's Lightweight Four for the Penrith Cup.

- 11.7.4 Noel F. Wilkinson Memorial Medallions shall be presented to the members of the crew, coxswain and coach winning the Australian Youth Eight Oared Championship of Australia for the Noel F. Wilkinson Cup.
- 11.8 If any RA Event is abandoned at any time, the Board, in consultation with the Council, shall decide the question of the custody of the perpetual trophy for such event.
- 11.9 In the event that any of the National Rowing Championship events is won by an overseas crew, any trophy for that event shall remain under the control of the Chief Executive Officer.

## **RULE 12 PRIZES**

- 12.1 Cash prizes may be awarded for regattas and races conducted under the auspices of Rowing Australia.
- 12.2 Competitors may receive cash prizes for competition.
- 12.3 Any such prize shall be paid to the School, Club or State Association of any competitors winning such prize, or to Rowing Australia, and not directly to competitors.
- 12.4 Such School, Club, State Association or Board may distribute such prizes among the competitors who won it to them.

## **RULE 13 BLANK**

This rule is purposely left blank.

## **RULE 14 TECHNICAL DELEGATES**

- 14.1 The Board shall appoint the Technical Delegate. The Chief Executive Officer of RA shall notify the Organising Committee of the Regatta, the Umpire's Committee and the President of the Jury of the appointment of the Technical Delegate.
- 14.2 The Technical Delegate shall:
- have had hands on experience in the conduct of major rowing events; and
  - have a sound knowledge of the Rules of RA as well as its policies and procedures.
- 14.3 In general, the duties of the Technical Delegate are to ensure that the RA Rules of Racing and By-Laws are complied with, the regatta venue meets the specific RA Event requirements and that the regatta is satisfactorily run both from the safety and competitive points of view.
- 14.4 The Technical Delegate will maintain a continual liaison with the RA Events Staff and the President of the Jury.
- 14.5 The Technical Delegate along with the RA Events Staff will maintain a continual liaison with the Organising Committee for any event being conducted on behalf of RA and the Technical Delegate shall have the authority to agree on the facilities to be provided on behalf of RA.
- 14.6 The Technical Delegate shall monitor and report to the Board of RA along with the RA Events Staff on the preparations for each RA Event, in particular, addressing issues relating to the responsibilities of the Organising Committee.
- 14.7 The Technical Delegate should arrive at the RA Event site at least one day before the Briefing of Competitors Meeting and should stay for the whole time of the regatta. They should make themselves known to the Chairman of the Organising Committee and the President of the Jury.

- 14.8 On arrival the Technical Delegate should inspect the regatta course with a representative of the Organising Committee and the President of the Jury taking particular note of safety aspects, including warm-up and cool down areas, traffic rules in racing and training, and areas where crews will be marshalled. They will also inspect the boating area, to ensure that the arrangements for boating and disembarking are satisfactory and that the traffic rules are adequately displayed. They will also ensure that the minimum requirements for the regatta required by the Rules of Racing and By-Laws are in place (e.g. distance markers, photo finish, weighing arrangements, medical facilities, rescue services, etc.).
- 14.9 Once the Technical Delegate is satisfied that the course and event environs meet the requirements of the RA Rules the Technical Delegate shall declare it fit for use and hand over the course to the President of the Jury for competition.
- 14.10 The Technical Delegate shall attend the Briefing of Competitors Meeting and observe the draw. In a regatta where RA has decided that seeding is necessary, the Technical Delegate will ensure that the seeding recommendations received from the RA High Performance Director are put into effect, and that the competitors are made aware that seeding is being practiced.
- 14.11 The Technical Delegate shall attend at least the first meeting of the Jury and should notify the Jury of any problems that she/he foresee, either from a safety or competitive point of view. However, the Technical Delegate should leave the Jury to carry out its role as set out in the Rules of Racing.
- 14.12 During the regatta, the RA Events Staff, Organising Committee and the President of the Jury may consult the Technical Delegate on any matter where there is any uncertainty concerning the application of RA Rules.
- 14.13 The Technical Delegate shall advise the Organising Committee, President of the Jury of any failure to comply with RA Rules. In the event of a disagreement between RA Events Staff, Organising Committee, President of the Jury and the Technical Delegate in regards to eligibility and/or conduct of the regatta, the position of the Technical Delegate shall prevail. For clarity, the conduct of the regatta shall not include decisions made by the Jury during racing.
- 14.14 The legal responsibility for matters of safety rests with the Organising Committee and nothing in the Rules of Racing or By-Laws shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Technical Delegate.
- 14.15 Within two months of the end of the event, the Technical Delegate shall send a report to the RA Board through the RA Events Staff, who shall then forward it to the Organising Committee of the Regatta. The report should set out comments, proposals, and criticisms in a prescribed format.

## **15 NATIONAL ROWING CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

The National Rowing Championships shall, unless otherwise approved by the Board, comprise the events set out in Appendix 8. The order of conduct of the events provided in this Appendix shall be as approved by the Board.

## **16 AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

The Australian Masters Rowing Championships shall, unless otherwise approved by the Board, comprise the events set out in Appendix 9.

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## **PART II ROWERS AND COXSWAINS**

### **SECTION 1. GENERAL**

#### **RULE 18 ELIGIBILITY AND INSURANCE**

- 18.1 RA Events shall be open to all competitors who are authorised to compete by their affiliated Member Association and who are eligible under these Rules.
- 18.2 Each Member Association shall ensure that their competitors shall have a state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the competition level of the particular event and ensure each competitor, team official and the Member Association carries appropriate health, accident and property insurance covering their persons, equipment and property.
- 18.3 Entries for RA Events will be accepted only if an approved waiver form from each competitor and coach if received by RA prior to the commencement of racing.
- 18.4 All rowers shall be eligible to compete in the Open category in the appropriate weight division.
- 18.5 Subject to Rule 27.6, no competitor may race for two different Clubs, Institutes or Schools at the same regatta but a competitor may represent his State and his Club and his School at a Regatta.
- 18.6 Open 'Club' events at the National Championships are restricted to:
- 18.6.1 Athletes who are all the member of the one club, including the coxswain
  - 18.6.2 Athletes who have not been a member of a National Senior A or Under 23 team in the previous year (athletes who have been a member of a National Junior or Under 21 team in the previous year are eligible to compete in Club events)
  - 18.6.3 Athletes who have not nominated for national selection in the current year (athletes nominating of national selection in a National Junior or Under 21 team are eligible to compete in Club events), at the point of close of nominations for said teams. For clarity, any athlete who is nominated for a National Senior A or Under 23 team when nominations for those teams close is not eligible to compete in Club events in that year regardless of if the nominations for that year close in the year prior.

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#### **RULE 24 CATEGORIES**

The following categories of rowers are recognised by RA:

- 24.1 School (men and women)
- 24.2 Under 17 (men and women)
- 24.3 Under 19 (men and women)
- 24.4 Under 21 (men and women)

- 24.5 Under 23 (men and women)
- 24.6 Open (men and women)
  - 24.6.1 Open Club (men and women) – National Championship Regatta
- 24.7 Masters (men and women and mixed)
- 24.8 Para-rowing
- 24.9 Rower Score Category - Member Associations to use local provisions

In addition to these categories, a lightweight category for men and women (see Rule 31) is recognised by RA.

## **RULE 25 ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES**

A Member Association may, in the case of regattas held under its jurisdiction, establish additional categories.

## **RULE 26 LICENCES**

- 26.1 The Board may decide on the introduction of licences for all categories of rowers.
- 26.2 Where applicable, the Jury shall appoint a person to check the licences of all competitors at the beginning of every regatta not later than two hours before the first race of the rowers concerned.

## **RULE 27 COXSWAINS**

- 27.1 Coxswains are members of the crew. However, a women's crew may be steered by a man and a men's crew may be steered by a woman. For clarity, any crew competing in an event specified as a single-club or non-composite crew event, including but not limited to Open Club, Under 21 or Masters Champion Club events, must be steered by a coxswain of the same club as the rest of the members of the crew.
- 27.2 Age categories shall apply to coxswains, excepting in Under 23 and Masters categories.
- 27.3 The minimum weight for a coxswain (wearing racing uniform) is 55kg for men's Open, men's Masters, men's Under 23, men's Under 21 and Under 19 men's crews, and 50 kg for women's Open, women's Masters, women's Under 23, women's Under 21, women's Under 19, Schoolboy, Schoolgirl, Under 17 (men and women), para-rowing and masters mixed crews. The weighing scales shall indicate the weight of the coxswain to 0.1 kg.
- 27.4 To make up this weight, a coxswain may carry deadweight in a sealed bag which shall be placed in the boat as close as possible to his/her person. No article of racing equipment shall be considered as part of this deadweight. At any time, before or until immediately after the race, the Control Commission may require the deadweight to be reweighed.
- 27.5 These provisions shall also apply to coxswains in lightweight races.

## **RULE 28 WEIGHING OF COXSWAINS**

- 28.1 Coxswains shall be weighed wearing racing uniform by a person duly authorised by the Organising Committee on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than twenty-four



hours before their first race at each regatta in which they are competing. Where two regattas are conducted at the same venue on consecutive days, a coxswain who has weighted in for the first regatta is not required to weigh in for the second regatta if at the first regatta he/she weighed in at the required weight.

- 28.2 The Organising Committee may require on the occasion of the first weighing or subsequently the deposit of an official identity card with photograph.

## **RULE 29 COMPETITORS**

### 29.1 School Competitors:

29.1.1 A school competitor is one who:

29.1.1.1 Qualifies as Under 21 under the provisions of these Rules; and

29.1.1.2 Is attending a secondary school as a full time day student.

29.1.2 Only athletes representing their school may compete in school events.

29.1.3 School events are restricted to crews consisting of representatives of one school only.

### 29.2 Under 17:

A rower or coxswain shall be classified as an Under 17 rower until 31 December of the year in which the rower reaches the age of 16.

### 29.3 Under 19:

A rower or coxswain shall be classified as an Under 19 rower until 31 December of the year in which the rower reaches the age of 18.

### 29.4 Under 21:

29.4.1 A rower or coxswain shall be classified as an Under 21 rower until 31 December of the year in which the rower reaches the age of 20.

29.4.2 Under 21 events at the National Championships are restricted to athletes who are all the member of the one club, including coxswain.

### 29.5 Under 23:

A rower or coxswain shall be classified as an Under 23 rower until 31 December of the year in which the rower reaches the age of 22.

### 29.6 Open:

A rower or coxswain who is too old to be classified an Under 23 shall be classified as Open. Open rowing events are open to rowers of all ages.

## **RULE 30 BLANK**

This rule is intentionally left blank

## **RULE 31 LIGHTWEIGHTS**

A rower may compete in Lightweight rowing events if he meets the following criteria:

A Lightweight men's crew (excluding coxswain) shall have an average weight not exceeding 70 kg. No individual Lightweight male rower may weigh more than 72.5 kg. A lightweight male single sculler (male) may not weigh more than 72.5 kg.

A Lightweight women's crew (excluding coxswain) shall have an average weight not exceeding 57 kg. No individual Lightweight female rower may weigh more than 59 kg. A lightweight single sculler may not weigh more than 59 kg.

Lightweight rowers shall be weighed wearing only their racing uniform on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than two hours before their first race of each lightweight event in which they are competing, each day of the competition. They shall present themselves as a crew at the weighing centre already wearing their racing uniform. The weighing scales should indicate the weight of the rower to 0.1 kg.

If a rower has races in other events on a day of racing, the weight recorded for the first event may be applied to qualify for subsequent events. Rowers may re-weigh for other events after their weigh-in for their first event on a day of racing, within the time limits applicable to that event. This weight may also be carried forward for any other races in which the rower competes on that day of racing.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if two rounds of the same event takes place on the same day of competition and some rowers in the second round do not have to race in the first round of that day, then these rowers in the second round shall be weighed at the same time as the rowers in the first round.

The Organising Committee may require on the occasion of the first weighing or subsequently the deposit of an official identity card with photograph. If the first race is subsequently postponed or cancelled, the lightweight rower is not required to be weighed later on the same day for that event.

Any rower who has been re-hydrated intravenously between the weigh-in and the respective race shall not be allowed to start.

If a rower exceeds the required weight or a crew exceeds the required average weight by the expiry of the time permitted for weighing, the rower (and the crew of that rower) or the crew concerned are no longer eligible and shall be excluded from the event.

## **RULE 32 MASTERS**

A rower may compete in Masters rowing events from the beginning of the year during which he or she attains the age of 27. The age of a Masters rower shall be that which he or she attains during the current calendar year.

### ***By-Law to RULE 32 — Masters (Men, Women and Mixed)***

*Masters events shall be held in the following crew age categories:*

- *A Minimum age: 27 years*
- *B Average age: 36 years or more*
- *C Average age: 43 years or more*
- *D Average age: 50 years or more*
- *E Average age: 55 years or more*
- *F Average age: 60 years or more*
- *G Average age: 65 years or more*
- *H Average age: 70 years or more*
- *I Average age: 75 years or more*
- *J Average age: 80 years or more*
- *K Average age: 85 years or more.*

*The average age of a crew (excluding the coxswain) will be calculated by dividing the total number of years of age of the crew by the number of members of the crew rounded down to the nearest whole number.*

*Age categories do not apply to coxswains of master crews.*

*Each competitor shall be responsible for his own health and fitness.*

*Every Masters rower must be in a position to prove his age by production of an official document (passport or identity card).*

*The handicaps that will apply at Australian Masters Rowing Championships are contained in Appendix 10.*

### **RULE 33 MIXED MASTERS EVENTS**

Mixed crew events may be held for master's crews in which half of the crew excluding the coxswain, shall be women and half shall be men. The coxswain may be of either gender.

### **RULE 34 PARA-ROWING**

34.1 A rower may compete in a Para-rowing event if his/her disability meets the criteria set out in the RA Classification Policy. The categories and boat classes are defined in the Para-rowing Event Regulations (Appendix 6).

## **PART III CLASSES OF BOAT**

### **RULE 35 CLASSES OF BOAT**

The following classes of boat are recognised by RA:

- Single Sculls (1x)
- Double Sculls (2x)
- Pair (2-)
- Coxed Pair (2+)
- Quadruple Sculls (4x)
- Coxed Quadruple Sculls (4x+)
- Four (4-)
- Coxed Four (4+)
- Coxed Eight (8+)

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## **PART IV BOATS AND CONSTRUCTION**

### **RULE 39 FREE CONSTRUCTION**

The construction, design and dimensions of boats and oars shall, in principle, be unrestricted subject to the limits laid down in these Rules.

Nevertheless the Board of RA may, in By-Laws to these Rules, impose appropriate requirements.

#### ***By-Laws to RULE 39 — Boats and Equipment***

##### **1 Requirements for racing boats:**

- 1.1 *The bows of all boats shall be fitted with a solid white ball shape, minimum diameter 4 cm. If this is an external part it shall be firmly affixed to the bow of the boat such that it does not significantly deflect if a side force is applied. If it is an integral part of the hull construction, it shall afford equivalent protection and visibility.*
- 1.2 *All boats shall comply with the requirements set out in the By-Laws to Rule 41, below (name, symbol, etc.).*
- 1.3 *During racing, no communication with the crew is permitted from outside the boat using electric or electronic equipment. In addition, no data may be sent to or received from the boat except as provided for below. During racing, the only information allowed to the crew in the boat shall be:*
  - A. *Time*
  - B. *Stroke Rate*
  - C. *Boat velocity/acceleration*
  - D. *Heart rate*

*This information shall be designated 'allowable data'. This data and any information derived directly from it may be recorded during racing for later use. No other data or information may be measured, recorded or stored. Failure to comply with this Bye-Law shall result in a sanction up to disqualification. RA may install on each boat a device(s) for the purpose of transmitting real-time race and other information which shall be owned by RA and may be used for any purpose including presentation and promotion of the event and the sport.*

- 1.4 *No substances or structures like riblets capable of modifying the natural properties of water or of the surface layer of the water shall be applied to the hull.*
- 1.5 *Quick release foot stretchers - In all boats with the foot stretchers, shoes or other devices holding the feet of the rowers shall be a type which allow the rowers to get clear of the boat without delay. Where shoes and other devices holding the feet will remain in the boat, each shoe or device shall be independently restrained such that the heel will not lift more than 7cm. In addition, where laces, Velcro or similar materials must be opened before the rower can remove his feet from the shoes or other device, these must be able to be released immediately by the rower with a single quick hand action of pulling on one easily accessible strap.*
- 1.6 *The edges of blades must have a minimum thickness throughout as follows:*
  - *oars 5 mm;*
  - *sculls 3 mm.*

*This thickness shall be measured 3 mm from the outer edge of the blade for oars and 2 mm for sculls.*
- 1.7 *The opening of the coxswain's seat must be at least 70 cm long and it must be as wide as the boat for at least 50 cm. The inner surface of the enclosed part must be smooth and no structure of any sort may restrict the inner width of the coxswains section.*

- 1.8 *All boats used in eights events at RA Events shall be in a minimum of two sections, with no section longer than 11.9 metres.*
- 1.9 *At RA Events, the Board may require crews to carry on their boats such equipment as it considers desirable for the better promotion of the sport of rowing (e.g. mini cameras) provided that such equipment is identical for all boats in a race.*
- 1.10 *Boats constructed or delivered after 1st January 2007 must have a production plaque or equivalent visible and permanently affixed inside the boat, up to 50 sq cm in area, on which is written the name and address of the boat builder, its mark or logo, the year the boat was constructed, the average weight of the crew for which the boat is designed, and the weight of the boat on construction or upon delivery, and stating whether the boat meets the floatation requirements specified in FISA's Minimum Guidelines for Safe Rowing, specifically that when full of water a boat with the crew seated in the rowing position should float in such a way that the top of the seat is a maximum of 5cm below the static waterline.*
- 1.11 *Minimum length of racing boats — The minimum overall length of a racing boat shall be 7.20 metres. This will be measured from the front of the bow ball to the furthest aft extent of the boat, which may include an extension beyond the hull. If an extension is used it will terminate in a 40 mm ball as described in By-Law 39.1.1. If a boat cannot be correctly aligned because it is less than the minimum overall length, the Starter may exclude the crew from the race. This Rule does not apply to boats used at Para-rowing and Coastal Rowing events.*

#### **RULE 40 INNOVATION IN EQUIPMENT**

Innovations in equipment including, but not limited to, boats, oars, related equipment and clothing, must meet the following requirements before they are allowed for use in RA Events:

- 40.1.1 They must be available to all competitors (patents may not exclude the use by a team or a competitor);
- 40.1.2 The costs involved must be reasonable;
- 40.1.3 not provide an advantage to some competitors over others or change the nature of the sport;
- 40.1.4 They must be safe and environmentally sound.

Any innovation must be submitted to the Board for evaluation. If it is judged to meet the above conditions and is approved for use, it must be readily available for all competitors by January 1st in order to be authorised for use in RA Events that year. Crews with unapproved innovations shall not be allowed to compete.

The Board has the sole authority to decide all matters under this Rule including whether an innovation is significant, whether it is readily available, whether the costs are reasonable and whether it is safe and environmentally sound.

#### **RULE 41 BOAT WEIGHTS**

All boats used in RA Events shall be of defined minimum weight.

##### ***By-Law to RULE 41 — Boat Weights***

1 *Minimum weights for boats are the following:*

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Boat type</i>	<i>Minimum Weight (kg)</i>
1x	<i>Single Sculls</i>	<i>14 kilograms</i>
2x	<i>Double Sculls</i>	<i>27 kilograms</i>
2-	<i>Pair</i>	<i>27 kilograms</i>
2+	<i>Coxed Pair</i>	<i>32 kilograms</i>

4x	Quadruple Sculls	52 kilograms
4x+	Coxed Quad Sculls	54 kilograms
4-	Four	50 kilograms
4+	Coxed Four	51 kilograms
8+	Eight	96 kilograms

*Para-rowing boat weights are specified in Appendix 6.*

2 *The minimum weight of the boat shall include only the fittings essential to their use, in particular: riggers, stretchers, shoes, slides, seats and hull extensions. The minimum boat weight shall not include the oars or sculls, the bow number or any other item not essential to its use and not firmly fastened to the boat. Additional weight carried in the boat to achieve the required weight shall be firmly fastened to the boat or to the essential fittings described above. The minimum weight shall also include:*

- *Loud speakers if they are firmly fastened to the boat and associated wiring for such speakers;*
- *Any housings or fixings that are firmly fastened to the boat for the purposes of holding electronic or other equipment;*
- *Cables and wires required to connect electronic equipment to provide 'allowable data' (see By Law to Rule 39), and*
- *Seat pads that are attached to the seat.*

### 3 *Weighing Scales*

*The weighing scales shall be provided by a RA approved manufacturer and shall indicate the weight of the boat to 0.1 kg. The scales shall be connected to a printer so that a printed record of the boat weight is immediately available.*

*At the beginning of each official training day and of each racing day the scales shall be tested, using calibrated (gauged) weights, by a person duly authorised by the Organising Committee conducting the regatta and the member of the Control Commission responsible for boat weighing.*

### 4 *Test weighing of boats*

*The weighing scale(s) shall be available to the crews 48 hrs before the first race of the regatta for the test weighing of their boats. The scales shall be located on a horizontal inflexible floor, inside a building or a tent to provide protection from the wind. The weighing area shall be easily accessible from the incoming pontoons and shall be exclusively reserved for the weighing of boats during the regatta.*

### 5 *Responsibility for the weight of a boat*

*It is solely the responsibility of the crew that their boat has the required minimum weight.*

### 6 *Official Boat Weighing Procedure*

*The person authorised by the President of the Jury shall make a random draw before the start of each racing session. He shall also have the right to include additional boats at any time before the finish of the race of the boat concerned if there is a suspicion that certain boats are underweight. He shall deliver copies of this draw to the responsible person at the Control Commission.*

*A member of the Control Commission shall notify the selected crews as they leave the water after their races and they, or people appointed for that purpose, shall accompany each boat to the weighing scales. A selected crew is required to take its boat directly to the weighing scales when it is notified that the boat has been selected for weighing. Failure to do so may lead to the crew being penalised as if the boat had been underweight. Once the crew has been notified that the boat has been selected for weighing, no extra weight of any description can be added to the boat until the boat has been weighed.*

*Equipment which is not to be included in the weight of the boat shall be removed from the boat before weighing.*

*At the official weighing of the boat the normal wetted surface of the boat is accepted. However, any standing water must be removed before the weighing, in particular any water between the shoulders and under the canvas. All other items (cox boxes, tools, clothes, sponges, bottles, etc.) must be taken out of the boat before the weighing.*

*The boat shall be officially weighed.*

7 *Failure to make the minimum weight*

*If a boat is below the minimum weight, the member of the Control Commission shall write the words "First Boat Weighing" on the printed result sheet. He shall then test the scales with the gauged weights, observed by the crew representative, and print out the result of this test. He shall record on the printed test result the name of the crew and the event and shall write the words "Test Weighing" on the printed result sheet. Both the crew representative and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed result of this test.*

*The boat concerned shall then be weighed for the second time. If, on the second weighing, the boat weight is not below the minimum, no further action is necessary. If, however, the boat is still below the minimum weight the member of the Control Commission shall record on the printed result the name of the crew, the event and the number and type of equipment items included in the weighing. He shall write the words "Second Boat Weighing" on the printed result sheet. Both the crew representative and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed result. No other or later weighing shall be considered as valid.*

*The member of the Control Commission shall deliver the three printed results (First Boat Weighing, Test Weighing of the scales and Second Boat Weighing) to the President of the Jury.*

*The penalty for having raced in an underweight boat shall be that the crew is relegated to last place in the particular race. If two or more boats in the same race are underweight, they shall all be relegated and they shall be ranked in the descending order of their respective boat weights. If the crew races again in an underweight boat in a later round of the same event then the penalty shall be the exclusion of the crew.*



## **PART V COURSES**

### **RULE 42 CHARACTERISTICS**

The standard course for a RA Event shall provide fair and equal racing conditions for eight crews racing in separate, parallel lanes over a distance of 2,000 metres and 1,000 metres for Para-rowing and Masters events.

For a RA Event the standard course must be provided with technical installations and equipment to Category A as defined in the By-Laws. In addition it must also comply with all the specifications and descriptions given in the latest edition of "The RA Events Manual".

In order to be classified as a championship course, full details of the course concerned must be submitted in writing to RA by the applicants, and the course must be inspected at the cost of the Member Association concerned and approved by a person appointed by RA for that purpose.

The Board of RA may lay down special requirements for RA Events other than Interstate Events.

### **RULE 43 LENGTH OF THE COURSE**

- 43.1 The standard racing distances shall be 2,000 metres straight for Men and Women other than Masters and Para-rowing. For Masters and Para-rowing (Men, Women and Mixed crews) the course shall be 1,000 metres straight.
- 43.2 The provisions of this Rule require the use of moveable starting installations in order that the bows of all boats of whatever class may be aligned on the same start line. If this is not available, start aligning sight boards for all boat classes may be used if approved by the Technical Delegate.
- 43.3 The length of the course and all intermediate distances shall be measured by an independent qualified surveyor and an accurate, certified plan shall be held by the Organising Committee conducting the Regatta. This plan shall be available for inspection by RA at any time.
- 43.4 The Board may depart from this Rule where necessary for regattas in multi-sport competitions or other championships.
- 43.5 The non-standard course may be shorter (for example, sprints) or longer (for example, long distances, head of the river, etc.) than the standard course. It is not necessary that the course be straight.

### **RULE 44 NUMBER OF LANES**

On standard courses, races shall normally be held over eight lanes however this may be reduced with approval by the Board to no less than 6 lanes.

#### ***By-Laws to RULE 42 to RULE 44***

*These By-Laws are found in Appendix 1 to the Rules of Racing.*

## **PART VI ORGANISATION OF REGATTAS**

### **SECTION 1. GENERAL**

#### **RULE 45 AUTHORITY OF RA**

- 45.1 All RA Events including Ergometer Rowing competitions are under the overriding authority of RA and subject to the terms of any Staging Agreement entered into between RA and the Member Association concerned. An Organising Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of regattas or competition.
- 45.2 The Technical Delegate and designated RA Event Staff will oversee the work of the Organising Committee on meeting the RA requirements for the event while regularly informing the Board on the progress.
- 45.3 The Member Association which has been awarded the right to conduct a RA Event, at least eighteen (18) months before the commencement of the regatta in the case of the Australian Rowing Championships, and six (6) months before the commencement of any other event, appoint an Organising Committee which shall be made up of:
- 45.3.1 A Chairman;
- 45.3.2 Portfolio office bearers including the areas of Finance, Competition, Volunteers and Administration;
- 45.3.3 Such other personnel as the Member Association shall deem appropriate.
- 45.3.4 In the case of Australian Masters Rowing Championships, the Organising Committee shall appoint a representative to sit on the RA Masters Commission.
- 45.4 Upon appointment of the Organising Committee, the Member Association shall forward full and detailed particulars of the members of that Committee to the Chief Executive Officer of RA.
- 45.5 The Organising Committee appointed by the Member Association or other body that is conducting the Regatta is responsible for its organisation and direction and for the course and all necessary installations and equipment both on and off the water as set out in these Rules.

#### **46 DUTIES OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

The Organising Committee is responsible for the proper preparation and operation of the regatta in accordance with the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

The Organising Committee shall, in particular:

- Prepare and distribute the advance programme including the date and time of required managers and/or competitors briefings and draw;
- Make available a stretch of water and technical equipment conforming to the present Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations;
- Appoint a Safety Adviser;
- Appoint a Medical Officer;
- Take all other steps that may be required to ensure the proper organisation of the regatta.

Provide to the satisfaction of the Technical Delegate and RA Event Staff, sufficient personnel to ensure that all on shore facilities are adequately staffed so as to ensure their effective and efficient operation and the maintenance of those facilities for the duration of the event.

### **By-Law to RULE 46 — Duties of the Organising Committee**

- 1 *Authority of RA — All RA Events are under the authority of RA and of the Member Association concerned.*
- 2 *Date and Programme — the Organising Committee fixes the date and programme of the regatta in agreement with RA. For its part, the Member Association shall submit the proposed date to RA for approval not later than 31 March of the year preceding the event.*
- 3 *Course, Installations, Advance Programme, Jury — The organising committee is responsible for the course and all necessary installations and equipment, both on land and on the water. It is also responsible for the organisation of the regatta. It shall draw up an advance programme which shall also describe the type of course installations and send it to all those concerned. RA shall appoint the Jury, typically through the RA Umpires Committee.*
- 4 *Safety Adviser — The Organising Committee shall appoint a person as the regatta Safety Adviser with specific responsibilities for ensuring that all the appropriate safety measures, including traffic rules, have been considered and then implemented for the safe running of the regatta. Nevertheless, the legal responsibility for safety matters rests with the Organising Committee as a whole, and nothing in the Rules of Racing or Racing Bye-Laws shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Safety Adviser personally.*
- 5 *Principal Medical Officer — The Organising Committee shall appoint a person as the regatta Principal Medical Officer with specific responsibility for ensuring that appropriate medical support and facilities are readily accessible to the regatta. First aid facilities and a rescue service on the water must always be available, as specified in the RA Medical Services Provisions.*
- 6 *Compliance with Rules of Racing — The Organising Committee is responsible for ensuring the proper running of the races and heats in accordance with the Rules of Racing. The Board of RA may nominate Technical Delegates to any event held under the RA Rules of Racing to report on the conduct of the event.*
- 7 *Radio and Telephone Communications — It is essential that there should be direct telephone and/or radio communication between the President of the Jury, the finish, the start and the Control Commission in order to enable the members of the Jury properly to carry out their duties properly. It is also essential that radio communication is provided between the rescue service on the water and the medical staff on duty at the course to deal with any emergency.*

### **47 DISPUTES, APPEALS AND CASES NOT COVERED**

- 47.1 The Technical Delegate shall adjudicate on all cases and disputes not covered by the Rules of Racing and the relevant By Laws for RA Events.
- 47.2 Appeals against a decision of the Technical Delegate made under RULE 47.1 may be referred to the Board for review.
- 47.3 Any decision made by the Board under this Rule shall immediately be final and shall be communicated to the Member Association and any other relevant person in writing.

### **48 PRIZES and SPONSORSHIP CONTRACTS**

Competitors may receive cash or other prizes for competition.

They may also enter into sponsorship contracts provided these contracts are reviewed and approved by RA and their Member Association in advance, and that these contracts are in compliance with RA Statutes and Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations.

## **49 RA MERCHANDISING RIGHTS**

- 49.1 At all RA Events RA retains the right to sell RA merchandise, souvenirs and other articles. The Organising Committee shall provide sites for this activity at no cost to RA.
- 49.2 All goods of whatever kind and description for distribution or sale or ordering for later delivery at a RA Event or any company, agent or affiliate of RA shall be under the authority, direction and control at all times of the Board.
- 49.3 The Board may at any time delegate, transfer, assign or licence all or part or parts of its authority and rights herein to such person(s), organising committee or Member Association as it decides upon terms and conditions acceptable to it.

## **SECTION 2. ADVERTISING PROVISIONS**

### **50 COMMERCIAL PUBLICITY, SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING**

The Board may prescribe By-Laws regarding commercial publicity, sponsorship and advertising at RA Events.

Prohibited Advertising:

1. Any form of advertising (including body advertising) or identifications, not specifically permitted by these rules, is prohibited.
2. All advertising must comply with the laws of Australia and State or Territory of Australia which the regatta is being staged.
3. Even if otherwise permitted by laws of Australia and State or Territory of Australia, no advertising is permitted which is inappropriate or which is harmful to the image of rowing including tobacco and strong liquor (more than 15% alcohol content) or in contradiction with the RA Constitution or Rules of Racing and related Bye-Laws. In case of doubt, the RA Board shall decide. In events, regattas and championships solely for junior/school rowers, advertising relating to alcohol is strictly prohibited.
4. Where an advertiser or sponsor deals mainly in products which are prohibited by this clause, but also produces some other (not prohibited) product or service, it may have identifications, provided that the identification is clearly associated with the product or service that is not prohibited and cannot be seen as advertising the prohibited product.

#### ***By-Law to Rule 50 — RA Advertising Rules***

*These By-Laws are found in Appendix 2 to the Rules of Racing.*

### **51 ROWERS' CLOTHING**

- 51.1 The Board shall keep a national register listing the racing colours of each Club, Institute and School in Australia. Member Associations shall assist the Board to maintain the Register by informing RA of the colours of Clubs, Institutes and Schools affiliated with them or any alterations thereto.
- 51.2 Each member of a Club, school or Association, or of a composite crew where allowed competing in an RA Event shall wear the registered racing uniform of their Club, school or association.
- 51.2.1 Each member of a Club, school or Association competing in an RA Event shall wear the registered racing uniform of their club or school and other garments which must all be identical in design and colour except for permitted sponsor identifications which shall nonetheless be identical within each crew. Except as provided for composite crews, members of the same crew shall compete in identical clothing.

- 51.3 The racing uniform shall be designed so that the shoulders and arms of the t-shirts provided by RA (if any) are seen clearly.
- 51.4 If any members of a crew wear headwear, then the headwear worn by those crew members shall be identical.
- 51.5 Any changes in design or colours of racing uniforms or blades registered with RA must be submitted to the Board of RA at least two months before the date of the RA Event.
- 51.6 The Board may issue further regulations regarding rowers' clothing at RA Events, in particular, including use of a t-shirt provided by RA or other RA sponsor identification as in the By-Laws to RULE 50.
- 51.7 The blades of all oars and sculls shall be painted in the same manner on both sides in the colours of their Club or School or a consistent colour.
- 51.8 Crews competing in the Interstate Regatta shall wear the racing uniform of their Member Association. The blades of all oars and sculls shall be painted on both sides in the colours of their Association or a consistent colour.
- 51.9 National Crews — Each crew competing in an RA Event as a National crew shall wear the registered racing colours of its National Rowing Federation.
- 51.10 In adverse weather conditions, for health reasons, coxswains may race wearing additional clothing in their club or school colours.

### ***SECTION 3. ENTRIES, WITHDRAWALS AND CREW CHANGES***

#### **52 AUTHORISATION OF THE MEMBER ASSOCIATION**

A crew may compete in a RA Event only if authorised and confirmed as eligible by its Member Association, typically through management of an online database.

If an Organising Committee allows a crew to enter a regatta without proper authorisation from the relevant Member Association then that Association cannot be held responsible for the crew and for its actions.

#### **53 RESTRICTIONS ON ENTRIES**

- 53.1 RA Events — No competitor may compete for two different clubs, two different institutes/associations, two different schools or two different states at the same regatta.
- 53.2 Interstate Regatta — No Member Association may enter more than one crew in each event.
- 53.3 Composite Crews — Clubs may, with the approval of the Member Associations with which they are affiliated, enter composite crews in RA Events, unless otherwise specified in other Rules.
- 53.4 Composite Crews — No composite crews shall be allowed in Interstate Events.

#### **54 ENTRIES**

The entry of a crew for a RA Event shall be made in a manner approved by the Board. The entry shall be valid only if all details have been completed. Names shall be shown starting with the bow rower

and finishing with the stroke rower, followed by the coxswain and coach/coaches (if required). The Organising Committee of a RA Event must accept every valid entry made by the closing date.

### **By-Law to RULE 54 — Entries**

- 1 *Entries shall be made in the form approved by the Board and must include:*
  - 1.1 *the name of the Member Association(s) or Member Association(s) with which the competitors are affiliated;*
  - 1.2 *the classification of the event entered;*
  - 1.3 *the name of the Club, Institute or School to which the competitors belong, where appropriate;*
  - 1.4 *the names of the competitors including their positions in the crew;*
  - 1.5 *declare the eligibility of the competitor to compete in the event.*
  
- 2 *The club, institute/association or school who enters a crew shall assume financial liability for that entry, regardless of the affiliation of the members of the crew.*
  
- 3 *No entry shall be accepted if all rowers and the coxswain (if applicable), and the Member Association Club, Institute or School they represent, have not been named in the entry form.*
  
- 4 *As a general rule, no entries shall be accepted in a RA Event after the closing date. However, discretion may be shown by the Technical Delegate for a late entry to be accepted within the Withdrawal Without Penalty period with each request to be considered on an individual basis. Any late entry accepted may have a penalty fee charged on top of the standard seat fee. No entries shall be accepted in a RA Event after the close of the Withdrawal Without Penalty period regardless of the circumstances.*
  
- 5 *Entry Fees:*

*The Organising Committee responsible for the conduct of a regatta may charge such entry fees as are approved by the Board at least six months prior to the regatta.*

## **55 LIST OF ENTRIES**

After the closing of entries a list of entries shall be visible through the online entry platform.

## **56 FALSE DECLARATIONS**

Any false declaration regarding the name, age, classification, club membership or eligibility of a competitor shall result in the removal of the crew concerned from the event or events in which the false declaration regards. The RA Board may apply additional penalties.

## **57 OBJECTIONS TO AN ENTRY**

Any objection to an entry shall be made in writing and lodged promptly to RA. After consultation with the affected parties, the Technical Delegate and the Board shall decide on the objection and if found justified shall reject the entry concerned and will formally advise the affected crew, as well as notifying the Organising Committee.

## **58 WITHDRAWALS**

- 58.1 If a crew or sculler is withdrawn from an event for which it has entered, a representative of the crew shall give as much notice as possible but, in any case, no less than two (2) hours prior to the advertised scheduled start time of the race, in writing, to the Organising Committee or designated regatta administration staff.

- 58.2 A withdrawal once made is irrevocable.
- 58.3 If a crew or sculler is withdrawn within seventy two (72) hours after the close of entries it may do so at no penalty or loss of entry fee. This period will be referred to as "Withdrawal Without Penalty" period. All withdrawals made after this time regardless of reason shall be charged/not refunded the relevant entry fee.
- 58.4 If a crew or sculler fails to start in a race for which it is entered, or fails to provide two hours' notice of such intention not to race the crew shall be liable to a fine of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars Australian (AU\$250).
- 58.5 In the event of a withdrawal the Organising Committee may conduct a new draw.
- 58.6 This Rule also relates to a crew/sculler that withdraws after the first race.

***By-Law to RULE 58 — Withdrawals***

*Withdrawals will only be received by the Organising Committee or designated regatta administration staff.*

**59 CREW CHANGES AFTER THE CLOSE OF ENTRIES AND UP TO ONE (1) HOUR BEFORE THE FIRST HEAT**

- 59.1 Crews – Clubs, Schools and Member Associations may substitute up to one half the number of rowers (as well as the coxswain, if applicable) in all crews originally entered by them.
- In the case of crews at the Australian Masters Rowing Championships a substitute shall not be permitted if the age of the substituting rower would change the age category of the crew concerned to a younger category.
- 59.2 Single Scullers – Subject to Rule 59.3, no substitute is permitted for a single sculler.
- 59.3 A single sculler may be substituted for an Interstate Event. A Member Association shall notify the change through normal substitution procedures.
- 59.4 Crew changes must be made in writing. A crew change is not valid unless the athlete to be changed into the crew is a registered member of the Member Association with which their club/school is affiliated. The athlete must also be correctly listed within the online entry portal.

***By-Law to Rule 59 – Changes after the close of entries and up to one hour before the first heat.***

*Changes and withdrawals will only be received by the Organising Committee or designated regatta administration staff.*

*In addition to the provisions of rule 59.1, in the case of illness of, or injury to, a member of a crew before the first heat, a substitution may be made if a medical certificate is provided by the RA appointed Regatta Doctor or delegate who shall first examine the ill or injured rower. The replaced rower may compete again in the same crew at any point during the competition on production of a further medical certificate, and with the approval of the RA appointed Regatta Doctor or delegate, who shall first make a further examination of the rower concerned.*

*Not more than one half of the rowers in a crew (plus the coxswain, if applicable) may be changed in accordance with this By-Law.*

*Lightweight Crews – where the change involves a lightweight crew which has already officially weighed in then the replacement rower is required to be weighed in racing uniform and meet the relevant weight limits. In such a case the other members of the crew shall not*

*be required to weigh again for the same race, unless as required to meet crew averaging limits.*

## **60 CHANGES AFTER THE FIRST HEAT**

- 60.1 Crews — No change may be made in a crew which has already raced in a heat of its event, except in the case of illness or injury in which case a medical certificate shall be required and the crew change shall be notified in writing to the Organising Committee or designated regatta administration staff. In such a case the change must be approved by the RA appointed Regatta Doctor or delegate, who may require a separate medical examination of the rower concerned. The replaced rower may compete again at any point during the competition on production of a further medical certificate, and with the approval of the same RA appointed Regatta Doctor or delegate.
- 60.2 Not more than one half of the rowers in a crew (plus the coxswain, if applicable) may be changed in accordance with this Rule.
- 60.3 Where the change involves a lightweight crew which has already officially weighed in, then the replacement rower is required to be weighed in in racing uniform and meet the relevant weight limits. In such a case the other members of the crew shall not be required to weigh again for the same race, unless as required to meet crew averaging limits.
- 60.4 Single scullers — No substitution may be made of a single sculler once he/she has competed in his/her heat.
- 60.5 Consequential Substitutions – Where a rower is ill or injured and a substitution is made for that rower using a rower from a second boat (with no doubling up), the rower from the second boat may in turn be substituted in that boat by another rower, even though the rower from the second boat is not ill or injured. This consequential substitution may only occur if the line of substitutions is clearly resulting from the illness or injury of a rower in the first boat in accordance with By-Law to Rule 59 and 60. If the ill or injured rower recovers and is in substituted back into the boat, the rower substituted for the ill or injured rower and any other rower substituted as a consequence of the initial substitution, must then at the same time, and effective immediately, be substituted back into their original boat for the next round of their event. Any replacement rower must be registered member of a club of an affiliated Member Association.

## **SECTION 4. SAFETY AND FAIRNESS**

### **61 GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The principles guiding the Technical Delegate, Organising Committee and the Jury in charge of the regatta shall be:

1. Safety of all competitors
2. Fairness for all competitors

Each individual competitor and team official shall act at all times in accordance with these principles.

### **62 SAFETY — GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- 62.1 An Organising Committee must check all safety aspects of its regatta and impose any further safety measures as appropriate.



- 62.2 During the official opening hours of the course, a medical and rescue service shall be ready to act both on the land and on the water, to the level specified in the RA Medical Services Provisions Policy and agreed to by the Technical Delegate.
- 62.3 The Organising Committee shall announce the official opening day of the course for training (a minimum of one day before the start of all RA Events except Australian Rowing Championships when the course shall be opened at least two days prior to commencement), and shall also announce the opening time and the closing time of the course on each day of training and of racing.
- 62.4 The Board may remove the right to conduct a RA Event if it is not satisfied that the Rules of Racing and By-Laws regarding safety have been observed.
- 62.5 All rowers shall compete in their races in accordance with the Rules in force relating to the safety of their boats, oars, sculls and other items of equipment. In addition it is the responsibility of Member Associations, rowers, coaches Clubs and Schools to ensure that all their equipment is in a suitable condition for the water conditions prevailing during the event. They shall comply with the instructions of the Jury and of the Organising Committee on any matter relating to safety.

At RA Events, all care will be taken to provide the safest conditions possible. However, the ultimate responsibility for safety lies with the Member Association, Club or School for whom the rower is competing and with the individual rower. In this respect RA accepts no legal liability.

***By-Law to RULE 62 — Competitors and Coaches Briefing***

*At RA Events each participating Member Association, Club or School must be represented by at least one person (competitor, coach, manager, etc) at the pre-competition Competitors and Coaches Briefing. This person or persons shall communicate information from the meeting concerning racing and safety to all rowers and coaches in their team. Failure of a Member Association, Club or School to attend the Competitors and Coaches Briefing or communicate information may result in the Member Association, Club or School being penalised by the Board.*

**63 TRAFFIC RULES ON THE COURSE**

- 63.1 The Organising Committee must publish, and display clearly in the boathouse or embarkation area, the traffic rules to be followed to control the movement of the boats on the water. These rules must cover:
- 63.1.1 Traffic rules for training
  - 63.1.2 Traffic rules for racing
- 63.2 It is the responsibility of every rower, coach and team manager to read, to understand and to obey all the traffic rules. In addition the rowers, while warming up or cooling down shall:
- 63.2.1 Not cross the finish line (in any direction) while boats from another race are in the process of finishing;
  - 63.2.2 Stop when competing crews approach their position;
  - 63.2.3 Not follow a race over all or part of the course, even outside the buoyed area, when not taking part in a race.

***By-Law to RULE 63 — Traffic Rules on the Course***

*A copy of the traffic rules must be sent to every Member Association, School or Club entered. The traffic rules must also be published in the official program and large signs must be clearly displayed in the boating area. These signs should be located beside the pontoons where the crews go out on to the water.*

*The traffic rules for training shall identify at least one clear lane of water (13.5m) as a neutral lane between crews travelling in opposite directions on the water. If it is not possible to provide the neutral lane, then the crews travelling in opposite directions must be separated by a "swimming line", or equivalent, as a continuous, physical barrier.*

*The traffic rules for racing shall also cover the warm-up area and the cool-down area. They shall also take into consideration the safe movement of any boat taking part in the victory ceremony.*

## **64 OTHER BOATS ON THE WATER**

During the official hours of training and racing no boat (moving or fixed) shall be allowed on the regatta course or the training areas without the specific authority of the President of the Jury. The President of the Jury shall determine the position and the movement of all approved vessels, i.e. umpires' launches, rescue boats, television boats etc. He/she will also control and approve the personnel and equipment carried on such vessels.

## **65 BLANK**

This Rule is intentionally left blank.

## **66 FAIRNESS — GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

All rowers shall compete fairly, showing respect for their opponents and for the race officials. In particular, they shall be at the start on time, stay in their assigned lane throughout the duration of the race and follow instructions of the officials at all times.

Failure to comply with these requirements may lead to a penalty being imposed on the crew. The race officials shall ensure that the Rules of Racing are applied fairly to all competitors.

# **SECTION 5. THE DRAW AND PROGRESSION SYSTEM TO THE FINALS**

## **67 PROGRESSION SYSTEM**

- 67.1 Should the number of crews taking part in an event exceed that of the available starting positions, the progression system adopted by RA from time to time or time trials shall be used. The draw shall be random unless the Board decides in the case of a major event that the heats should be seeded.

As a general principle, each round of an event should finish at least two hours before the following round of the same event, or at least ninety minutes before the following round of the same event at an Australian Masters Rowing Championships.

- 67.2 The Fairness Committee may alter the progression system at any time. Other than for situations where adverse weather has caused changes, the Fairness Committee will provide ample notice to competitors of any alternative system that will be used.
- 67.3 Modified progression systems may be approved by the RA Board for RA Regattas after consultation with the Organising Committee, and Fairness Committee in the case of the National Rowing Championships.

### **By-Law to 67 — RA Progression System**

*The details of the RA Progression System are set out in Appendix 3 to the Rules of Racing. The system includes Heats, Repechages, Quarter Finals and Semi-Finals and Time Trials. Terminology and abbreviations used shall be as follows: -*

<i>H</i>	= Heat
<i>R</i>	= Repêchage
<i>Q</i>	= Quarter Finals
<i>S A/B</i>	= Semi-finals for Finals A & B
<i>S C/D</i>	= Semi-finals for Finals C & D, etc
<i>S A/B/C</i>	= Semi-finals for Finals A & B & C
<i>S D/E/F</i>	= Semi-finals for Finals D & E & F, etc.
<i>FA</i>	= (Final A) Final for places 1-6 or 1-8
<i>FB</i>	= (Final B) Final for places 7-12 or 9-16
<i>TT</i>	= Time-Trial
<i>ELM</i>	= Eliminated
<i>P</i>	= Preliminary Race

*In the cases where there are options these shall be chosen by a draw.*

*The Organising Committee shall decide whether or not to hold Finals B, C, D, E and so on, together with the relevant Semi-finals. In the cases where there are options these shall be chosen by a draw.*

## **68 THE DRAW**

- 68.1 At RA Events, the draw for each round of racing shall be undertaken under the direction of the Technical Delegate at a place and time nominated by the Technical Delegate. The draw shall be made available to competitors at least 60 minutes before the start of each round of racing for that event.
- 68.2 If an event has a Final only these Rules do not require a preliminary race to determine the lanes for the final and, therefore, the draw for lanes may also take place at the main draw. The Organising Committee may choose to run a compulsory or non-compulsory preliminary race. If a non-compulsory preliminary race is run, preference for lanes will be given to those crews/scullers who compete, crews/scullers that do not compete in this preliminary race for this event will be allocated remaining lanes.
- 68.3 If a crew withdraws after the draw, but before the start of the first heat and if the number of crews remaining in the event involves another variant of the heats and repêchages, or if the withdrawal results in an avoidable imbalance between the number of crews in each heat, the President of the Jury shall supervise a new draw or designate the responsibility to an appropriate person and, if necessary, postpone the race times to allow the redraw to be implemented.
- 68.4 In the case of difficult conditions where delays or postponements are not possible, the system to determine lanes may be modified by the Jury, in consultation with the Fairness Committee, in order to complete the regatta. Any modification will consider the previous results at the regatta in placing crews in the better lanes in accordance with RA rules.

### ***By-Law to RULE 61 — Determining the Lanes (Normal Conditions)***

*Where appropriate the Board shall appoint a Seeding Committee for a particular event. The purpose of seeding is to avoid having all the faster boats in an event being drawn into the same heat in the first round. The Seeding Committee will apply criteria determined by the Board and published in advance.*

*For the heats, a draw shall be held to determine the lane to be occupied by each crew except where the crews have been seeded. . There shall be a random draw for the order of the heats so that the highest seeded crew is not always in heat 1. The seeding order shall only affect the placing of crews in the heats; it shall not be taken into account for any of the later rounds of competition.*

*For the repêchages, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals, the principle is to put the crews with the best placings in their previous round in the inner lanes dependant on weather conditions. Similarly the crews with the lower placings in their previous round are put in the outer lanes dependant on weather conditions. If the crews have the same placings in the heats, repêchages or semi-finals then there shall be a draw to determine their lanes in the next round.*

## **69 WITHDRAWALS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS AFTER THE DRAW**

If a crew withdraws or is excluded or is disqualified after the Draw then the following procedures shall operate:

- 69.1 If the withdrawal, exclusion or disqualification takes place before the start of the first heat or the start of the first repechage, the start of the first quarter-final or the start of the first semi-final of the event the President of the Jury may take the appropriate steps to modify the Draw or to make a new Draw. The result of the race will show the crew as DNS (Did Not Start), EXC (Excluded) or DSQ (Disqualified) and the crew will be placed last in the overall ranking of that event.
- 69.2 If a crew stops rowing during a heat, a repêchage or a semi-final and does not finish the race then the result of the race will show the crew as DNF (Did Not Finish). The number of crews stipulated in the draw will go forward to the next round. The crew that does not finish the race will not race again in the event and will be placed last in the overall ranking of that event. In the case of a problem outside the control of a crew which prevents the crew from finishing a race, the President of the Jury may decide to place that crew last in that race.
- 69.3 If a crew is excluded or disqualified after the start of the first heat of the event, then the result of the race will show the crew as EXC or as DSQ. The number of crews stipulated in the draw will go forward to the next round. The crew that has been excluded or disqualified will not race again in the event and will be placed last in the overall ranking of the event or events.
- 69.4 In any final, if a crew withdraws before the start of the race or if a crew stops rowing during the race and does not finish the race, then the result of the race will show the crew as DNS (Did Not Start) or DNF (Did Not Finish). The crew that withdraws or stops during the race will be placed last in that final.

## **70 TIME TRIALS**

In the case of a very large entry in certain events and/or limited time availability or in adverse conditions, the Fairness Committee may decide to hold Time-Trials instead of or in combination with heats, repêchages, quarter finals, semi-finals and finals as provided below.

### ***By-Law to RULE 70 — Time Trials***

*Depending on the weather conditions and the circumstances under which a decision is taken to hold time trials, the time trials may be conducted (1) as individual heats in accordance with the draw or progression system, or (2) may be conducted as one time trial in which all crews in that round shall compete against each other.*

- 1 *If the Time-Trial System is used for the heats then in each separate heat the highest seeded crew starts first and the second highest seeded crew shall start second. The remaining crews shall start in the order of their lanes, as given from the official draw.*

- 2 *If the Time-Trial System is used for repêchages, quarter-finals, semi-finals or finals then in each separate race the crews shall start in order according to their placings in the previous round. Where two crews have the same placing, (e.g. both were heat winners), then there shall be a draw supervised by the Technical Delegate to determine their starting order.*
- 3 *In the case that a time trial is conducted as one trial for all crews in an event the highest seeded crew starts first, followed by the second highest crew, etc., and after all the seeded crews then the remaining crews shall start in order of a random draw, supervised by the Technical Delegate.*
- 4 *If the time trial is for a subsequent round (repechage, quarter final, semi-final, final) the crews shall start in order according to their placings in the previous round. Where two or more crews have the same time placing in the previous round then there shall be a draw, supervised by the Technical Delegate, to determine their starting order.*
- 5 *Each separate race shall be started at not more than five-minute intervals.*
- 6 *Crews in each race compete in the same lane and shall be started at approximately 30-second intervals.*
- 7 *Crews start with a “flying start” and are timed from the 100m mark. They race 1900m.*
- 8 *If a crew is caught by any crew that starts behind them then they must move out of the lane to allow the overtaking crew to pass safely. Once the crew has overtaken them then they must move back into the original lane.*

## **71 ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

At all RA Events the President of the Jury and Technical Delegate shall be the Fairness Committee, plus a member of the Athletes' Commission in the case of the Australian Rowing Championships, and may after consultation with the appropriate members of the Jury make changes to the program if the weather creates unfair or unrowable conditions. Two members shall form a quorum for the Fairness Committee, one of whom shall be the President of the Jury.

### **By-Law to RULE 71 — Alternative programs in cases of Adverse Weather Conditions**

- 1 *It is the duty of the Fairness Committee to determine that the weather has created, or is about to create, unfair or unrowable conditions. It is then their responsibility to implement the appropriate program from the alternatives described below. In applying these alternatives the Fairness Committee will always consider (1.1), and (1.2)) before considering (1.3) or (1.4).*
  - 1.1 *To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions.*
  - 1.2 *To suspend racing when weather conditions are, or about to become, unfair or unrowable and recommend alternative times for racing;*
  - 1.3 *To re-allocate the lanes for each individual race, using the placings from the previous round to put the crews with the similar placings from the previous round into adjoining lanes and giving the crews having achieved better placings better lanes. Where two or more crews have the same placing in the immediately previous round (e.g. each were heat winners), then there shall be a new draw, supervised by the Technical Delegate, to determine their reallocated lanes. This alternative shall not be used for heats (or in finals of an event where there have been no preliminary rounds or preliminary race).*
  - 1.4 *To implement the Time-Trial System for each individual race, e.g. if there were four heats from the official draw, then there shall be four separate Time-Trial Races.*

*In each scenario, information about the decisions must be communicated to those affected by the decision through their team manager or coach or through other appropriate communication means.*

- 2 *After the Fairness Committee has adopted any of the alternatives above, or has determined that those alternatives are not appropriate solutions, it is the duty of the RA Board or the Technical Delegate to decide whether to implement one of the following solutions in order to continue the regatta:*
- 2.1 *To start racing earlier than previously announced, provided that the announcement of the new times is made by announcement widely on the previous day.*
  - 2.2 *To resume racing at a later time when conditions have improved, after consultation with the Fairness Committee;*
  - 2.3 *To omit a round, or part of a round, of the event (e.g. semi-finals) where adverse conditions have stopped racing for a significant period of time or where the weather forecast indicates that racing that racing will not be possible on any of the remaining days. In such a case the composition of the next rounds will be determined on the basis of the results of those rounds that have been completed and may necessitate more than six crews in each race. Wherever possible the rankings of the crews in the previous rounds will be used as the basis for the composition of the next rounds.*
  - 2.4 *To implement the Time-Trial System for each individual race, e.g. if there were four heats from the official draw, then there shall be four separate Time-Trial Races.*
  - 2.5 *To implement the Time Trial System in which all the remaining crews in a round or rounds of an event compete together in one time trial.*
  - 2.6 *To reduce the length of the race to no less than 1,000 m where conditions are so adverse that no other alternative is possible.*
  - 2.7 *Results from the previous rounds of racing may be used other than in accordance with the normal progression system.*

## **SECTION 6. THE START**

### **RULE 72 AT THE START**

- 72.1 The first 100 metres of the Regatta Course constitutes the start zone. A crew may enter the start zone if permitted by the Starter, but shall not enter the racing lanes until all crews from the preceding race have left the start zone and the Starter has attributed a lane to the crew.
- 72.2 Crews must be attached to their starting positions at least two minutes before the designated start time.
- 72.3 The Starter may start the race without reference to absentees. A crew arriving late at its starting position may be awarded a Yellow Card by the Starter.

### **RULE 73 THE STARTING PROCEDURE**

- 73.1 The Starter shall inform the crews of their starting positions. He shall start the race when the crews are ready and when the Judge at the Start indicates that the crews are correctly aligned.
- 73.2 The Judge at the Start alone shall decide if the boats are correctly aligned and if one or more crews have committed a false start.
- 73.3 Should the Judge at the Start deem there to be a false start or the start to be faulty, the Starter shall stop the race and, if there is a false start, shall award a Yellow Card to the crew or crews which, in the opinion of the Judge at the Start, caused it. A crew causing two false starts or receiving two Yellow Cards which apply to the same race, for any infringement whatsoever, shall be awarded a Red Card and be excluded from the event.

### **By-Law to RULE 66 — The Starting Procedure**

## 1 Starting Procedure (with flags)

Crews must attach themselves to their start pontoons at least two minutes before the starting time of their race. Two minutes before the designated start time, the Starter shall announce "Two minutes" and this shall signify to the crews that they are formally under Starter's orders. The announcement of "Two minutes" shall also be an instruction to the crews to prepare to race i.e. remove additional clothing, check equipment etc.

Before giving the start commands, the Starter shall ensure that the Umpire and the Judge at the Start are ready. When the boats are aligned and the crews are ready to race, the Starter shall make a roll-call by announcing — in lane order — the names of each of the crews in the race. Once the roll-call begins the crews must make sure that their boats are straight. Each crew is responsible for being both straight and ready to race at the end of the roll-call.

Once the roll-call begins the Starter shall take no further notice of any crew which then indicates that it is not ready or that it is not straight. After the last crew has been named in the roll-call the Starter shall check that the Judge at the Start is indicating that the crews are still correctly aligned and shall then say: "Attention".

The Starter shall then raise the red flag.

After a clear pause the Starter shall give the start by dropping the red flag quickly to one side and simultaneously saying: "Go" The pause between the raising of the flag and the start command (dropping the red flag and saying "Go") shall be clear and variable.

If the starting procedure is interrupted for any reason external to the crews or for a false start then the Starter must begin the procedure again, starting with the roll-call.

## 2 Starting Procedure (with traffic lights)

Crews must attach themselves to their start pontoon at least 2 minutes before the starting time of their race. At this stage, the traffic lights on the start pontoon are in a neutral state. Two minutes before the designated start time, the Starter shall announce "Two minutes" and this shall signify to the crews that they are formally under Starter's orders. The announcement of "Two Minutes" shall also be an instruction to the crews, to prepare to race i.e. remove additional clothing, check equipment, etc.

Before giving the start command the Starter shall ensure that the Umpire and the Judge at the Start are ready. When the boats are aligned and the crews are ready to race the Starter shall make a roll-call by announcing — in lane order — the names of each of the crews in the race.

Once the roll-call begins, the crews must make sure that their boats are straight. Each crew is responsible for being both straight and ready to race at the end of the roll-call.

Once the roll-call begins, the Starter shall take no further notice of any crew that then indicates it is not ready or it is not straight. After the last crew has been named in the roll-call the Starter shall check that the Judge at the Start is indicating that the crews are still correctly aligned and shall then say: "Attention".

The Starter shall then press a button (or switch) to change the traffic lights from the neutral position to red. After a clear pause, the Starter shall give the start by pressing a button that shall, at the same moment:

- a) change the red light to green;
- b) make an audible signal through the loudspeakers;
- c) start the timing system for the race;
- d) freeze the picture on the monitor in the Aligner's hut (if freeze frame facility is provided);
- e) release the Alignment Control Mechanism (if provided).

*The pause between the red light and the start command (the green light and the audible signal) shall be clear and variable.*

*If the starting procedure is interrupted for any reason external to the crews or for a false start, then the Starter shall begin the procedure again, starting with the roll-call.*

### **3 Quick Start**

*In exceptional circumstances, the Starter may decide not to use the normal start with the rollcall. If so, the Starter shall inform the crews that the "Quick Start" shall be used. Once the normal start has been used, the Starter shall not change to the quick start for the same race. For the quick start, instead of the roll-call, the Starter shall say: "Quick Start". He shall then say "Attention".*

*The Starter shall then either:*

- a) raise the red flag; or*
- b) press the button for the red light.*

*After a clear and variable pause, the Starter shall give the start either:*

- a) by dropping the red flag quickly to one side and simultaneously saying: "Go"; or*
- b) by pressing the button to turn the red light to green and simultaneously to make an audible signal.*

## **RULE 74 FALSE START**

A crew whose rowers begin rowing and whose boat crosses the start line after the Starter has raised his red flag, or the red light is shown, and before the start command is given has committed a false start and shall be awarded a warning indicated by a Yellow Card. If more than one boat commits a false start, only the crew or crews that the Judge at the Start decides actually caused the false start shall be awarded a warning indicated by a Yellow Card(s).

### **By-Law to RULE 74 – Consequences of a False Start**

*After the start command has been given, the Starter shall look towards the Judge at the Start to satisfy himself that it was a good start. Should the Judge at the Start indicate that this not be so, the Starter shall stop the race by ringing his bell and waving his red flag from side to side. If the traffic lights start system includes both visual and audible signals to indicate a false start then these shall be used (instead of the bell and the red flag) by flashing the red light and sounding the audible signal repeatedly. If traffic lights are used, the Judge at the Start may also initiate both visual and audible sounds to indicate a false start.*

*In the case of a false start, the Judge at the Start shall inform the Starter of the name of the crew or crews to be penalised and the Starter shall award that crew or crews a Yellow Card when they have returned to their starting position by stating "(Name of Crew), False Start, Yellow Card!".*

*The Starter shall instruct the official on the starting platforms to place a yellow marker adjacent to the starting position of the crew or crews at fault. This Yellow Card shall remain in effect until the race has been rowed and shall therefore apply in the case of a postponement or a re-row. A crew which is awarded two warnings (Yellow Cards) applying to the same race shall be excluded (indicated by a Red Card).*

## **RULE 75 OBJECTIONS AT THE START**

A crew excluded or disqualified at the start may make an objection to the Umpire or the Starter at the time. The Umpire or the Starter shall decide immediately on the objection and shall communicate his decision to the crews in the race and to the other race officials.



## **SECTION 7. DURING THE RACE**

### **RULE 76 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ROWERS**

All rowers shall compete in their races in accordance with the Rules. Crews are responsible for their own steering. Each crew shall have a lane reserved for its own use and shall remain completely (i.e., including its oars or sculls) within this lane throughout the race. If a crew leaves its own lane then it does so at its own risk. If it impedes or interferes with any of its opponents or gains any advantage thereby, it may be penalised.

### **RULE 77 INTERFERENCE**

A crew causes interference to its opponents if its oars, sculls or boat encroach into the opponent's lane and cause a disadvantage to its opponents by contact, its wash or other distraction, or in any other way. The Umpire alone shall decide if a crew is in its own lane or if it is interfering with another crew and causing them a disadvantage. If a crew has caused interference to another crew and has, in the Umpire's opinion, affected the finishing position of that crew then it shall be excluded by the Umpire. In the situation where a collision between boats or oars or sculls has occurred the Umpire may exclude the crew causing the collision even if no prior warning has been given to that crew.

In no case may the Umpire alter a placing.

#### ***By-Laws to RULE 77 — Consequences of Interference***

- 1 *Alerting a crew — If a crew is about to interfere with another by its wash or by leaving its lane, the Umpire shall raise his white flag, call to the crew at fault, stating the name of the crew and indicate the required change of direction by lowering his flag to that side. In principle, the Umpire may not steer a crew unless there is an obstruction in its lane.*
- 2 *Stopping a crew — To ensure the safety of the competitors and to prevent damage to boats and equipment, the Umpire may intervene by raising his white flag, naming the crew and giving the command "Stop".*
- 3 *Alerting the Umpire — If, during a race, a crew considers that it is being interfered with by another crew and is suffering a disadvantage thereby, then a member of the crew should, if possible, draw the attention of the Umpire to the interference at the time the interference occurs to indicate that it intends to make an objection.*
- 4 *Remedying a disadvantage — If a crew is placed at a disadvantage, the first priority is to restore its chances of winning. The imposition of any penalties is a secondary priority. Should a crew's chance of winning be lost, the Umpire must take the most appropriate course of action provided by the Rules. He may, for example, stop the race, impose the appropriate penalty and order the race to be re-rowed. Depending on circumstances, he may allow the race to continue and the Umpire will then announce his decision after the race is over. He may not simply penalise the crew at fault while the crew that has suffered interference does not have its chances restored to it.*

### **RULE 78 COACHING DURING RACING**

In addition to the provisions of the By-Laws to Rule 39, it is prohibited to give any instructions, advice or directions to rowers or crews that are racing with any electric, electronic or other technical device, either directly or indirectly from outside the boat.

## **SECTION 8. THE FINISH**

### **RULE 79 FINISH OF THE RACE**

A crew has finished the race when the bow of its boat has crossed the finish line. The race shall be valid even if the crew is incomplete. Nevertheless, a crew of a coxed boat crossing the finish line without its coxswain shall be excluded.

#### **By-Laws to RULE 79 — Finish of the Race**

- 1 *Race concluded - A race is concluded when the Umpire so indicates by raising a white or a red flag.*
- 2 *Official result - The official result of the race shall be determined by the Judge at the Finish and crews shall be ranked in order of the bows of their boats crossing the finish line. Where the Umpire considers that the race was not in order, the Judge at the Finish shall take into account the decision of the Umpire in determining the official result of the race.*
- 3 *Photo-finish – In the case of a close finish the Judge at the Finish shall determine the order of finish by viewing the picture produced by the photo-finish system. The necessary equipment shall be operated by specialists who do not form part of the team of Judges at the Finish. Systems using less than 100 frames per second are not suitable for determining the order of finish. Organisers must provide equipment specially designed for the purpose at all RA Events.*
- 4 *Timing – Intermediate times and finish times shall be recorded to 1/100th of a second. The necessary equipment shall be operated by specialists who do not form part of the team of Judges at the finish. If the finish of the race for each crew can be clearly determined by the naked eye, times taken by hand-operated timing equipment may be used. In the case of a photo-finish the times shown on the results sheets and on the scoreboard shall be taken from the photo finish for all crews in the race.*
- 5 *The race was in order — Even if he is satisfied that the race was in order, the Umpire must check to be sure that no crew is making an objection under Rule 77 or Rule 82 before indicating to a Judge at the Finish, by raising his white flag, that the race was in order. Before leaving the finish area he shall make sure that a Judge at the Finish has acknowledged his signal.*
- 6 *The race was not in order — If the Umpire considers that the race was not in order he shall raise his red flag. If an objection has been raised, he shall speak to the affected crew(s) in order to understand the reasons for the objection. He shall then inform the crews and the Judges at the Finish of his decision. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision.*

### **RULE 80 DEAD-HEATS**

When the order of finish between two or more crews is too close for any difference to be determined, then the result is declared a dead heat between the crews involved.

#### **By-Laws to Rule 80 – Dead-Heats**

*If there is a dead-heat, the following procedure shall operate:*

1. *In a heat, if a dead-heat occurs between crews and if only one of the crews progresses into the next round, then there must be a re-row over the full course between the crews involved. The re-row must take place on the same day as the dead-heat and not less than two hours after the race in which the dead-heat occurred. If all crews involved in the dead-heat progress anyway into the next round, there will be no re-row and their relative positions in the next round shall be decided by a draw supervised by a member of the Jury.*

2. *a repechage, a quarter-final or a semi-final if a dead-heat occurs between crews and if only one of the crews progresses into the next round, it shall be the crew which had the highest ranking in the immediate preceding round. The immediate preceding round shall be the last previous round in which both/all of the dead-heat crews competed. If the crews had the same result in that round then the ranking in the next previous round shall be used for that purpose. If on this basis the results of the crews concerned are identical, then there must be a re-row over the full course between the crews involved. The re-row must take place over the full course, and must take place on the same day as the dead-heat and not less than two hours after the race in which the dead-heat occurred. Where such a dead-heat involves more than two crews and this number exceeds the number of crews advancing to the next round, the above procedure shall be used to determine which of the dead-heat crews shall so advance. If all crews involved in the dead-heat progress anyway into the next round, there will be no re-row and their relative positions in the next round shall be decided by a draw supervised by a member of the Jury.*
3. *In a final, if a dead-heat occurs between crews, then they shall be given equal placing in the final order and the next placing(s) shall be left vacant. If the tied placing is for a medal position then the Organising Committee shall provide additional medals.*

## **SECTION 9. PENALTIES, OBJECTIONS, PROTESTS, OUTCOME OF PROTESTS, APPEALS AND DISPUTES**

### **RULE 81 PENALTIES**

In any case of breach of the rules, a member of the Jury shall impose appropriate penalties. The penalties available to the Jury are:

1. Reprimand;
2. Warning indicated by a Yellow Card;
3. Relegation where specifically provided in these rules;
4. Exclusion indicated by a Red Card (from all the rounds of the event in question);
5. Disqualification (from all events in the regatta).

In cases of exclusion or disqualification, the member of the Jury imposing the penalty may also order a race to be re-rowed with all the remaining crews or with a limited number of the crews should this be necessary, in the Jury member's opinion, to ensure the fairness of the competition.

#### ***By-Law to Rule 81 – Yellow and Red Cards***

*When a warning indicated by a Yellow Card or exclusion indicated by a Red Card is awarded to a crew, the penalised crew shall be informed immediately or as soon thereafter as possible.*

*In the case of a warning indicated by a Yellow Card applying to the next race of the penalised crew for which the crew is not yet on the water, the penalty shall be announced verbally to the crew by the Jury member at the Control Commission at the outgoing pontoon when the crew concerned boats for their next race. It will also be announced by the Starter as part of the start procedure.*

### **RULE 82 OBJECTIONS**

A crew claiming that its race was not in order or was improperly judged may make an objection to the Umpire immediately after the finish of the race and before leaving the finish area by raising an arm. To be valid the objection must be made before the boat has left in the immediate area of the finish line and before the crew disembarks. Such objection may only concern the conduct of the race. The Umpire of the race decides on the objection and communicates his decision to the crews in the race and to the other race officials. A crew excluded or otherwise penalised at the Start may make an objection to the Starter or Umpire at the time the penalty is awarded in accordance with Rule 75.

### **By-Law to RULE 82 — Objections**

*If a crew considers that the race was not in order a member of the crew must raise his arm to indicate that it is making an objection. In this case the Umpire shall not raise any flag but he shall consult with the objecting crew and consider their objection. The Umpire may then decide upon one of a number of alternative actions e.g.:*

- a) *He may over-rule the crew's objection and raise a white flag to signify that he has decided that the race was in order;*
- b) *He may accept the crew's objection and raise a red flag to signify that he has decided that the race was not in order. In this case he must go to the Judges at the Finish in order to give them his decision and any necessary explanations. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision;*
- c) *He may decide to seek further information regarding the objection. In this case, he shall raise a red flag and then take any necessary further steps to resolve the issues relating to the objection, e.g., consult with other officials, consult with other persons, consult with the President of the Jury etc. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision. If there is likely to be a long delay in resolving the objection, the Judges at the Finish may announce an "unofficial" result of the race but with the clear statement "Subject to an Objection".*

### **RULE 83 PROTESTS**

A crew whose objection has been rejected or crews affected by the acceptance of the objection or a crew that has been disqualified or excluded or ruled DNS or DNF, or crews disputing the published results may lodge a protest in writing to the President of the Jury not later than one hour after the Umpire has communicated his decision regarding the objection or, in the case of disputing the published results, one hour after the results have been published. It shall be accompanied by a deposit of \$100 or equivalent, which amount shall be refunded if the protest or appeal is allowed.

The Board of the Jury shall decide if the protest was justified. It will make its decision before the next round of races in the event concerned, and, in any case, no later than two hours after the last race of the day.

As a general rule, in the case of a protest concerning the final of an event, the victory ceremony of that event shall be postponed until after the Board of the Jury has made its decision.

### **RULE 84 THE OUTCOME OF THE PROTEST**

The Board of the Jury shall decide on the protest and on the measures resulting from its decision including:

1. reprimand;
2. Yellow Card (applying to the next round in which the crew is concerned);
3. relegation (where specifically provided for in these Rules);
4. exclusion, indicated by a Red Card (from all the rounds of the event in question);
5. disqualification (from all events in the regatta);
6. re-row (for a specified number of crews).

After application of the appropriate penalty, if any, the Board of the Jury shall take any other appropriate measure to restore the chances of a crew that has suffered a disadvantage.

## **RULE 85 APPEALS**

An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury by a person affected can only be made to the Board on the same day. A decision will be given before the next round of the event concerned. Decisions of the Board under this rule are final.

## **RULE 86 BLANK**

## **RULE 87 EXCEPTIONAL CASES**

Should it be necessary to make decisions in exceptional cases (e.g., postponement of a session of races or suspension of the regatta), the President of the Jury shall appoint and preside over a body to make such decisions, which shall include the Technical Delegate.

## **RULE 88 THE REGATTA REPORT**

The Jury shall carry out its duties until the end of the regatta. The Chair of the organising committee and the President of the Jury shall each write a regatta report which shall include comments on the running of the races and on any incidents and disputes arising in the case of the President of the Jury, and on the conduct of the whole event in the case of the Chair of the organising committee. This report shall be received at RA not later than 30 days after the regatta.

# **SECTION 10. THE JURY**

## **RULE 89 THE JURY**

The Jury shall be comprised of a group of accredited RA Umpires and shall be responsible for ensuring that the regatta is run in accordance with these Rules of racing, related By-Laws and Event Regulations.

## **RULE 90 JURY'S PRIMARY CONCERN**

The safety of rowers must be the prime concern of the Jury at all times during the regatta. In the case of unsafe conditions, the President of the Jury is empowered to take any necessary decisions and communicate any required changes to the Starter and the Umpires on the course. If time allows, the President of the Jury shall consult the Technical Delegate and the organising committee before taking such decisions. The President of the Jury shall ensure proper co-ordination between the Jury and the organising committee.

### ***By-Law to Rule 90 – Collaboration with the Organising Committee***

*The proper running of a regatta requires close collaboration between the organising committee, Technical Delegate and the Jury. The members of the Jury shall, within the scope of their duties, maintain a constant check on the various items of technical equipment on the course.*

## **RULE 91 PRESIDENT OF THE JURY**

The President of the Jury shall allot duties to each member of the Jury and shall supervise their activities. He/she shall take the chair at meetings and ensure proper co-ordination with the Technical Delegate and the Organising Committee. The President of the Jury shall chair the Board of the Jury under Rule 85.

### ***By-Law to Rule 91 – Appointment of the President of the Jury***

*For all RA Events (excluding Selection Regattas/Trials) the President of the Jury will be a member of the RA Umpires Committee or otherwise as appointed by the RA Umpires Committee.*

### **RULE 92 COMPOSITION OF THE JURY**

92.1 The Jury shall be appointed by the RA Umpires Committee and shall consist of persons carrying out the following duties:

92.1.1 President of the jury

92.1.2 Starter

92.1.3 Judge at the Start (Aligner)

92.1.4 Umpire

92.1.5 Judge at the Finish, one of whom shall be the senior judge

92.1.6 Supervisors of the Control Commission.

92.2 All members of the Jury shall be holders of a RA umpire's licence.

### **RULE 93 THE BOARD OF THE JURY**

The Board of the Jury shall consist of the President of the Jury and two other members of the Jury, designated by the President of the Jury on a daily basis prior to the start of each season of racing. The names of the Board of the Jury shall be displayed on the notice boards in the boathouse area each day. This Board shall decide on any protests made according to Rule 83.

The President of the Jury shall also nominate three substitutes. In the case of a protest, no-one directly involved in the dispute (e.g. the umpire or the starter) shall constitute part of the Board which decides that protest. In such a case, the President of the Jury shall call upon one or more of the substitutes.

### **RULE 94 RA UMPIRES**

Any Umpire who has held a Member Association licence for at least three years may become a RA Umpire, provided that:

1. he/she has normal sight and hearing; and
2. he/she passes the examination held by the RA Umpires Committee.

The RA Umpires' licence is valid for a period of four years.

When the holder participates in an Umpires seminar organised by RA, the licence is automatically extended for the next four years. Where such seminars are organised at the request of a Member Association, the association must pay the travel and accommodation expenses of the experts who attend. An Umpire whose licence has expired who wishes to act as an umpire shall take and pass a fresh examination.

### ***By-Law to Rule 94 – RA Umpire's Licence***

*These By-Laws are found in Appendix 4 to the Rules of Racing*

## **SECTION 11. DUTIES OF THE UMPIRES**

### **RULE 95 CONTROL COMMISSION**

The Control Commission shall ensure that the composition of the crews is correct and that their equipment is in order. It shall also assist in the identification of the rowers required to undergo doping tests after their race.

#### ***By-Laws to RULE 95 — Duties of the Control Commission***

*The Control Commission shall include Jury members and appointed technical officials. The number of such Jury members and officials appointed shall take into account the regatta program and the number of competitors. The President of the Jury or his delegate(s) shall supervise the activities of the Control Commission which shall carry out its duties in the boathouse area and at the boating pontoons. In particular, the Control Commission is responsible for checking the following points where possible:*

- 1 Crew changes before the race;*
- 2 The provision of substitutes for competitors who are injured or have fallen ill after their first heat of their event;*
- 3 The correct weighing of coxswains following the procedures required by the Rules of Racing and By-Laws;*
- 4 Dead weight to be carried by coxswains (before and after the race);*
- 5 The correct weighing of competitors in lightweight events following the procedures required by the Rules of Racing and By-Laws;*
- 6 The identity of competitors to ensure that the composition of the crew is the same as the official entry and any subsequent changes which have been approved in accordance with the Rules of racing and By-Laws.*
- 7 At RA regattas where other arrangements are not in place for this purpose, the status and registration of competitors, the ages of Under 17, Under 19, Under 21, Under 23 and Masters competitors and, where applicable, the average ages of Masters crews;*
- 8 Boats and equipment:*
  - a) Compliance with all safety requirements provided for in the Rules of Racing;*
  - b) Correct bow numbers on each boat;*
  - c) possible use of unauthorised equipment;*
  - d) where applicable, minimum weights of boats;*
  - e) conformity of the boat with the rules regarding advertising/identifications;*
  - f) painting of oar-blades where required.*
- 9 Uniform clothing of competitors and its conformity with the rules regarding advertising/identifications;*
- 10 Where doping tests are carried out, the Control Commission is responsible for seeing that the competitors required to undergo tests are taken to the officials responsible for this immediately after getting out of the boat;*

### **RULE 96 THE STARTER AND THE JUDGE AT THE START**

The Starter and the Judge at the Start shall ensure that the correct starting procedure is followed.

## **By-Laws to RULE 96 — Duties of the Starter and the Judge at the Start**

### **1 Starter**

- 1.1 *General Duties — Before taking up his duties, the Starter must satisfy himself that all equipment and installations required by the Rules covering the start and the course are present and in working order. The Starter shall check that the radio and/or telephone communication with the Judge at the Start, the President of the Jury, the Judges at the Finish and the Control Commission is in working order. The Starter shall also make certain that any crews on the water are obeying the prescribed traffic rules.*
- 1.2 *Communication — In principle, the Starter and the Umpire shall use visual signals to convey information. Where verbal communication is necessary, they shall address the rowers in English. If, for any reason, the use of another language enables a member of the Jury to be better understood by a crew, a competitor or an accompanying official, he may repeat his information in that language.*
- 1.3 *Unfair or unsafe conditions — The Starter shall consider whether the wind is likely to create unequal or unsafe conditions and, if directed as described below or after consulting the President of the Jury shall take whatever steps may be necessary in accordance with these rules to ensure a fair and safe race. The President of the Jury shall inform the Starter of any required changes at least two minutes before a start.*
- 1.4 *Information to Crews — The Starter shall inform the crews of the time remaining before the start and tell them (as soon as they enter the starting zone for the first time) in which lane they will race. In addition, he shall inform the crews when there is five minutes, four minutes and three minutes remaining before the start time. He shall check that the competitors' equipment and clothing are in order.*
- 1.5 *Starting Procedures — The Starting Procedures to be employed by the Starter (including Quick Starts and False Starts) are described in in these Rules of Racing.*
- 1.6 *Exclusion — The Starter shall award a Red Card and exclude a crew if the crew has received two warnings, indicated by Yellow Cards, that apply to the same race.*
- 1.7 *Late Arrival — The Starter may award a warning, indicated by a Yellow Card to crews arriving late (less than 2 minutes before the start time) at their starting positions or not ready to race at the designated start time. He may exclude a crew arriving after the start time.*
- 1.8 *Postponement — Should it be necessary to postpone a race (e.g. equipment breakage) or should some other unexpected event occur (e.g. lightning), the Starter shall consult with the Umpire and the President of the Jury; then inform the crews of the new starting time. The Starter shall inform the Control Commission and the Judge at the Finish of the new starting time and the President of the Jury of anything unusual. In all cases, crews must inquire from a member of the Jury regarding any changes before getting out of the boat.*

### **2 Judge at the Start**

- 2.1 *Communications — Before taking up his duties, the Judge at the Start shall ensure that the radio and telephone link with the Starter and between the aligner and the officials on the starting platforms is in working order. The Judge at the Start sits at the front of the aligner's hut, in line with the start line.*
- 2.2 *Aligning — The Organising Committee shall appoint the aligner and the officials on the starting platforms as required. The aligner instructs these officials to adjust the position of the boats until they are correctly aligned. If a separate person, the aligner sits behind the Judge at the Start, in line with the start line, seated on a higher (30cm) chair or platform, looking over the head of the Judge at the Start.*
- 2.3 *The Judge at the Start checks that the aligner has positioned all the boats with their bows exactly on the start line. When he is satisfied that this is the case he indicates this to the Starter by raising his white flag. (Where a white and red light are available for this*



*purpose, the Judge at the Start shall use these lights in place of the white and red flags.) Should correct alignment be lost during the subsequent starting procedure he shall lower his flag or switch off the white light until the boats are realigned.*

- 2.4 *False Start — The Judge at the Start, the Starter and the Umpire shall follow the procedure outlined in Rule 74.*
- 2.5 *Contact with the Umpire — Before the start, the Judge at the Start shall make contact with the Umpire to assure himself that the latter is ready.*

## **RULE 97 THE UMPIRE**

The Umpire shall ensure the proper conduct of the race and the safety of the rowers. In particular, he shall endeavour to ensure that no crew gains any advantage or suffers any disadvantage from its opponents or from outside interference.

Where the Umpire is satisfied that a crew has been significantly impeded, the Umpire shall endeavour to ensure that its chance of winning is fully restored to it. He shall impose appropriate penalties on crews at fault but only after a previous warning. The Umpire shall not give any steering indications to crews. Nevertheless, he shall endeavour to ensure that accidents are avoided and to prevent crews from being impeded by their opponents.

If necessary, the Umpire may stop the race, impose any necessary penalties and order the race to be re-rowed from the start, either immediately or later. In the latter case, he shall decide on the new starting time in consultation with the President of the Jury and he shall inform the crews concerned.

The Umpire may also allow the race to continue and exclude crews after the race has finished. He may confine any re-row to such crews as he shall designate. However, when the Umpire considers that the impediment has not affected the result of the race, or considers the effect of the impediment was not significant, he may decline to order a re-row of the race or of the crews involved in the incident.

Zonal Umpiring – The Board may decide that at a RA event, advised through the Technical Delegate, umpiring of some races shall be carried out from boats which are stationary or which do not follow the whole race or by umpires stationed on the land adjacent to the course, and shall issue instructions and guidelines accordingly.

### ***By-Laws to RULE 97 — Duties of the Umpire***

- 1 *Precedence — Except for the duties specifically attributed to them, both the Starter and the Judge at the Start are subordinate to the Umpire.*
- 2 *Duties on the Way to the Start — On the way to the start, the Umpire shall inspect the course installations to ensure that they are in proper order and shall satisfy himself that there are no obstacles on the course or wash from other motor boats affecting the course. He also makes certain that any crews on the water are following the prescribed traffic rules. Should he find any defect in the installations or any other problems, he shall inform (e.g. by radio from the start if necessary) the President of the Jury and he shall also inform any crews concerned.*
- 3 *Duties during the Starting Procedure — During the starting procedure, the Umpire's launch should in principle either be immediately beside the Judge at the Start or behind the crews, in the centre of the course. Should the start for any reason be faulty, other than for a false start for which the Judge at the Start is alone responsible, the Umpire may order the Starter to stop the race or may stop it himself by ringing a bell and waving his red flag.*
- 4 *Duties in the Start Zone — As soon as the race has started, the Umpire's launch shall follow immediately the competitors in the centre of the course.*

*Position of the Umpire's Launch — During the race, the Umpire must ensure that his launch is so placed as best to enable him to take action as effectively as possible. The position of the Umpire's launch depends on the progress of the race and the progression of the crews to subsequent rounds; it may also depend on weather conditions. The Umpire must satisfy himself that crews whom he may wish to address can hear him. Should it be necessary to overtake one or more crews, he must see to it that they are not hampered more than is necessary by the wash of his launch.*

- 5 *Type of Race — The Umpire's decision may be influenced by the type of race (heat, repêchage, quarter-final, semi-final or final). He must therefore take this factor as well as the position in the subsequent races into account in considering any action which he may take under these rules.*
- 6 *Safety — The Umpire shall take every care to ensure the safety of the competitors and he must do his utmost to prevent damage to boats and equipment. When necessary, he may call a crew's attention by raising his white flag, stating the name of the crew, and stop it by giving the command "Stop". Should one or more competitors fall into the water or should any boat capsize or sink, the Umpire must satisfy himself that the rescue service is in action and, if not, take any necessary measures himself*
- 7 *Adverse Weather — In the case of squalls or sudden deterioration of the weather, it is the responsibility of the Umpire to decide if the race may be started, is to continue or if it is to be stopped. The safety of the competitors is more important than any of the provisions of the Rules of Racing.*
- 8 *Clothing — When officiating, the Umpire shall stand upright in his launch and wear the prescribed clothing.*
- 9 *Overall Ability, Coaching — The Umpire must keep himself informed on rowing questions in general. As coaching with electric, electronic or other technical devices is not allowed during racing, the Umpire must make a regular check on the area adjacent to the course.*

## **RULE 98 JUDGES AT THE FINISH**

The Judges at the Finish shall determine the order in which the bows of the boats cross the finish line. They shall ascertain that the race was in order. They shall be responsible for validating the results.

### **By-Laws to RULE 98 — Duties of the Judge at the Finish**

- 1 *Duties - The duties of the Judges at the Finish are as follows:*
  - 1.1 *determine the order in which the bows of the boats cross the finish line;*
  - 1.2 *satisfy themselves that the Umpire has indicated, by raising his white flag, that the race was in order and to indicate to the Umpire acknowledgement of his signal by raising a white flag or displaying a white light;*
  - 1.3 *list the crews in their correct order of finish;*
  - 1.4 *check that the official results on the result sheet and on the scoreboard are correct.*
- 2 *The senior Judge at the Finish shall sign the official record of the results.*
- 3 *Position — In order to enable the officials in the finish tower to carry out their duties correctly, they must be seated one behind the other and one above the other along the projection of the finish line. As a general rule, there shall be at least two judges, one of them the senior judge, at the finish.*

## **PART VII MEDICAL PROVISIONS**

### **Rule 99 – Health of Rowers**

The health and safety of the participants in the sport of rowing is of utmost concern. Rowing Australia has adopted a Medical Management Policy created a process of managing an athlete's medical information that aims to best serve both the athlete and the sport. At all times the athlete's well-being is of utmost importance and the principle of confidentiality of medical information remains paramount. The Medical Management Policy can be found on the RA website.

#### ***By-laws to Rule 99 – Health of Rowers***

##### *1. Pre-competition Health Screening*

*As of 1 January 2014, all athletes competing in any regatta under the auspices of RA must undergo, if directed by the Board, a pre-competition health screening which includes a questionnaire, an annual physical examination and ECG following the IOC's recommended procedure.*

##### *2. RA Principal Medical Officer (PMO)*

*All requirements for the Health Screening will be conducted under the direction of the RA PMO or their nominee who shall be a qualified health practitioner.*

##### *3 Intravenous re-hydration*

*Any lightweight rower who has been re-hydrated intravenously after the weigh-in and before the start of the respective race shall not be allowed to start.*

##### *4 Injections (No-Needle Policy, available on the RA website)*

*During RA Regattas (from 24 hours before the start of the first race of the Regatta through to 24 hours after the end of the last race at such regatta), any injection to any site of an athlete's body of any substance:*

###### *4.1 must be medically justified.*

*(i) Justification includes physical examination by a certified medical doctor (M.D.), diagnosis, medication, route of administration and appropriate documentation;*

###### *4.2 must respect the approved indication of the medication = no off label;*

###### *4.3 must be administered by a certified medical professional unless authorised by the RA PMO or appointed Regatta Doctor; and*

###### *4.4 must be reported immediately and in writing not later than 24 hours afterwards to the RA Principal Medical Officer or appointed Regatta Doctor or qualified medical practitioner (except athletes with a valid TUE for this competition). The report must include the diagnosis, medication and route of administration. The disposal of used needles, syringes and other biomedical material which may affect the security and safety of others, including blood sampling (e.g. lactates) and other diagnostic equipment shall conform to recognised safety standards.*

*Any violation of one of these principles may constitute a violation of the RA Rules and may lead to penalties including exclusion of the crew concerned or, where appropriate, disqualification of the whole team from the regatta. The Board is the judicial body which shall determine the process to be followed. The costs of any investigation related to this rule may be charged to the individual concerned.*

## **PART VIII ANTI-DOPING RULES**

### **RULE 100 ANTI-DOPING**

Doping is strictly prohibited.

The fight against doping in rowing is regulated by the World Anti-Doping Code, which the RA Board has formally adopted as RA rules and that the RA Board has the power to clarify and/or supplement, by appropriate By-Laws.

In rowing, for those who infringe doping provisions, a penalty may be imposed extending to, in a relevant case, a life ban from all competition.

#### ***By-Laws to RULE 100 — Anti-Doping***

*These By-Laws are found in Appendix 5 to the Rules of Racing, being the RA Anti-Doping Policy, which can be found at [www.rowingaustralia.com.au/ra-rules-of-racing-and-related-by-laws/](http://www.rowingaustralia.com.au/ra-rules-of-racing-and-related-by-laws/).*