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Jury Support Program- Royal Canadian Henley Regatta:

The program has been in place since 2004. The intent of the program was to provide opportunities for umpires from across the country and in Ontario, those outside the Niagara Region, to develop their skills as well as to take back to their home province different practices which could be shared in their home province. The intent of the program was **to expose different umpires** each year to the regatta that would allow for the development of a greater number of umpires in Canada.

The current format is that the RCA Umpire Committee solicits nominations from each province to select up to 18 Umpires for the RCHR Jury. The composition of the 18 umpires is as follows:

- 2 – British Columbia,
- 2 – Prairie Provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba),
- 10 – Ontario (outside of the Niagara Region),
- 2 – Quebec,
- 2 – Atlantic Provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island)

Over time, the program has moved away from its intended purpose of developing Umpires and many of the same umpires are coming on a regular basis, some year after year.

With a focus on providing experience to developing Umpires, the following recommendations are being made with the expectation that they be implemented for the 2018 RCHR.

1. The Supported Jury Umpire program for the RCHR would have a maximum of 14 umpires selected each year.
2. A minimum Level 2 Licensed Umpires who have had their license for less than six years are eligible for consideration.
3. An Umpire may be selected up to two times within a five year period, but can NOT be selected two years in a row.
4. Supported Jury Umpires will be required to arrive at the regatta venue at a time that will allow them to attend the Jury meeting the Monday evening of the regatta week, or at the time set by the Chief Umpire if changed from the Monday evening of the regatta week. Supported Jury Members will depart Sunday evening. (Those unable to secure travel home Sunday evening, will be expected to travel the Monday following the regatta)
5. The regatta will typically run on two shifts that will last approximately 6 hours each shift, each day of the regatta for Jury members. The Supported Jury members shall work a minimum of one shift to a maximum of one and half shifts each day.
6. Associate Umpires who are prepared to write the RCA exam, may be considered for selection to be a Supported Jury member, but in being selected, will be required to complete the RCA

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Canadian Paralympic Committee/ Comité paralympique canadien

Umpire Exam at a date and time during the regatta week as determined by the Chief Umpire and the Provincial Rowing Association.

7. The Chief Umpire and Assistant Chief Umpire will be selected by the Royal Canadian Henley Joint Commission and not be considered part of the Supported Jury Program.
8. The Chief Umpire will participate in the selection process.
9. A joint review of this program will be conducted by the Henley Joint Commission and the RCA Umpires Committees every three years. If these recommendations are accepted, the review will be conducted based on how well these recommendations have been implemented.

The program has two levels of participation:

Level A - a Maximum of six (6) Umpires from BC, AB, SK, MB, QC, NB, NS, PE, NL and Northern Ontario would be eligible for the Supported Jury Program. For Level A Umpires, the program would include:

- Accommodations for 5 or 6 nights, depending on return destination (based on double occupancy)
- Flight and transportation costs to and from YYZ, YTZ or YHM to St. Catharines. (All travel shall be booked through RCA and all efforts will be made to coordinate flights to assist with travel to and from St Catharines.)
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided by the Organizing Committee
- Up to \$30/day expense allowance for dinner (No alcohol and with original receipts)

Level B - a Maximum eight (8) Ontario Umpires (living at least 75 km from St. Catharines, Ontario, one-way)

- 4 Umpires arrive Monday in time for the jury meeting and work at least one shift Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning
- 4 Umpires arrive Thursday and work at least one shift Friday, Saturday and Sunday

For the eight Ontario umpires, the program would include:

- Accommodations for 3 nights (based on double occupancy)
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided by the Organizing Committee
- Up to \$30/day expense allowance for dinner (No alcohol and with original receipts)
- Mileage in accordance with the RCA Travel Policy. (If the jury member must rent a vehicle, vehicle rental will NOT be covered.)

***Up to two of the Ontario umpires could be experienced L2 umpires brought in to assist with mentoring, as determined and nominated by ROWONTARIO in collaboration with the Chief Umpire.**

The rationale for the proposed changes is to

1. Return the program to its original intended purpose of providing development opportunities for umpires to improve their skills and to enhance knowledge transfer to Umpires across Canada.
2. The cost of the program is no longer sustainable in its current form. The revised program will result in improved cost control measures and optimal impact for developing umpires.
3. Recognize that the Umpire cadre is aging, and provide an opportunity for new, younger umpires to gain valuable on-the-job experience at a complex and challenging regatta