

Weather Action Plan Row Ontario Cup September 14, 2024

Weather Action Plan for events held at Ottawa Rowing Club, Ottawa, ON:

This weather plan provides an outline of the steps to be taken in the event that weather conditions become a safety concern.

The Safety Advisor shall monitor the weather forecast through web sites (radar, local weather stations and local weather forecasts), as well as by phone with One on One Environment Canada Weather.

Call the Storm line toll free at 1-800-463-9463.

1.0 The Safety Advisor will consult some of the following websites, as required:

- a) [Environment Canada \(Ottawa\)](#)
- b) [Accuweather Radar \(Ottawa\)](#)
- c) [Wind finder \(Gloucester-Ottawa\)](#)
- d) [Sail Flow \(Ottawa\)](#)
- e) [The Weather Network - hourly forecast, and radar forecast \(Ottawa\)](#)
- f) [Environment Canada Lightning Map \(Ontario\)](#)

1.1 Initiating the Weather Action Plan procedures:

The Safety Advisor will review, with the Chief Umpire and Regatta Chair, the weather status – before the regatta, and during the regatta, as required, when notified conditions are changing for the worse. The Weather Action Plan is set into action when:

- 1.1.1 The Chief Umpire shall determine that action is required to ensure safety. The required actions may include the following:
 - a) Holding additional boats from launch and finishing the race on course;
 - b) Immediately calling all crews off the water; or:
 - c) Continuing to monitor weather and reviewing additional data.
- 1.1.2 If action is required the following are the responsibilities of the Regatta Chair and Chief Umpire:
 - a) Chief Umpire informs the Jury (Control Commission, Race Umpires, and start line/finish officials) of the action plan and will instruct the Control Commission to monitor and account for all boats on the water by club or crew. The Chief Umpire will also communicate the Weather Action Plan to the Safety Boats on the water.
 - b) The Regatta Chair informs the Organizing Committee of the action plan. The Regatta Chair ensures that a public announcement is made regarding the action plan.

1.2 Procedure for Evacuation from Water During Racing:

1.2.1 Race Umpire:

The Race Umpire will account for all crews on and off the water.

1.2.2 On the Ottawa RC Docks (Launching and Docking Area):

- a) The Chief Umpire, or delegate, will notify all persons on or near the launching/docking/finish area that they are to pull all boats out of the water to a safe position and move to shelter.
- b) The Umpires will assist to ensure crews quickly exit launch area. During course closure, Umpires will allow boats to dock wherever appropriate to ensure quick egress from the water to shelter.

c) The Chief Umpire will monitor all crews on the water and communicate with Race Umpire to ensure all crews are accounted for.

1.2.3 Race Umpire and Safety Boats:

The Race Umpire and Safety Boats will monitor crews back to the docking area and will monitor the last crew back to shore and then move to safety.

1.2.4 Coordination of All Umpires:

The Chief Umpire, Regatta Chair and Race Umpire will confirm all crews, Umpire boats, safety boats, and others are safely off the water.

1.3 Procedure for Evacuation from Water During Practice:

1.3.1 At the Launching and Finish Area:

a) The Chief Umpire, or delegate, will notify/announce to all persons on or near the docking area that they are to pull all boats out of the water to a safe position and move to shelter.

b) During course closure, boats will be allowed to dock wherever appropriate to ensure quick egress from the water to shelter.

c) The Chief Umpire will monitor all crews on the water and communicate with safety boats and Coaches to ensure all crews are accounted for.

1.3.2 Safety Boats:

The Safety Boats will monitor crews back to the docking area and will monitor the last crew back to the shore and then move to safety.

1.4 Following Evacuation from Water:

The Chief Umpire and Regatta Chair will review options related to the weather and make an announcement as soon as possible regarding any delays.

1.5 Delay Contingency Plan:

The Chief Umpire can reschedule races earlier or later in the day for safety reasons in the event of bad weather. Any changes in the schedule will be announced by the Organizing Committee. It is the responsibility of the crew and club coaches to monitor and stay current with the schedule.

Any changes required by a weather delay will supersede the published related requirements of the RCA Rules of Racing. During the condensed schedule, the Chief Umpire has the discretion to determine whether a crew is in a competitive position from previous rounds of that event. If the Chief Umpire determines this is not the case, the Race Umpire can make the call to exclude that crew from any subsequent races and remove them from further competition in that event. No allowance will be made for athlete conflicts due to reducing time between races, and substitutions will only be allowed when approved by the Chief Umpire.

1.6 Schedule Change Options Due to Weather Delay:

Races may be run with reduced time between races until sunset to complete the schedule. Racing will not take place after sunset.

The Chief Umpire, in consultation with the Regatta Chair, will decide on the requirements of the schedule change. The Regatta Chair will communicate with the Organizing Committee, and will ensure announcements are made and communicated to all areas of the regatta (Control, public, Start/Finish).