

The Central Ontario Rowing Association

Emergency Action Plan - 270 Colbourne Street, Welland, ON

1.0. Weather Action Plan for CORA Welland Regatta:

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

The Chief Umpire or Regatta Chair will monitor 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.

1.1 The Chief Umpire or Regatta Chair will consult some of the following websites as required:

- a) Environment Canada Western Lake Ontario: www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/marine/forecast
- b) Exeter Radar (North): www.ontarioweather.com/current/radar/ontario/exeter
- c) King Radar (West): www.ontarioweather.com/current/radar/ontario/king
- d) Buffalo Radar (South): <http://radar.weather.gov/radar>
- e) Wind finder (Port Weller): www.windfinder.com/forecast/port_weller
- f) Sail flow: www.sailflow.com/windandwhere.iws
- g) The Weather Network (hourly forecast, and radar forecast): www.theweathernetwork.com
<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/ca/hourly-weather-forecast/ontario/welland>
<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/ca/hourly-weather-forecast/ontario/st-catharines>
- h) Airport Forecast:
<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/en/airport/us/new-york/niagara-falls-intl-airport/current>

1.2 Initiating the Weather Action Plan Procedures:

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

1.2.1 The Chief Umpire and Regatta Chair determine that action is required to ensure safety.

The required actions may include the following:

- a) Holding additional boats from launch and finishing the races on course, or:
- b) Immediately calling all crews off the water, or:
- c) Continuing to monitor weather and review additional data.

1.2.2 If action is required, the following are the responsibilities of the Regatta Chair and Chief Umpire.

- a) Chief Umpire informs the jury (Control Commission, start line, race umpires, and finish) of the action plan and instructs the Regatta Control Commission to monitor and account for all boats on the water by club or crew. The Chief Umpire will also communicate the action plan to the Safety Advisor for safety boats on the water.

- b) The regatta Chair informs the Organizing Committee and the Committee Directors of the action plan. The Regatta Chair ensures that a public announcement is made regarding the action plan.

1.3 Procedure for Evacuation from Water:

1.3.1 Control Commission:

The Control Commission will account for all crews on and off the water. The Control Commission will monitor and record all crew names and follow up with crew coaches to ensure all crews are off the water.

1.3.2 At The Starting Line:

- a) Umpire boats at the start will notify/announce to all persons in the starting area that they are to return to the launching area or take shelter in the starter's tent on land.
- b) The Starter will observe all crews at the start including warm-up area to ensure they have been informed of the plan and start heading back to the launching area. Starter will designate an umpire boat to follow the last crew back to the launching area.

1.3.3 Umpire and Safety Boats:

Umpire boats and safety boats will follow crews back to the launching area and are to be the last off the water.

1.3.4 At the Finish Line:

Chief Finish Judge will monitor all crews at the finish and in the last 50m area and communicate to Control Commission to ensure all crews are accounted for.

1.3.5 At the Launch Docks or Area:

Dock Marshals will ensure crews quickly exit launch area. During course closure, the Dock Marshall will allow boats to dock from either direction ensuring that docking shells do not crossover docking patterns.

1.3.6 Coordination of All Officials:

Chief Umpire, Regatta Chair and Chief of the Control Commission will confirm everybody (crews, umpire boats, safety boats start personnel and others) are safely off the water.

1.3.7 Following Evacuation from Water:

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

13.8 Delay Contingency Plan:

The CORA Regatta Organizing Committee 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 Control Commission. (This will also include shortening the length of races) 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 Race Umpire has the discretion to determine whether a crew is maintaining a competitive position in the race. If the Race Umpire determines this is not the case, the Race Umpire can make the call to exclude that crew from the

race and direct them to remove themselves from the course. No allowance will be made for athlete conflicts due to reducing time between races and substitutions will not be allowed.

1.4 Schedule Changes 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 Regatta Chair and Chief Umpire will decide on the requirements of the schedule change. The Regatta Chair will communicate with the Regatta Committee, committee Directors and ensure announcements are made and communicated to all areas of the regatta (Control Commission, public, starter and finish).

Niagara Regional Police Dept. 5 Lincoln Street Welland Ontario L3C-5H9 905-714-1680	Welland Fire Dept. 636 King Street Welland Ontario L3B-3L1 905-735-9922	Niagara Emergency Medical Services Paramedics Dispatch 905-984-5050 or 911
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