

**MANITOBA ROWING ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP POLICY
MARCH 2016**

GENERAL SUMMARY

The purpose of the membership policy is to outline the classifications, benefits and details of membership with the Manitoba Rowing Association for all athletes, coaches, officials, clubs, board members and general members.

REGISTRATION

Manitoba Rowing Association membership year is from April 1st – March 31st.

Club Membership Fees will be invoiced in April of each year by the Manitoba Rowing Association Executive Director. The fee associated with Club Membership is \$200 annually. This can be amended from time to time as needed.

Clubs are responsible for registering each individual athlete on the Rowing Canada Aviron registration website (<http://rowingcanada.org/member-services/registration>). The Manitoba Rowing Association will charge a fee of \$10 per athlete registered. These fees will be invoiced by the Manitoba Rowing Association Executive Director in both April and October of each year. All Club and Athlete Membership Fees must be paid in full by the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Registration of athletes, coaches, officials and general members will be accepted throughout the year.

BENEFITS OF BEING A CLUB WITH THE MRA

1. Recognition of being a member of a Provincial Sport Organization through Sport Manitoba and the Manitoba Government
2. Recognition of members in various capacities with respect to awards, grants and scholarships
3. Allocated bingo funding
4. Insurance for your club members from Rowing Canada Aviron and Sport Manitoba
5. Various funding, grant and scholarship
6. Coach education and development
7. Umpire education and development
8. Being part of the sport of rowing: its traditions, its events such as the Western and Canada Summer Games and the Olympics, and participating in various capacities including as an umpire, coach, athlete, administrator and volunteer.
9. Volunteer opportunities to contribute to sport in Manitoba

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

Any member or club of the Manitoba Rowing Association shall be held in “good standing” if they have paid the appropriate fees for the current membership year. In addition, the membership status of any member of MRA in violation of the constitution, by-laws or policies shall be reviewed and decided upon by the Board of Directors. All members are considered to be members in good standing at all times, however, Voting Members, Probationary Members, Individual Members and Honorary Members may be considered “members not in good standing” at the board’s discretion upon a majority vote. Votes may be held for breach of any Manitoba Rowing Association policy, or the non-payment of any debt owed to the Manitoba Rowing Association, any action deemed so inappropriate, or offensive that it warrants reprimanding by the Association. The Board may use any means deemed appropriate to sanction the offending member including but not limited to the loss of rights to vote, to attend competitions or compete as an athlete representing Manitoba, an honorary status, or any financial benefits conferred on the member by the association.

Any member not in good standing by MRA shall be recognized as such by Rowing Canada Aviron and all other provincial / territorial sections.

The following information must be reported for each individual & club as appropriate:

REQUIRED INFORMATION:

- Last name, First name
- Address, City, Province, Postal Code
- Telephone number and Email address
- Birth Date
- Gender
- Member Category (or categories)
- Club Name

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS

Competitive Rowers:

- a. compete at rowing regattas as defined in the RCA Constitution, being any rowing race or races held on the water [or, in the case of the “ergometer races”, on land] between two or more clubs, or to which individuals or crews are invited who do not participate in rowing activities at the host club. Excluded as rowing regattas are internal club meets and interclub training and selection sessions.
- b. compete in a category recognized in the RCA Rules of Racing including:
 - Pare Rower (PR)
 - Coxswains (CX)
 - Junior A & B (JA & JB)
 - Lightweight (LT)
 - Masters (M)
 - Senior (S)

- Under 23 (U23)
- Masters (category AA and up)

Further information regarding the competitive categories above can be found in the RCA Rules of Racing available at the RCA website.

<http://www.rowingcanada.org/coaching-and-umpiring/rules-racing>

or

<http://www.rowingcanada.org/sites/default/files/rcarulesofracing.pdf>

Sport Rowers:

All rowing categories other than those categories recognized in the RCA Rules of Racing including:

- a. High School (HS) participants who compete only at high school events, defined as being events open only to high school participants rowing for their school;
- b. Novice rowers who compete only in novice events at regattas.

Sport Rower Categories:

- Pararowing (PR)
- Corporate Challenge (CC)
- High School (HS)
- Learn-to-row (LTR)
- Novice (N)
- Recreational (R)
- Touring (T)

Umpires:

In the sport of rowing, an umpire (at times referred to as an official) is defined as a person who watches a game or match closely to enforce the rules and arbitrate on matters arising from the play.

Board Members:

The Board and its members shall administer the affairs of the Manitoba Rowing Association (MRA) in accordance with its constitution and by-laws. The Board shall consist of no fewer than eight (8) members being; the President, Vice President Administration, Vice President High Performance, Vice President Domestic, Vice President Marketing/Fundraising, The Secretary, Past President and one representative from each of the member clubs. Matters to be determined by the Board members will be decided by a majority. In the event of a tie, the chairperson of the meeting will have a second or casting vote.

The Executive members of the MRA Board will consist of the President, VP Administration and the Secretary.

Coach:

In order to be a coach with the Manitoba Rowing Association, one must first create an account and register with RCA as a coach, register in 'The Locker', obtain/verify pleasure draft operating

license and provide a copy of this to the Manitoba Rowing Association. Once these steps have been completed, they can begin their coaching education through the RCA, MRA and Sport Manitoba system. In addition, all coaches must follow the coaching code of conduct set out by MRA.