



Southern California Outrigger Racing Association

RACE RULES

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Code of Ethics

We are all responsible to promote good sportsmanship and fair play in the activities we engage in. This means observance of these race rules as well as generally accepted rules of behavior and all governmental laws.

Paddlers are to avoid situations where a canoe is deliberately rammed, where there is deliberate interference with another crew, where assaults and/or abusive language are used.

Coaches are required to support and enforce these race rules and to avoid any circumvention of these rules.

Officials and Officers are required to do their best to be fair and not biased in their decisions and in carrying out their duties.

All non-paddler that are in any way affiliated with any club are required to abide by good sportsmanship standards.

Violation of the Code of Ethics shall be referred to the Race Committee for disciplinary action, i.e., fines, suspensions, etc.

General Statement of Rules

Rules cannot be made to cover every situation. These rules cover the major areas of past problems. Whenever situations come up that are not covered, in the course of deliberating considerations should be given to the following:

- **What are we trying to avoid or promote?**
- **Does the proposed penalty match the seriousness of the violation?**
- **Would most people agree the rule is fair?**
- **Does the rule apply equally to large and small clubs?**
- **Is the rule clear and easily understood?**
- **Does the rule generally help or hinder what we are about; that is, the racing of canoes?**

1.0 Events, Scoring ,Fees, and Awards

1.1 Regatta Divisions (approximate order of events)

OC1 Juniors (19 and under) Women
OC1 Juniors (19 and under) Men
OC1 Novice (1st year paddlers) Women
OC1 Novice (1st year paddlers) Men
OC1 Open Women
OC1 Open Men
OC1 Masters Women (age 40 and up)
OC1 Masters Men (age 40 and up)
OC6 10 and under Girls *amended season 2015*
OC6 10 and under Boys *amended season 2015*
OC6 12 and Under Girls
OC6 12 and Under Boys
OC6 14 and Under Girls
OC6 14 and Under Boys
OC6 16 and Under Girls
OC6 16 and Under Boys
OC6 19 and Under Women
OC6 19 and Under Men
OC6 Novice Women
OC6 Novice Men
OC6 Master Women (age 40and up)
OC6 Master Men (age 40 and up)
OC6 Senior Master Women (age 50 and up)
OC6 Senior Master Men (age 50 and up)
OC6 Golden Masters Women (age 55 and up)
OC6 Golden Masters Men (age 60 and up)*amended 2015*
OC6 Open B Women
OC6 Open B Men
OC6 Open A Women
OC6 Open A Men
OC4 Women
OC4 Men

1.2 Regatta Distances

OC1 500 meters/1500 meters
OC6 1000 meters (12 and Under)
OC6 1000 meters (14 and Under)
OC6 1000 meters (16 and Under)
OC6 1000 meters (19 and Under)
OC6 1000 meters - Novice
OC6 1000 meters - Master Women (40and up)
OC6 2000 meters - Master Men (40 and up)
OC6 1000 meters - Senior Master Women (50 and up)
OC6 2000 meters - Senior Master Men (60 and up)
OC6 2000 meters - Golden Masters Men (60 and up)
OC6 2000 meters - Golden Masters Women (55 and up)
OC6 1000 meters - all open heats
OC6 2000 meters - Open B Finals (Women and Men)
OC6 3000 meters - Open A Finals (Women and Men)

1.3 Iron and 9-man Divisions

1.3.1 Iron Divisions

OC6 15-19/ boys (short course) see note 1
 OC6 15-19/ girls (short course) see note 1
 OC6 19/under Men (long course)
 OC6 19/under Women (long course)
 OC6 Novice Women - Bradley *amended 2007 season*
 OC6 Novice Women – Spec *amended 2007 season*
 OC6 Novice Men -Bradley *amended 2007 season*
 OC6 Novice Men – Spec *amended 2007 season*
 OC6 Master Women – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Master Men – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Master Men – “unlimited” *amended 2015*
 OC6 Master Women – “unlimited” *amended 2015*
 OC6 Senior Master Women – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Senior Master Men – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Golden Master Women - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Golden Master Men - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Open Short Course (concurrent with novice) See Note 2.
 OC6 Open Women - Bradley
 OC6 Open Women – SCORA Spec
 OC6 Open Women – “unlimited” *amended 2011*
 OC6 Open Men - Bradley
 OC6 Open Men – SCORA Spec
 OC6 Open Men – “unlimited” *amended 2011*
 OC6 Novice Coed - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Open Coed - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Open Coed – “unlimited” *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Master Coed – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Elite Men Short Course – any crew with at least 2 paddlers registered to race a second race at the same event.
 Non-awardable *Amended 2017*
 OC6 Elite Women Short Course- any crew with at least 2 paddlers registered to race a second race at the same event. Non awardable *Amended 2017*

MINI IRON Division: (limited to specific locations predetermined by Race and Keiki Committees)

Amended season 2015

OC6 10 and under Girls and Boys
 OC6 12 and under Girls and Boys
 OC6 14 and under Girls and Boys

Note 1: This division is for experienced youth paddlers only. Novices are not permitted in this Division. Coaches should pay special attention to the ability, fitness, knowledge and safety of their paddlers when deciding to enter a crew in these races. Any crew that is deemed unprepared or unable to safely complete the course in a timely manner will be returned to the finish line early and will be under critical review by the Race Committee before it will be allowed to enter another race that season. This division is NOT for all keikis. Typically, these races will be between three and five miles of continuous paddling and water conditions are not always ideal and flat. As in all other divisions, paddlers in these races must be well trained in righting an overturned canoe

Note 2: OPEN Short Course – run concurrent with novice on the novice course. OPEN paddlers, mens/womens teams only, (no coed) see amendment footnote at end of this document. This is an awardable division *Amended December 2009*

Note 3: All Junior age group teams are currently required to race in Spec canoes. Prior to race day every attempt should be made to acquire a spec canoe. If the club is unsuccessful, that coach can petition the RC requesting to race in an UL canoe, if that is the only canoe type left on the beach. The race Chair will do everything possible to facilitate fair racing in “like” canoes; if impossible to get a full fleet of same weight canoes, the ULs can race but not be eligible for awards. *Amended 2015*

1.3.2 9-man Divisions

OC6 Master Women – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Master Men – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
 OC6 Master Men – “unlimited” *amended 2015*
 OC6 Master Women – “unlimited” *amended 2015*

- OC6 Senior Master Women – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 203 season*
- OC6 Senior Master Men – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
- OC6 Golden Master Women - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
- OC6 Golden Master Men - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
- OC6 Open Women – Bradley
- OC6 Open Women – SCORA Spec
- OC6 Open Women – “unlimited” *amended 2011*
- OC6 Open Men – Bradley
- OC6 Open Men – SCORA Spec
- OC6 Open Men – “unlimited” *amended 2011*
- OC6 19 and under men *amended December 2009*
- OC6 19 and under women *amended December 2009*
- OC6 Coed - any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*
- OC6 Coed “unlimited” *amended 2013 season*
- OC6 Master Coed – any canoe hull equal to or over 400 lbs raced equally *amended 2013 season*

1.4 Scoring of Regatta Races

For open Division only - Open “A” Final competition and “B” Final competition points will be as follows:

Open “A” Finals (Women and Men)

1st place	-	8.0 points
2nd place	-	7.0 points
3rd place	-	6.5 points
4th place	-	6.0 points
5th place	-	5.5 points
6th place	-	5.0 points
7th place	-	4.5 points

Open “B” Finals (Women and Men)

1st place	-	4.0 points
2nd place	-	3.5 points
3rd place	-	3.0 points
4th place	-	2.5 points
5th place	-	2.0 points
6th place	-	1.5 points
7th place	-	1.0 point

Every team contributes to their club point status, even if they finish last. The club with the most points for the day receives 1 point for the Regattas, second place receives 2 points, etc...The overall lowest scoring club wins the State Championships for the season.

For all other divisions, points will be as follows:

1st Place	-	5 points
2nd place	-	3 points
3rd place	-	2 points
4th place	-	1 point

This point system does not consider multiple entries. Therefore, please refer to Section 1.6 “Multiple Entries” below.

1.5 Ties (Regattas)

1.5.1 In the event of a tie in any one event, the total points of two placing teams shall be equally divided.

1.5.2 In the event of a tie in overall points, the team with the most first place point wins, shall be declared

the first place winner for the day. If the number of first place wins are tied, then the team with the most second place wins shall be declared the winner for the day. This rule shall continue to apply for all other places.

1.6 Multiple Entries (Regattas)

For clubs submitting more than one entry per division, the following shall apply:

- 1.6.1 In areas permitting all entries to compete in one race, the points and awards shall be as follows:
 - 1.6.1.1 First crew of a club placing shall receive points contributing to the overall total for the day and awards for the winning place.
 - 1.6.1.2 Second crew of a club placing, shall only receive awards for the winning place and not contribute to the days totals.
 - 1.6.1.3 Multiple entry rules shall NOT apply to Open A & B Divisions and junior boys and girls.
- 1.6.2 When more than one heat of the same division must be conducted, the overall winners will be determined by a final heat. The finalists will be determined by placement in heats.
- 1.6.3 Clubs with multiple entries shall limit themselves to two canoes per classification in all divisions except "Open" and junior boys and girls
- 1.6.4 Unofficial crews are not allowed in the racing field. The Racing Field is defined as the perimeter bounded by the lane flags.
- 1.6.5 Junior, Boys and Girls crews may include as part of their crew other Junior, Boys and Girls paddlers who have raced in other regatta events during the race day, but no more than 3 paddlers who have raced previously or who will participate in other race events that day may be a part of the Junior crew.

1.7 Multiple Entries (Long Distance)

- 1.7.1 An "open" paddler may race in as many races as he or she qualifies for. All registration and race fees apply per division entered. Novices may race in a novice race and a non-novice race in one day but cannot steer the non-novice crew. In addition, no more than three novices who previously raced in the day can be in any non-novice crew, and neither of them may steer. *Amended December 2009/ January 2016*

1.8 Race Fees

- 1.8.1 A "per paddler" race fee shall be charged at each SCORA sanctioned race in accordance with the fees fixed by the Board of Directors of SCORA.
- 1.8.2 Disbursement
Host clubs hosting an event shall be entitled to reimbursement of race related expenses, Appendix "C" defines host club responsibilities, fines and procedures.

1.9 Awards

- 1.9.1 Regattas/Sprints: 1st through 3rd place will be acknowledged with suitable awards for each paddler. 4th place will be acknowledged (awards optional).
- 1.9.2 Long Distance: 1st through 3rd place will be acknowledged with suitable awards for each paddler. 4th place will be acknowledged (awards optional)

- 1.9.3 As a courtesy, coaches should contact host clubs with their intentions to enter Golden Master, and 19, 16, 14, and 12 and under age groups.
- 1.9.4 Award Allocation Table. Race Committee will conduct a preseason survey and end of season review of all SCORA clubs to assist race hosts in determining the amount of awards for their races based on the following:

1.9.4a Allocation Table

- 1 entry no awards
- 2 entries 1st place only
- 3 entries 1st and 2nd place
- 4 entries 1st thru 3rd place
- 5 entries 1st thru 3rd with 4th place optional

2.0 Classification of Paddlers

2.1 Age Group Divisions

- 2.1.1 12 and Under: Any paddler who will not reach his/her 13th birthday in the calendar year of competition.
- 2.1.2 14 and Under: Any paddler who will not reach his/her 15th birthday in the calendar year of competition.
- 2.1.3 16 and Under: Any paddler who will not reach his/her 17th birthday in the calendar year of competition.
- 2.1.4 19 and Under: Any paddler who will not reach his/her 20th birthday in the calendar year of competition.
- 2.1.5 Masters: Any paddler who will reach at least his/her 40th birthday during the calendar year of competition.
- 2.1.6 Senior Masters: Any paddler who will reach at least his/her 50th birthday during the calendar year of competition
- 2.1.7 Golden Masters: Any paddler who will reach at least his 60th /her 55th birthday during the calendar year of competition. *Amended 2015*

2.2 Other Divisions

- 2.2.1 Novice Men/Women: Any male/female paddler who is a first year paddler and has not raced in any race sanctioned by a recognized outrigger association in any prior year.
- 2.2.2 Open Men/Women (A, B, OC4, Bradley, SCORA Spec, "Unlimited/UL"; Coed): Any male/female paddler participating in any OC6 division in a given event.
- 2.2.3 Coed Crew Defined: A coed crew for Iron divisions must consist of at least 1 but no more than 3 men; A coed crew for 9-man divisions must consist of at least 1 and no more than 4 male paddlers at any time. *Amended December 2009*

2.3 Division Rules

- 2.3.1 Formation of New Divisions: Any request for forming a new division must follow the SCORA Race Rule Proposal submission procedures. (see policy)
 - a. Three clubs must join in the proposal requesting a new division
 - b. Two separate clubs must enter to hold a race.
- 2.3.2 **JUNIOR TEAMS ONLY.** Short course, sprints, iron and 9man races- clubs are allowed to enter mixed gender 19and under teams. The entry will be in the "Boys/Mens" Division and it is awardable. *Amended season 2015/2016/2017*

3.0 Eligibility To Race

3.1 Paddlers

- 3.1.1 Any male or female who is a member of a recognized SCORA member club is eligible to participate, subject to registration requirements and other requirements as set forth in the Race Rules and Bylaws of SCORA. *amended 2007 season*
- 3.1.2 A paddler is ineligible to transfer to another association club during the racing season unless an official release is obtained. This release should be a written release by the presiding officer of the parent association club.
- 3.1.3 At the start of any season, before competition, paddlers will be free to change clubs providing they do not have club property or are in debt to the parent club.
- 3.1.4 Any paddler who feels he/she has been unjustly restrained from legitimate transfer/release between association clubs, may petition to the Race Committee to render a decision.

3.2 Clubs

- 3.2.1 Any club which is an accredited member of SCORA, and has complied with the SCORA membership dues payment provision and other requirements as set forth in the SCORA By-laws, shall be eligible to compete in SCORA sanctioned racing events. Distance and/or invitational races will have specified eligibility rules. Any club which is not a member of SCORA may be eligible to race only if they meet the following two requirements prior to racing 1) they must provide proof of membership in another recognized outrigger association. 2) they must provide an acceptable certificate of insurance (COI) naming SCORA and its member clubs as Additional insured. Any Club that is not a member, but holds regular practices within SCORA's traditional geographic area (Mexico/US Border to Monterey/San Luis Obispo county line to Las Vegas and Arizona) shall pay an increased race registration fee.
Amended December 2011/Amended season 2015/2017
- 3.2.2 **Guest Members:** Individuals, crews, or clubs who do not belong to a SCORA Member Club, may apply for Guest Membership, as defined in SCORA By Law 4.02.01, for participation in up to 1 race per year. Prospective Guest Members must complete and submit an Guest Membership Application Form prior to any race that they intend to participate in. That application must be reviewed and approved by a majority of the SCORA Race Committee prior to race registration being completed. Guest Members shall have no voting rights, shall have membership status for only 1 race per year, and shall pay increased participation fees. *Amended 2017*

4.0 Registration

- 4.1 Registration of all paddlers participating in age limit races is subject to verification by the Race Committee and/or other race officials. If requested, valid proof of age must be made available by the Club's presiding officer for paddlers entered by the Club in age limit races. Failure to provide proof of age may subject that particular team to disqualification at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 4.2 Failure to register on SCORA Approved Forms and pay fees on the day of any event will subject the club to a fine of \$50.00 in addition to any race fees, late registration changes and other penalties at the discretion of the Registrar and Race Committee Chairperson(s). Awards will be withheld pending payment of all race fees, fines, and other penalties at the discretion of the Race Chair
- 4.3 All long distance (Iron and 9-man) crew entries must register at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the day's first race. Any crew entry failing to register at the designated time may not participate in the day's events. Any crew that races in violation of the registration rules will be disqualified from the day's events and, in addition, may be monetarily penalized, determined to be ineligible to race a future race, or both, at the discretion of the Race Committee.
- 4.4 All participants, helpers, officials and volunteers must sign an approved Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Assumption of Risk form before they may participate in a SCORA-sanctioned event.
- 4.5 Clubs will not be allowed to compete if they are not in compliance with the SCORA membership dues structure unless arrangements have been made with the SCORA President and signed

approvals have been accepted by the Race Committee.

- 4.6 A list of paddlers and their signed Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Assumption of Risk documents shall be present at all SCORA-sanctioned events. These lists and Assumption of Risk documents shall be submitted for inspection by the Race Committee, Registration staff, and race officials on the proper form to the designated registration officer on or before the date so appointed by the registrar officer. Only the Race Chair(s), Race Committee, registration staff, and race officials shall have access to these forms at the event.
- 4.7 All race lists submitted prior to the race day will be kept as the official classification of each paddler. These lists must be present at all races.
- 4.8 In the case of Regatta events, each participating club will give notice to the Seeding Committee of the number and classification of crew entries at least two (2) days prior to race day to facilitate the timely seeding of division races and heats.
- 4.9 Any additions or classification changes to crew entries on the day of a Regatta event shall be subject to a \$10.00 filing fee in addition to registration fees paid to the Registrar. Changes that effect lane assignments, heats or otherwise impact race scheduling shall only be allowed by petition to and at the discretion of the Race Chairperson(s).

5.0 Equipment

5.1 Canoe Specifications

- 5.1.1 Bradley – The canoe must have been built entirely from one of the original Bradley molds. The hull of the canoe must remain unaltered.
- 5.1.2 SCORA Spec – Any canoe that meets the current SCORA Specifications. Canoes in the Bradley Division (see 5.1.1) are not included in this classification.
- 5.1.3 UL- Unlimited – Any canoe that meets “general canoe specifications” outlined below, regardless of weight

5.2 Canoe Specifications - General

- 5.2.1 Hulls of canoes used in SCORA-sanctioned races can be made of any material.
- 5.2.2 All long canoes built after 1986 will be subject to HCRA Canoe Specifications (1984). All Boat Spec recommendations and memorandums to date are listed in Appendix A.2 and have been accepted by SCORA Race Committee as the final decision.
- 5.2.3 Names, colors, weight certifications, SCORA canoe specifications and proof of General Liability insurance must be on file with SCORA and maintained by the Race Committee through its appointed Race Secretary.
- 5.2.4 No attachable fins, keels, or other devices that aid in steering or shall be allowed.
- 5.2.5 All canoes shall be numbered and identified in accordance with the “SCORA List of Certified Canoes”, (Appendix A.1). The numbers shall be on both sides of the canoe bow and stern, at least 6” in height and 1” stroke width and remain on both sides of the canoe (bow and stern) at the start and end of the race. These numbers must be white on black, or black on white. The numbers must be in bold font. No cursive or italics. *Amended 2017*
- 5.2.6 All “Spec” and Bradley canoe hulls must weigh a minimum of 400 pounds. Hull weight is inclusive of seats, wai’s, seat pads, spray-skirt tracks and permanently attached weight. Rigging, amas, iakos and spray covers are not to be included in hull weight.
- 5.2.7 All canoes must be equipped with a 100’ tow-line attached to the forward wai as instructed by SCORA Safety Officials at Annual Safety and Coaches clinic. *Amended 2010.December*

5.3 OC-1/OC-2 Specifications

See Appendix D

5.4 Paddles

Paddles must be of a single blade design.

5.5 Miscellaneous

- 5.5.1 Canoes, paddles, rigging, etc., not meeting the safety specifications may not be used in SCORA races, and the ruling of the Race Chairperson(s) on this matter shall be final. The Race Chairperson(s) may call for the weighing and inspection of canoes at his/her discretion.
- 5.5.2 Any crew using non-standard equipment during a race will be subject to disqualification. The Race Chairperson(s) or the Safety Chairperson(s) may conduct inspection of equipment at any time.
- 5.5.3 All canoes must have six (6) USCG approved PFD's during races.
- 5.5.4 A 5 gallon bailing bucket in addition to a smaller bailing bucket must be aboard all canoes during races. Canoes may also be equipped with any additional bailing system.
 - 5.5.4a Penalties for non-compliance of safety equipment in or on the canoe: time will be added to finish time initially, after subsequent violations a monetary fine may be imposed. *Amended 2017*
- 5.5.5 Manu to manu spray covers may be required at the discretion of the Race Committee.
 - 5.5.5a Canoes with positive flotation throughout the hull (most unlimiteds) may be exempt from spray skirts at the Race Committee's discretion. *Amended 2017*
- 5.5.6 Any additional accessories shall be petitioned to the Race Committee for discussion and approval.
- 5.5.7 Crews shall wear the same color and design jersey or rash guard during races, however, coed crews may wear jerseys of dissimilar color. Jersey must be worn at start and finish of race. *-2014*
- 5.5.8 It shall be the responsibility of the club fielding a crew in a race to see that their crew members wear like racing jerseys or rash guards, however, non-club crew members who join the crew to temporarily fill out the crew for a race event may wear their home club jersey or rash guard. *-2014*

6.0 Officials

6.1 Race Chairperson(s)

6.1.1 The position of Race Chairperson is an elected position per the Bylaws of SCORA.

6.1.2 The Race Chairperson shall:

- a. preside at and serve as the Race Director for all races sanctioned by SCORA
- b. enforce and abide by the Race Rules of SCORA at such races.
- c. be responsible for approval of the race course(s), and the race day schedule of racing events, and shall have authority to change the race course if conditions cause the initial race course to be unsafe.
- d. sign all race official documents of SCORA concerning race day procedure.
- e. have authority to interpret and enforce the Race Rules, levy fines and other penalties as set forth in the Race Rules and in any instance where the reputation of the Association is suffering degradation by a member of the Association. The Race Chairperson's decision shall be final, unless upon petition, the Race Committee overrules the decision by a majority vote.
- f. submit reports to the Board of Directors of SCORA in accordance with the Bylaws of SCORA;

6.2 Race Secretary:

- 6.2.1 The Race Secretary shall be appointed by the Race Committee.
- 6.2.2 The Race Secretary shall:
- a. retain all records of SCORA sanctioned races
 - b. be responsible for updating and maintaining the race rules and all race forms and distributing them to all Member Clubs of SCORA
 - c. be responsible for administrative duties as deemed necessary by the Race Committee and/or the President of SCORA.
 - d. be responsible for working with the timing officials to collect race results data and for posting the results in a timely manner.
 - e. be responsible for maintaining and timely publishing any amendments to the Race Rules, attending all Race Committee meetings and prepare meeting minutes in accordance with the bylaws of SCORA.

6.3 Race Registrar

- 6.3. The Race Registrar, and registrar assistances as may be needed, shall be appointed by the Race Committee:
- 6.3.2 The Race Registrar shall:
- a. manage all registration needs at all scheduled sanctioned races of SCORA.

6.4 Race Committee

- 6.4.1 Committee Make Up: The Race Committee shall consist of not less than 6 and no more than 8 individuals recommended by the Race Chairperson and approved by a majority of the Board of SCORA.
- 6.4.2 The Race Committee Duties:
- a. The Race Committee shall preside and officiate at all Association sanctioned races scheduled by the Association. Sanctioned races shall include the following: races are conducted in accordance and compliance with SCORA Race Rules, SCORA Safety Policies and all other policies and guidelines adopted by SCORA concerning racing. All other recognized events that are not sanctioned but requested, shall abide by the SCORA Safety Policies and SCORA Guidelines including the filing of the proper Insurance Forms adopted by SCORA in a timely manner.
 - b. The Race Committee shall act upon all petitions and protests submitted in accordance with Sections 8.0 and 11.0 and shall render a decision as soon as possible, not to exceed seven (7) days following the submission of the petition or protest. The decision of the Race Committee on matters within its authority shall be binding and final.
 - c. The Race Committee, through its appointed Race Committee secretary, shall be responsible to timely publish meeting calendars and deadlines for submission of race rule revisions and bids for races.
 - d. The Race Committee shall be responsible for assigning lanes or when applicable, making arrangements for the drawing of lanes
 - e. The Race Committee shall be responsible for inspecting equipment when required and maintain the SCORA canoe registry.
 - f. The Race Committee members shall have in their possession at every SCORA-sanctioned race a copy of the most current Race Rules.
 - g. The Race Committee shall monitor insurance requirements for all non-SCORA visiting teams/clubs in accordance with the Race Rules.
 - h. The Race Committee may cancel or terminate a race at any time by majority vote. The reimbursement or subsidy of costs incurred by the Host Club in sponsoring a canceled, terminated or inadequately attended race, will be addressed on a race-by-race basis by the Race Committee and subject to approval by the SCORA Board of Directors.
 - i. The Race Committee shall be required to assist the Race Chairperson(s) in any matter deemed necessary by the Race Chairperson(s) to promote and properly conduct SCORA-sanctioned and

scheduled races.

j. The Race Committee shall submit reports to the Board of Directors of SCORA in accordance with the Bylaws of SCORA; *Amended 2007*

k. In situations not covered by these rules, the Race Committee shall, in the course of deliberating, give consideration to the guiding principles contained in the Preamble: General Statement of the Rules, in its decision-making. *Amended December 2009*

6.5 Additional SCORA Race Officials shall be appointed as needed by the Race Chairpersons and/or Race Committee and identified at the beginning of each race day.

6.5.1 Each club will provide two (2) persons to make up a Volunteer pool, to be called upon to be Officials at SCORA events. Each person will attend instruction classes prior to the racing season. *amended 2007/2015*

6.5.2 A fine of \$25 will be levied against any club not furnishing their required volunteers on race day. The fine will be increased to \$50 for each offense thereafter. If no names are submitted by a member club that club's Board of Director will fill the volunteer's duty for that race day. *Amended 12.2009/2.2015*

6.5.3 Race Officials that are requesting certification shall attend classes or show proficiency to obtain certification in the expertise as listed in Appendix B in these rules. Those shall have gone through performance classes and have been so certified by the standards set by the Race Committee that are listed in the Officials Policy of the Association. *Amended season 2015*

7.0 General Racing Rules

7.1 Starting: All starts will be in accordance with the instructions from the Starter. Starting of races may be any of the following types:

a. Voice Start, typically "Paddles across the gunnels, Paddles up, Start!"

b. Dropping a series of flags, typically:

-Red Flag Up, signaling approximately 5 minutes until start.

-Red Flag Waiving, signaling approximately 15 to 20 seconds until start.

-Red Flag Down/Green Flag Up, signaling start paddling, race begins.

c. Shot of starter's gun, or loud blast of horn.

7.2 Recall

7.2.1 Reasons for recall:

7.2.1.1 Breakage of equipment within the first 10 seconds. This must be signaled by the raising and waving of a paddle by any crewmember. It shall be the duty of the Race Committee Official to check all recalls, and report their findings to the Race Chairperson(s) before a race shall be re-run. Any crew causing an illegal recall may be automatically disqualified at the discretion of the Race Official. The ten-second period shall be determined by the Starter.

7.2.1.2 Swamping of a canoe within the first ten seconds of a race.

7.2.1.2 Failure to follow the Starter's instructions, such as deliberately paddling contrary to the instructions or crossing the starting line before the starting signal, may subject a crew to a time penalty.

7.2.2 Stalling: A lagging canoe shall have no right of protest on the ground of unfair start in the event the race is started. However, a lagging canoe shall not be deprived of a recall for swamping, capsizing, or equipment breakage.

7.3 Turns - Right of Way

The lead canoe in the turn has the right of way. Any collision in or around the turn will be cause for disqualification or time penalty. For definition of "lead canoe" see Section 13.4 - Overlap.

7.4 Unofficial Crews

An unofficial crew is one that is not in compliance with section 3.0 of the race rules and/or has not complied with the registration requirements as set forth in the Race Rules.

Unofficial crews are not allowed on the designated race course of any SCORA sanctioned race.

7.5 Designated Race Course

The designate race course is defined as the field of racing canoes in an imaginary diamond whose sides are defined by the lead canoe, the hindmost canoe, the first canoe on the farthest left and the first canoe on the farthest right.

8.0 Protest

8.1 Protest Fee: A fee of \$50.00 shall accompany any protest filed. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned to the club filing the protest. If the protest is not upheld, the fee will go into the SCORA treasury. The \$50.00 fee may be billed to the protesting club and must be paid no later than the next SCORA-sanctioned event or meeting.

8.2 All decisions by the Race Committee regarding protests shall be final.

8.3 All properly filed protests shall be presented to the Race Committee by the Race Committee Chairperson(s) upon the finish of that particular race. Protests must be filed by a coach or his representative on official forms provided by SCORA. Coaches or crews involved in a protest shall be notified immediately. While the Race Committee is hearing and apprising itself of the facts surrounding the protest, only coaches, officials involved and/or other persons designated by the Race Committee Chairperson(s) shall be present. After the hearing is completed, the Race Committee Chairperson(s) shall immediately exclude all non-voting persons. The Race Committee shall deliberate on the testimony and evidence and render a decision. Protests which have been acted upon become a part of SCORA's permanent record.

8.4 The Race Committee Chairperson(s) shall announce the Race Committee's decision in accordance with the requirements specified in Section 6.1.3 - Officials.

9.0 Penalties

9.1 Any violation of the Race Rules may result in a fine, the disqualification of the crew or crews involved or a determination of ineligibility to participate for a period of time in the future, or any combination thereof, at the discretion of the Race Committee.

9.2 The penalty for entering an unofficial canoe or for failing to remove an unofficial canoe when asked to do so by an official will result in a fine. (To be determined by the Race Chair and committee) *amended 2007 season*

9.3 During regatta races, clubs will be allowed a maximum of ten minutes to have their succeeding crew at the starting line ready. The 10 minutes will commence when the last finisher from the previous heat crosses the finish line. Failure to observe this may disqualify a crew

9.4 The penalty assessed for each touching of the flag violation in regattas, shall be the addition of three (3) seconds to the finish time of the crew.

9.5 The penalty assessed for interference, finishing in the wrong lane, turning on the wrong flag, false start, or violations called by a Race Official shall be the addition of seconds according to the length of the race as follows:

500 meter race	5 seconds
1000 meter race	6 seconds
1500 meter race	7 seconds
2000 meter race	8 seconds
3000 meter race	9 seconds

Long Distance Races: 1 minute for every 5 miles of the race (or any portion thereof)

Penalties on Novice long distance races shall be 1 minute for every 5 miles raced (or any portion thereof).

9.6 A disqualification may be called by a Race Official with the approval of the Race Committee Chairperson(s).

9.6.1 In the event a Race Official witnesses a gross and/or willful violation of these rules and/or willful unsportsmanlike conduct, then that Race Official may exercise his or her sole and absolute discretion and disqualify the offending crew or individual.

9.6.2 The coach or representative of the canoe club which has been disqualified will be notified by a race official before public announcement. *Amended 2017*

9.7 Escort/ Spectator Boat Violations

9.7.1 The penalty for an escort or spectator boat entering the field of racing canoes without permission of the Race Chairperson(s) and/or the Race Committee shall be the addition of 15 minutes to the canoe that the boat is escorting. *—amended December 2006*

9.7.2 The second warning by a Race Official or the Race Chairperson(s) to an escort boat to keep away from a canoe, or any other infraction, may cause the disqualification of the canoe the boat is escorting.

9.7.3 No escort or spectator boat identified with a racing team can assist the team by proceeding to flatten the water, or follow closely enough to create a wake to push the canoe.

9.7.4 No escort/spectator boat shall impede the progress of any other canoe in the racing field. Failure to adhere shall cause disqualification of the team the boat is escorting.

10.0 Illegal and Ineligible Paddler

10.1 For purposes of definition, the following shall apply:

10.1.1 Illegal Paddler - Any paddler who has not met the conditions specified in the Race Rules under Registration and Eligibility and who paddles as part of a crew in a SCORA-sanctioned event.

10.1.2 Ineligible Paddler - The name submitted on the race list or roster and the person actually paddling the race differ.

10.2 The penalty for a club using an illegal or ineligible paddler shall be disqualification of the crew and a fine of \$50.00. The fine must be paid by the canoe club and until paid, the club may not enter any further event in a regatta on race day, nor any further regattas or races. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this disqualification and the fine must be paid.

10.3 A crew of a canoe club who proceeds on the water to enter an event without permission shall be warned and asked to leave the course. Failure to do so will involve a \$50.00 fine or disqualification of the entire crew, or both.

10.4 The second offense of using an illegal or ineligible paddler during the same calendar year shall be a disqualification and a fine of \$100.00. The fine of \$100.00 must be paid by the canoe club and until paid, the club may not enter any further event of a regatta on a race day, nor any further regatta or race. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this disqualification and fine, which must be paid.

11.0 Petitions

11.1.1 A petition is a written request, submitted to the Race Committee for its approval concerning any race related matter therein set forth.

11.1.2 Any and all petitions must be submitted to the Race Committee, in writing, along with a \$50.00 fee, no later than the date so appointed by the Race Committee, and the Race Committee shall render its decision at the same time.

12.0 Flat Course/Modified Regatta Rules

A Modified Regatta is raced on a closed course with lanes and includes all divisions in their own events. It should be visible and spectator friendly, and the races should be over short distances.

12.1 Course:

The official SCORA race course shall be 500 meters in length and shall be laid out in equal lanes, preferably 100 feet wide, and not less than 80 feet wide. Each lane shall be identified at both ends by a colored flag, which will be the same color at both ends. Flags for the designation of lanes shall remain the same color for all regattas. With the exception of OC1 and 1,500 meter events, all races will be started and finished from the same end of the course.

12.1.1 All turns shall be left around assigned lane flags. All parts of the canoe must pass the turn line. The canoe may not touch any flag. Touching of any flag during a race shall constitute a three-second penalty per infraction.

12.1.2 Lane width is defined as the full lateral distance between adjoining flags. All canoes must remain in their own lanes while passing the lane flags, which shall be to the left of each canoe. Canoes shall keep in their respective lanes as closely as possible throughout the race and in no way may they interfere with other participating canoes. Where two canoes approach each other from opposite directions within the same lane, each canoe must occupy as nearly as possible the one-half width of the lane nearest its own line of flags so that the canoes pass each other hull to hull.

12.2 Alternative Format

Alternative Format, or "sprint" racing, shall be any form of short-distance racing other than traditional flat course racing.

12.2.2 Proposal to do Alternative Race shall be made by SCORA Affiliate Club on Race/Bid proposal.

12.2.1 Course and race format shall be approved by SCORA Race Committee.

12.3 Swamping: A canoe that swamps during a regatta race may be bailed out by its crew and allowed to continue in the race. Outside assistance will disqualify a crew. All canoes must finish with a full crew of six (6) members.

12.4 Drawing of Lanes and Entries:

12.4.1 The Seeding Committee, which Committee shall be appointed by the Race Chair, shall receive entries and conduct the assignment of lanes.

12.4.2 An entry for a six (6) man crew will include six paddlers and alternates not to exceed three (3). The same three alternates may be used for all classifications in which they qualify.

12.4.3 Clubs will be required to submit a roster of crews to be raced during the regatta to the Race Committee no later than the date agreed upon by the Race Committee, according to Section 4.0, prior to the start of the first race of any scheduled regatta. No rosters will be accepted after the time mentioned above. Names will not be changed after the rosters have been turned in. Names not on the roster will not be allowed to compete in an official status.

13.0 Open Sea (Distance) Races - Additional Rules

Note: When sanctioned races are held in open seas, the foregoing rules shall apply in addition to the following:

13.1 Starting of Race

- 13.1.1 When each club entry and their escort boats have been checked in, the Race Committee shall call a meeting of all inspectors, coaches, and/or crew captains prior to the start of the race for the purpose of final instructions on the race and other pertinent matters.
- 13.1.2 The race will be started by the Official Starter.
- 13.1.3 A canoe entry is free to follow any course during the race, provided it starts, finishes, complies with all designated turning points, and thus completes the full race course.

13.2 Passing.

In races that do not require the canoes to maintain their respective lanes, a canoe that is attempting to pass another shall keep clear at all times, and in no way may it interfere with the canoe it is attempting to pass, nor shall the canoe in the lead attempt to prevent another from passing.

13.3 Rounding Mark.

In races that do not require canoes to maintain their respective lanes and a double marker flag and float are to be rounded, the following rule applies:

- 13.3.1 If an overlap (see below) occurs when two canoes are approaching a marker to be rounded, the outer canoe shall give way to allow the canoes closest to the mark to round the mark. The lead canoe is under no obligation to give way before an overlap is established. In case of doubt, it will be presumed that the overlap was not established in the proper time.
- 13.3.2 Passing around the mark (buoy, flag turn) is allowed providing the passing canoe, in attempt to pass another canoe(s), does not impede that canoe's progress or create a safety hazard to the other canoe(s). *amended 2017*

13.4 Overlap.

Overlap is defined as a condition that exists when no open water can be seen between the stern of one canoe and the bow of another, when the canoes are viewed at right angles to their course.

- 13.4.1 An overlap must occur at least 2 canoe-lengths prior to reaching a buoy (turning point) for the overlap to be considered established for purposes of rounding the mark. *Amended 2017*

13.5 Paddlers and Relief Paddlers

- 13.5.1 There may be no more than six (6) paddlers paddling in any canoe at any time during a race.
- 13.5.2 Original and/or relief paddlers may be used at the discretion of the captain or coach in accordance with the procedures for that particular race.
- 13.5.3 Each canoe must finish the race with six (6) paddlers in order to qualify for placement and awards.

13.6 Swamping or Overturning of Canoes

- 13.6.1 If a canoe swamps or overturns after the start of a race, the canoe may be righted and/or bailed out and will be allowed to continue the race. A time limit of twenty (20) minutes will be allowed to right a swamped canoe in order to finish a race. Beaching an overturned canoe is not allowed and is cause for disqualification.
- 13.6.2 Relief paddlers on an escort boat may assist in righting and/or bailing out a swamped canoe.

13.7 Escort Boats

- 13.7.1 Each escort boat must follow behind its assigned canoe throughout the race. It can, at no time, come alongside closer than 45 feet or ahead of seat five (5) except during transfer of relief paddlers

or in case of an emergency.

- 13.7.2 Unsafe conditions due to an escort boat being overcrowded with spectators or helpers may cause the boat to be declared unfit as an escort boat by the Race Committee. For safety purposes, all U.S. Coast Guard rules apply.
- 13.7.3 On all starts, escort boats will be prohibited from entering the field of racing canoes for a minimum of ten (10) minutes or as specified otherwise by the Race Chairperson(s).
- 13.7.4 All safety/escort boats must adhere to SCORA Escort Boat Policy - Appendix H (pending) *amended 2017*

13.8 Safety

- 13.8.1 It shall be the responsibility of the Host club to supply at least four (4) official boats (one lead/safety boat and three chase/safety follow-up boats) for all Iron races, three (3) official boats (one lead/safety boat and two chase/safety follow-up boats) for all 9-man distance races, and two (2) boats for Regattas/Sprints (one start boat and one turn boat).
- 13.8.2 The Host club will receive a SCORA subsidy to cover operating costs for these official boats
- 13.8.3 Safety boats are mandatory items for all open sea events. A Host club which fails to provide safety boats will forfeit its race expense reimbursement.
- 13.8.4 Minimum requirements for mandatory safety boats are as follows: Mandatory safety boats must be capable of carrying six (6) persons in addition to the vessel's crew, must have radio communications, tow-line, water and First Aid equipment. (To be amended as Coast Guard requirements dictate).
- 13.8.5 All crews must adhere to SCORA Safety Policy (See Appendix E).
- 13.8.6 All safety/escort boats must adhere to SCORA Escort Boat Policy - Appendix H (pending)*amended 2017*

14.0 Drug Policy

It is the policy of the Association that it be forbidden for any competitor to engage in the sport of outrigger paddling, whether in competition or practice, while under the influence or effect of a non-prescribed drug, or other medical practice such as blood doping, that may enhance athletic capabilities or that is prescribed as a controlled dangerous substance under the laws of the United States. (See Appendix F).

15.0 Race Committee Governance

If the Race Committee is called upon to render a decision on a protest, appeal, penalty imposition, race rule interpretation or any other act requiring a decision to be rendered by the Race Committee on race day or in connection with a particular SCORA sanctioned race, the affirmative vote of a majority approval of the voting power represented at the meeting shall be the act of the Race Committee.

The Race Chairperson shall vote only in case of a tie on any item of action presented to the Race Committee for rendering a decision.

APPENDIX E SAFETY POLICY

- 1.0 All practices will be run by instructors who have demonstrated skill and knowledge of outrigger canoe racing and canoe handling on the open ocean in a variety of weather and water conditions and have the ability to communicate this knowledge as well as an innate concern for the safety and wellbeing of their crews.
 - 1.1 Coaches (head, intermediate, novice, kid instructors) shall attend or have proof of knowledge of instruction not just participation in the sport.
 - 1.2 Safety, water course, and other officials deemed necessary shall attend and pass a course of instruction and demonstrate such skills.
 - 1.3 Clubs shall provide names for official duties throughout the season. These persons will become familiar with duties prescribed by the Race Committee.
 - 1.4 Coaches and clubs shall post at their training site the "SCORA Safety Reminder List" and to see to it that all members are aware and have acknowledged the items listed in regards to safety
- 2.0 Novices shall not be permitted in open ocean alone during SCORA sanctioned events.
- 3.0 Coaches and steerspersons are responsible for making sure the canoe and canoe parts are in seaworthy condition including:
 - 3.1 Proper lashing/ rigging material
 - 3.2 Proper flotation tanks and ama's
 - 3.3 No rough gunnels, loose seats and spray cover tracks, etc.
- 4.0 Spray covers must have elastic bands at spray skirts.
- 5.0 Crews must obey California state navigational water laws.
- 6.0 The steersperson is responsible for making sure the canoe is equipped with two (2) bail buckets of adequate size, and six (6) USCG approved PFD's (during all SCORA sanctioned races). Steerspersons are responsible for the actions of their crew members.
- 7.0 If a medical emergency while on the water arises, a crew may continue as an Iron crew in a 9-man race only if drinking water is available, life jackets are on board, and there is a USCG approved visual signal device on board.
- 8.0 Safety Boats
 - 8.1 Their purpose is to be aware prior to, during and at the conclusion of the race, that all canoe entrants are accounted for and if assistance is needed, it is given.
 - 8.2 A safety boat- so designated- is solely a safety boat and will never take the place or position of lead or finish boat.
 - 8.3 Safety boats shall have an operating VHF radio for the entire event.
 - 8.4 Coaches and host clubs will see to it that every escort driver for 9man races be given a Escort Boat Skipper Manual well prior to their respective event. See SCORA Policy and Procedure Manual.
- 9.0 Surf Races (Regatta/Sprints)
 - 9.1 All crews must follow beach master instructions explicitly.
 - 9.2 At no time shall a club allow a novice crew to be outside harbor unattended (i.e. without an experienced steersperson or an escort vessel at hand).
- 10.0 Club personnel and paddlers, a coach shall acknowledge:
 - 10.1 Club paddlers medical condition
 - 10.2 Know and acknowledge your paddlers' physical abilities
 - 10.3 All paddlers will pass a swim and treading water test, to be acknowledged by the coaches of the club
 - 10.4 Coaches shall instruct all crew members in the procedure and steps of righting a flipped and swamped canoe