

CORA 2021 Small-Boat Winter Series Guidance



CORA will be coordinating a 2021 CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series on a regional basis, given the uncertainty of the current health crisis and the challenges regarding big boat (V12 / OC6) racing going into the 2021 season. This initiative is not meant to replace 2021 Winter big boat racing, but is meant to offer an alternative should Winter big boat racing not be feasible.

Outline:

- Ideally, the 2021 CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series will entail a series of races hosted by CORA member clubs in each CORA Region and run from the first weekend after the New Years Holiday in January (9th/10th) to the last weekend in March (27th/28th).
- Note that Family Day is February 15 and Easter Sunday is April 4.
- CORA identifies the following Regions: BC Lower Mainland (Vancouver to Harrison); BC Vancouver Island; BC Upper Coast (North of Burrard Inlet); BC Interior / Okanagan; Alberta; Eastern Canada (Ontario / Quebec).
- CORA recognizes that member clubs in some Regions will not be able to host events between January and March and inclement weather may necessitate rescheduling or cancellation of events.
- There should be a minimum of 3 events to establish a 2021 CORA Small-Boat Racing Winter Series in a Region. Member clubs may host multiple events if necessary.

Process:

- CORA invites CORA member clubs that desire to host a race to submit informal "Intent To Host" forms with preferred 1st / 2nd / 3rd event dates (Saturday or Sunday) prior to the CORA 2020 Pre-AGM (20-Nov-2020).
- There is a Google Form on the CORA website that member clubs can use to submit their "Intent To Host" forms.: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEk0E-hIOUWzkf-YEu4bXE3amGND4joUje9NifZlrvb2nKYA/viewform>
- CORA will provide feedback to member clubs who have submitted "Intent To Host" forms by 19-Nov-2020.
- CORA will provide assistance to host clubs in developing COVID-related event safety protocols.
- CORA will provide rules regarding Divisions, Points and Standings to host clubs and participants.
- CORA will provide a standardized Web-Scorer Series and Event Registration / Results template.
- CORA will post Results, Points and Standings to the CORA website across all Regions as quickly as host clubs provide their event results.

Host Club Guidance:

- In the event of rescheduling or cancellation, CORA asks that the host club provide notice to participants no later than 48 hours before the event (An event scheduled for Saturday 10AM would require rescheduling or cancellation notification no later than Thursday 10AM)
- CORA asks that the host club ensure all participants have prepaid a CORA Annual or Day Membership. CORA will provide race directors with access to its membership database.
- CORA asks that the host club charge a set race fee per participant as prescribed by CORA (TBD).

- CORA asks that the host club have a minimum of at least 1 safety boat with a minimum of 2 persons per safety boat at the event.
- CORA asks that the host club submit an Event Sanctioning application with a Safety Plan when the CORA 2021 Small-Boat Winter Series for the host club's Region has been confirmed.
- CORA asks that the host club allow for participation by OC1, OC2, V1, V3, Surfski, Kayak and Marathon Canoe.
- CORA asks that the host club have a long course between 10K-12K and a short course between 4K-6K.
- CORA asks that the host club select a race course that finds a balance between safety and challenge. A race course that involves paddlers being far from shore or involves difficulty in providing coverage by safety boats, would be considered less desirable.
- CORA asks that the host club limit attendance (event organizers; safety personnel; volunteers, racers, spectators) to a maximum of 50 persons per event. If registration exceeds 40 entries, the host club should cap the event at 40 entries or run multiple heats with like entries in the same heat.

Participant Guidance:

- Participants should follow event safety protocols provided by the host club based on a CORA recommended COVID-19 safety plan.
- Participants should expect to see guidelines regarding Divisions and Points and Standings when the CORA 2021 Small-Boat Winter Series has been formalized.
- Participants should expect to see Results and Points and Standings posted several days after each event in the CORA 2021 Small-Boat Winter Series.