

The Pathway to becoming a Licensed Race Official:

Level 1	Attend Introductory Seminar and basic assessment			
Partial Area Modules	Start	On Water	Finish	Control Commission
Level 2	Full Licence = above partial areas completed plus written test			
Level 3	On application to Rowing NZ			

LEVEL 1 – TRAINEE

Attend the Introductory Race Officials Seminar.

Be able to demonstrate basic knowledge of Rules of Racing, Radio Protocols and Basic Practical Regatta experiences, for example Basic Safety and Colour recognition.

This level is the starting point for an aspiring race official and is knowledge based.

Partial Area Modules – ASSISTANT RACE OFFICIAL

Working through the modules will give an overview of 4 Areas of Umpiring, Start, On Water, Judging and Control Commission.

Each module is designed to increase an official's knowledge, provide appropriate feedback on progress and recognize learning milestones as they are achieved. The assessment philosophy is competency based not time served. Training and assessment is conducted by trainers appointed by Rowing NZ.

1. All AROs must complete the Basic Level 1 modules and upon passing shall receive an Assistant Race Officials' licence.
2. An Assistant Race Official may assist in any area under the supervision of a fully licensed Race Official.
3. An Assistant Race Official may not adjudicate upon the Rules of Racing.

PROGRESSING THROUGH THE LEVELS:

Level 2 – LICENSED OFFICIAL

Upon passing the Level Two modules, the Assistant Race Official is then ready to sit the written examination. The examination is to test the candidate's ability to interpret the Rules and to understand and follow the principles of being a Race Official.

On successful completion of the examination an Official can assume all duties as a fully licensed Race Official without direct supervision but is still under the guidance of the Area Chief.

The fully licensed Race Official will be issued with a Rowing NZ Race Official's Licence and shall wear the officials' uniform as issued by Rowing NZ, and may officiate in that capacity at rowing regattas throughout New Zealand.

The written examination is conducted by Examiners, appointed by Rowing NZ.

Level 3

This level requires both confidence and experience, and the ability to manage people and processes. To achieve Level 3 a Race Official must have been assessed at Karapiro or Ruataniwha, and have demonstrated a high level of competency in all roles.

Race Officials at this level must demonstrate their ability to communicate with fellow officials, to take positive action and make decisions where necessary, to guide regatta committees in ensuring the principles of safe and fair racing are fulfilled and to promote the development of Trainee Race Officials and other Race Officials at all times.

A Level 3 Race Officials acting as Chief Umpire at any regatta, must complete the Chief Umpire's Report and send this to RNZ as soon as possible following the regatta.

This Level can be achieved by application to RNZ with the provision of supporting evidence.

MENTORS:

It is desired that mentors can be appointed. These are individuals with significant umpiring experience who would be able to attend different areas of the regatta at will, and oversee the individual performances of the officials, offering advice where necessary with the goal of improving the performance of each official as well as the group as a whole.

RENEWAL OF A ROWING NEW ZEALAND RACE OFFICIALS LICENCE:

To maintain a current Race Official licence the Race Official must:

- officiate at a minimum of 2 regattas per year (Level Two)
- officiate a minimum of 6 days per regatta season (Level 3)
- The Chief Umpire at the conclusion of every regatta is required to submit to RNZ a summary sheet of the officials who had attended, which includes relevant information as to their officiating duties.

Regardless of the date of original issue, Race Officials licences expire no later than 31 August in the fourth year following issue. RNZ will invite those Race Officials with licences due to expire on 31 August to apply for the renewal of their licence in the preceding July. A brief summary of their officiating activities should be supplied. An attendance record can be downloaded from the Rowing NZ website to assist with this record.

Suspension or Cancellation of a Rowing New Zealand Race Official's Licence

Rowing New Zealand may also at any time recommend to the RNZ Board, the suspension or cancellation of a Licence where the holder has been guilty of misconduct as defined by the Rowing NZ Constitution. Such action may only occur following completion of the appropriate processes as outlined in the RNZ Rules of Racing.

FISA RACE OFFICIALS

Criteria for those wishing to sit the FISA Race Official Examination:

1. The candidate must have been a NZ or overseas licensed official for a minimum of 3 years in line with the current FISA criteria.
2. The candidate must hold a current Race Officials' Licence.
3. The candidate must have attained Level 3 competency level as outlined in the Race Officials "Pathway" document and generally be considered competent in all roles of officiating i.e. Control Commission, Umpiring, Starting & Judging and in the opinion of RNZ, is likely to meet the stringent officiating standards required by FISA.
4. The candidate will make application to sit the FISA examination through Rowing NZ, on the appropriate form outlining reasons why such an application be considered.
5. Rowing New Zealand CEO will consider the candidate's application and on approval make recommendations to the Rowing NZ Board.
6. Rowing NZ will forward any approved nominations to FISA.