

## Race Rule Review Process

### Purpose:

To manage any changes to the NKOA race rules

### Comment:

Many clubs and paddlers are unclear how the race rules become rules and what the process is to change them. Below is an outline of this process and the key dates where rules will be reviewed in 2011.

Under the current constitution, the race rules can be changed at any NKOA council meeting. However, in light of council time constraints and other governance and business issues arising during any one year, it has been agreed to ordinarily allow changes to the race rules only at one time during year. As (i) the Sprint Nationals are held in January, and the Long Distance Nationals later in the year, and (ii) significant race rules changes are not permitted within 2 months of a National Championship, it is proposed to begin any review in the winter months.

### Process:

Unless otherwise determined by the NKOA council, any requests for race rule changes received during any given year are collected and kept on file until the time the formal process regarding race rule changes commences.

Invitation (or reminder as appropriate) goes out to regions, clubs and paddlers to put in proposals for race rule changes. Each proposal must come from the region or NKOA Executive and must be accompanied by an explanation of the rationale for the change.

In 2011 Regions will be asked to submit any proposals for rule changes by **1<sup>st</sup> May 2011**

The NKOA Race Rules sub-committee produces a document that collates all the proposals (or where appropriate develops alternative proposals to ensure consistency) and puts forward a sub-committee recommendation regarding each proposal by 31 May.

This document is released to the NKOA Council members for voting. The sub-committee shall also provide a voting sheet to each NKOA council member. Each NKOA council member shall put forward completed vote sheet by 30 June 2011.

*Note: Those council members that are regional representatives must represent their regions when voting; however, it should be up to them with regard to how they want to do that. For instance, some may want to use regional voting sheets so as to only act on the majority view on the various proposals in their region; others may only discuss the proposals at a regional committee meeting and - in absence of any relevant feedback - vote for the proposals as they see fit. In principle this will be left to the regions to decide.*

For a rule to be changed or introduced it must achieve a 2/3 majority vote of the council.

Following voting, the sub-committee shall collate the results and produce a consolidated version of the amended race rules.

The NKOA council formally adopts the changes that gained a majority and the new consolidated document at the next upcoming council meeting and the new rules are posted to the website.