

Club Mark Layer (CML)

May 1, 2026

Description

- **Be a part of a team of volunteers who are passionate about sailboat racing.**
- Club Mark Layer (CML) is the entry level to two levels of Sail Canada certification for Mark Layers.
- A CML is capable of fulfilling the role of a mark layer on simpler course configurations commonly used at the club level. They can use GPS or equivalent tools to accurately and efficiently place marks for racing. They are members of the Race Committee.
- A CML is responsible for all marks and mark laying equipment (anchor, chain and rode) and are ready to solve problems relating to marks and their ground tackle.
- An CML is capable of signaling a change of course or shortening a race as requested by the Race Officer promptly and accurately using the appropriate signals and sounds.
- An CML is also part of the safety plan and if needed, be called upon for safety roles. A good understanding of sailboat rescue procedures is necessary.
- Certification is valid for four years. See RMSC Policy 1.

Requirements

- Successful completion of the 5 hour Sail Canada CML Course presented by a Sail Canada Race Management Course Conductor (RMCC) or Mark Layer Course Conductor (MLCC)
- A record of laying marks at 4 races over 3 different days.
- Agree to abide by the Sail Canada Code of Conduct.
- It is required that Sail Canada has an image of the candidate's Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) and Restricted Operator Certificate (Maritime) (ROC (M)) on file. Equivalent or superior certifications will be accepted at the discretion of the RMSC.

Training Book Requirements

- Current Racing Rules of Sailing (Sail Canada version) is highly recommended.

Certification Process

- Certification of an CML is managed by the Sail Canada Race Management Course Conductor (RMCC) who will register the candidate with their Provincial Sailing Association (PSA) or Sail Canada.
- Certification requires a signed copy of the Race Officials Code of Conduct (an Appendix of the Sail Canada Code of Conduct).



Recertification Process

- Certification is managed by the Provincial Sailing Association (PSA) Race Management Certification Committees. See RMSC Policy 5.

Using the online or paper application form be prepared to submit the following information:

- After evidence of service at a minimum of two events per certification period as a Club Mark Layer.
- Certification requires a signed copy of the Race Officials Code of Conduct (an Appendix of the Sail Canada Code of Conduct).

What is the next level?

If you are enjoying being part of the race management team you might consider working towards a number of roles within race management including Regional Mark Layer and Assistant Race Officer. A Sail Canada Regional Mark Layer has training to lay marks at all levels of events using advanced techniques. An Assistant Race Officer can serve anywhere on the course in several race management roles. **It's important to point out that a Regional Mark Layer (ML) certification requires a certification as an Assistant Race Officer (ARO).**

