

REGIONAL MARK LAYER (RML)

May 1, 2026

Description

- Regional Mark Layer (RML) is the highest of two levels of Sail Canada certification for Mark Layers.
- An RML is capable of managing the mark laying operations at regattas of above average complexity common at Provincial or higher level events. They are members of the Race Committee.
- An RML is responsible for all marks and mark laying equipment (anchor, chain and rode) and able to solve problems relating to marks and their ground tackle.
- An RML is capable of laying marks for any course configuration and manage changes requested by the Race Officer promptly and accurately using GPS, hand bearing compasses, geometry and other tools to ensure the precise placement of all marks on a race course.
- An RML is capable of signaling a change of course or shortening a race and other requirements as requested by the Race Officer. Being prompt and accurate using the appropriate signals and sounds is fundamental to this certification.
- An RML 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

- Sailing Experience.
- Current certification as a Sail Canada Assistant Race Officer (ARO) and Sail Canada Club Mark Layer (CML) or equivalent.
- Successful completion of the 6-hour Sail Canada Regional Mark Laying Course and 3 hours of practical exercises given by a Sail Canada Race Management Course Conductor (RMCC) within four years prior to application.
- A record of laying marks at 3 events of which 1 must be of Provincial level or higher and 1 must not be from your home club.
- 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).
- Current edition of Sail Canada Race Management Manual. (Available online)



Certification Process

- Certification as Regional Mark Layer is managed by Sail Canada Race Management Sub-Committee.
- Certification requires the candidate to register through the Sail Canada database.

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

- Event Log listing regattas you have run or worked on, the courses you have taken and race management training seminars you have assisted with.
- Certification requires a signed copy of the Race Officials Code of Conduct (an Appendix of the Sail Canada Code of Conduct).

Recertification Process

- Re-certification as Regional Mark Layer is managed by Sail Canada Race Management Sub-Committee.

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

- By the Sail Canada RMSC after evidence of service at a minimum of four events per certification period as a regional 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?

There is no higher level of mark layer. You could consider Club Race Officer to further develop your capability as a race official.

