

# FISA Rules of Racing

## PART I - SCOPE

### Rule 1- Rowing, Boats, Regattas

Rowing is the propulsion of a displacement boat, with or without coxswain, by the muscular force of one or more rowers, using oars as simple levers of the second order and sitting with their backs to the direction of movement of the boat. Rowing on a machine or in a tank which simulates the action of rowing in a boat is also considered as rowing.

In a rowing boat, all load bearing parts including the axes of moving parts, must be firmly fixed to the body of the boat, but the rower's seat may move along the axis of the boat.

A rowing regatta is a sporting competition consisting of one or more events divided, if necessary, into a number of races, in one or more classes of boats for rowers divided, as a general rule, into different categories of sex, age or weight.

### Rule 2 - Application

These Rules and the relevant Bye-Laws shall apply to:

1. FISA World Rowing Championships,
2. Olympic Regattas within the limits of the authority of FISA and Olympic Qualification regattas,
3. Regattas held as part of regional or other Games within the limits of the authority of FISA,
4. Continental Championships,
5. International Regattas including the Rowing World Cup and the World Rowing Masters regattas,
6. where appropriate, international rowing ergometer competitions.

FISA Events are also governed by the Regulations for FISA Events.

These rules also apply equally and by analogy to continental championships and rowing regattas organised in connection with multi-sport competitions. The Executive Committee of FISA may

authorise exceptions notably for continental championships.

Any member federation, club or individual who participates in any capacity in a rowing competition governed by these Rules is deemed to accept without exception or reservation the application of these Rules and the related Bye-Laws, particularly those relating to the authority and jurisdiction of FISA and of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **Rule 3 - Exceptions**

At International Regattas, the host member federation or the Organising Committee, acting in agreement with the member federation may, in exceptional cases, depart from these provisions and apply its own national rules. In any such case, the Executive Committee shall be notified immediately after the regatta and the reasons for such change shall be given.

### **Rule 4 - World Rowing Championships**

The following shall be deemed to be World Rowing Championships:

- a) World Rowing Championships for men and women in Senior, Lightweight and Adaptive categories,
- b) World Rowing Junior Championships for men and women,
- c) World Rowing Under 23 Championships for men and women and lightweight men and lightweight women in the Under 23 category. These titles shall be used only for World Rowing Championships organised by FISA.
- d) Olympic Qualification Regattas and Olympic Regattas shall have the same status and follow the same rules as World Rowing Championships. Within the limits of the authority of FISA the same Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws shall apply.

World Rowing Championships shall be held in every year. However, in an Olympic year, the Olympic events will not be offered at the World Championships in that year.

World Rowing Junior Championships and World Rowing Under 23 Championships shall be held in every year.

The World Rowing Under 23 Championships may be held at the same time and same venue as the World Rowing Junior Championships.

**Rule 5 - Attribution of World Rowing Championships**

In principle, four years in advance, the Council shall select the most suitable candidate(s) and propose it (them) to the Congress for final approval. The Congress shall elect one of the selected candidates by a majority of valid votes cast. In the event that Congress fails to so elect one of the selected candidates, a second election shall then take place for which all candidates shall be eligible.

FISA shall encourage a worldwide attribution of FISA Championship regattas to suitable candidates.

**Rule 6 - Right to Participate**

World Rowing Championships are open to all member federations. World Rowing Championships for Juniors, Lightweights, Under 23 and Adaptive Rowers as well as lightweight events included in the Olympic Games are open only to rowers complying with the requirements of the relevant category.

The other events at the World Rowing Championships and Olympic Regattas are open to all rowers without restriction of age or weight. Olympic Regattas are open only to those rowers whose federations have qualified in the appropriate boat classes in accordance with the Olympic Qualification System prescribed in the Bye-Laws.

**Rule 7 - Rowing World Cup - Definition**

The Rowing World Cup is a series of designated international regattas, staged at intervals throughout the international regatta calendar. FISA has the sole right to designate regattas as Rowing World Cup regattas and to use the Rowing World Cup name and logo. The Council may prescribe Regulations and Bye-Laws governing the Rowing World Cup.

**Rule 8 - International Regattas - Definition**

An International Regatta is a rowing competition, over any distance whether started abreast or against the clock, which is open to competitors from all member federations. Each member federation is responsible for informing FISA of any competition to be held in its country which conforms to this definition. FISA will decide whether such competition is to be defined as an International Regatta and, if so, that Regatta will be included in the FISA International Regatta Calendar under Rule 15.

### **Rule 9 - International Regattas - Control by FISA**

In principle, International Regattas shall be conducted according to the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws, but FISA's Executive Committee may approve exceptions to these Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

International Regattas shall take place under the authority of FISA, which may give directions to the Organising Committee and may nominate two Technical Delegates to supervise and verify the application of the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws or any variation of them approved by FISA's Executive Committee.

Details of any exceptions made to the FISA Rules of Racing or Bye-Laws shall be provided to competing federations and clubs at the time of their invitation to take part in the Regatta. Each member federation is responsible for ensuring that the organisation of any competition within its country defined by FISA as an International Regatta complies with the requirements of this Rule.

### **Rule 10 - Competition in International Regattas**

No competitor shall enter for International Regattas, nor, in general, make any direct approach to FISA (e.g. on a question of appeal) except in the name of and through his club and member federation.

A member federation may participate in events at all International Regattas as the national team without club designation. If rowers compete in an International Regatta under the name of their national team, they shall be citizens of the country of that member federation. In this last regard, the Executive Committee may make exceptions in exceptional cases.

The Council may authorise competitions between members and non-members of FISA.

### **Rule 11 - International Matches – Definition**

An International Match is a rowing competition, over any distance whether started abreast or against the clock, which is restricted only to competitors from certain member federations.

Each member federation is responsible for informing FISA of any competition to be held in its country that conforms with this definition. FISA shall decide whether such competition is to be defined as an International Match and, if so, that match shall be included in the FISA International Regatta Calendar under Rule 15.

**Rule 12 - International Matches - Control by FISA**

In principle, International Matches shall be rowed according to the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws, but FISA may approve exceptions to these Rules and Bye-Laws.

International Matches shall take place under the authority of FISA, which may give directions to the Organising Committee and may nominate two Technical Delegates to supervise and verify the application of the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws or any variation of them approved by FISA. Details of any exceptions to the FISA Rules of Racing or Bye-Laws shall be provided to competing member federations at the time of their invitation to take part in the International Match.

Each member federation is responsible for ensuring that the organisation of any competition within its country defined by FISA as an International Match complies with the requirements of this Rule.

***Bye-Law to Rules 9 to 12 - Technical Delegates***

- 1. In general, the duties of the Technical Delegates are to ensure that the FISA Rules of Racing and Racing Bye-Laws are complied with, and that the regatta is satisfactorily run both from the safety and competitive points of view.*
- 2. The Technical Delegates shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and their appointment shall be notified by the Executive Director to the Organising Committee of the Regatta.*  
*The Organising Committee shall notify the President of the Jury, the Safety Adviser and the Medical Officer of the appointment of the Technical Delegates.*
- 3. The Organising Committee shall be requested to arrange free accommodation, meals and local transport for the Technical Delegates during the period of the visit.*
- 4. The Technical Delegates should arrive at the regatta site at least one day before the Managers' Meeting at which the draw shall be carried out, and should stay for the whole time of the regatta. They should make themselves known to the Chairman of the Organising Committee, the President of the Jury, the Safety Adviser and the Medical Officer.*
- 5. On arrival the Technical Delegates should inspect the regatta*

*course with a representative of the Organising Committee taking particular note of safety aspects, including warm-up and cool-down areas, traffic rules in racing and training, and areas where crews will be marshalled. They will also inspect the boating area, to ensure that the arrangements for boating and disembarking are satisfactory and that the traffic rules are adequately displayed. They will also ensure that the minimum requirements for an international regatta required by the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws are in place (e.g. distance markers, photo finish, weighing arrangements, medical facilities, rescue services, etc.)*

- 6. The Technical Delegates shall attend the Managers' Meeting and observe the draw. In a regatta where FISA has decided that seeding is necessary, they shall ensure that the Competitive Rowing Commission's advice as regards seeding is put into effect, and that the competitors are made aware that seeding is being practised.*
- 7. The Technical Delegates shall attend at least the first meeting of the Jury. They should notify the Jury of any problems which they foresee, either from a safety or competitive point of view. However, the Technical Delegates should leave the Jury to carry out its role as set out in Rules 89 to 92 of the Rules of Racing.*
- 8. During the regatta, the Organising Committee and/or the Jury shall consult the Technical Delegates on any matter where there is any uncertainty concerning the application of FISA rules. The Technical Delegates shall advise the Organising Committee and the President of the Jury of any failure to comply with FISA rules.*
- 9. The legal responsibility for matters of safety rests with the Organising Committee and nothing in the Rules of Racing or Racing Bye-Laws shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Technical Delegates.*
- 10. Within seven days of the end of the regatta, the Technical Delegates shall send a report to the Executive Committee of FISA, which shall then forward it to the Organising Committee of the Regatta. The report should set out comments, proposals, criticisms in a prescribed format.*

**Rule 13 - National Regattas**

A National Regatta is a rowing competition, over any distance whether started abreast or against the clock, which is intended in general for competitors from one federation only. The fact that competitors from other member federations may enter such regattas does not necessarily render them International Regattas.

National Regattas shall be governed by the rules of racing of the member federation of the organising body.

**Rule 14 - Approval of International Regattas**

All member federations shall, not later than 30th September in each year, send to the headquarters of FISA a list of all competitions proposed to be held in their countries during the following year, that conform with the definitions of an International Regatta in Rule 8 or of an International Match in Rule 11.

They shall submit to the Council for approval:

1. The dates on which these Regattas and Matches are to be held,
2. Details of the courses (stretches of water and technical installations) proposed,
3. The type of Regatta proposed,
4. The categories of competitors and classes of boats proposed,
5. Any envisaged exception to the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

**Rule 15 - FISA International Regatta Calendar**

All International Regattas and International Matches approved by FISA under Rule 9 or 12 shall be entered in the FISA International Regatta Calendar. However, FISA may, at its discretion, also include the dates of other competitions in the Calendar for the convenience of the member federations, but the fact that such competitions are not held under the authority of FISA shall be identified in the Calendar.

FISA shall forward to all member federations not later than 31st October in each year, the list of all International Regattas and International Matches approved to be held in the following year.

## PART II - ROWERS AND COXSWAINS

### SECTION 1 - General

#### Rule 16 - Eligibility and Insurance

World Rowing Championships, Rowing World Cup regattas, Continental Championships and International regattas shall be open to all competitors who are authorised to compete by their member federation and who are eligible under these rules.

Each member federation shall ensure that their competitors shall have a state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the competition level of the particular event and ensure each competitor, team official and the member federation carries appropriate health, accident and property insurance covering their persons, equipment and property.

Entries for FISA Championship regattas and Rowing World Cup regattas will be accepted only if they are accompanied by a signed commitment form, according to Article 54, from each competitor, team official and the member federation or, if such a commitment is already accepted and acknowledged by FISA, as registered at FISA Headquarters. This form must be received by the FISA headquarters no later than one hour before the commencement of the draw for the regatta.

#### Rule 17 - Age Categories

The following age categories for rowers are recognised by FISA:

1. Juniors,
2. Under 23,
3. Seniors,
4. Masters.

#### Rule 18 - Additional Categories

In addition to the age categories, FISA recognises a lightweight category for Seniors and Under 23 as well as an adaptive category for Seniors.

**Rule 19 - Licences**

The Council may decide on the introduction of licences for all categories of rowers.

Where applicable, the Jury shall appoint a person to check the licences of all competitors at the beginning of every regatta not later than two hours before the first race of the rowers concerned.

**Rule 20 - Coxswains**

Coxswains are members of the crew. A women's crew may not therefore be steered by a man nor may a men's crew be steered by a woman except in races for masters or if, in special circumstances, the Executive Committee permits otherwise. Age categories shall also apply to coxswains, except in Masters events.

The minimum weight for a coxswain (wearing racing uniform ) is 55 kgs. for men's, Under 23 men's and junior men's crews, and 50 kgs. for women's, Under 23 women's, junior women's and mixed crews.

To make up this weight, a coxswain may carry a maximum of 10 kgs. deadweight which shall be placed in the boat as close as possible to his person. No article of racing equipment shall be considered as part of this deadweight. At any time, before or until immediately after the race, the Control Commission may require the deadweight to be reweighed.

These provisions shall also apply to coxswains in lightweight races.

**Rule 21 - Weighing of Coxswains**

Coxswains shall be weighed wearing their racing uniform on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than two hours before their first race in each event in which they are competing on each day of the competition.

The Control Commission may require on the occasion of the first weighing or subsequently the presentation of an official identity card with photograph.

## **SECTION 2 - Juniors**

### **Rule 22 - Juniors**

A rower or coxswain shall be classified as a Junior until 31st December of the year in which he reaches the age of 18. After that date, he shall be classified as an Under 23 rower.

## **SECTION 3 - Seniors and Under 23**

### **Rule 23 - Seniors and Under 23**

A rower or coxswain who is no longer a Junior shall be classified as Under 23 until 31st December of the year in which he reaches the age of 22. After that date, he shall be classified as Senior.

## **SECTION 4 - Lightweight**

### **Rule 24 - Lightweight**

Lightweights shall be classified as follows:

The average weight of a men's crew (excluding coxswain) shall not exceed 70 kg. No individual male rower shall weigh more than 72.5 kg. A male single sculler shall not weigh more than 72.5 kg.

For women the average weight of a crew (excluding coxswain) shall not exceed 57 kg. No individual female rower shall weigh more than 59 kg. A female single sculler shall not weigh more than 59 kg.

Lightweight rowers shall be weighed wearing their racing uniform on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than two hours before their first race of each event in which they are competing, each day of the competition. They shall present themselves at the weighing centre wearing their racing uniform. The weighing scales should indicate the weight of the rower to 0.1 kg.

If the first race is subsequently postponed or cancelled, the lightweight rower is not required to be weighed later on the same day for that event.

The Control Commission shall require on the occasion of the first weighing or subsequently the presentation of an official identity card with photograph.

Any rower who has been re-hydrated intravenously between the weigh-in and the respective race shall not be allowed to start.

## SECTION 5 - Masters

### Rule 25 - Masters

A rower may compete as a Master from the beginning of the year during which he attains the age of 27. A World Masters Regatta shall be conducted each year under the supervision of the Masters Commission. The World Masters Regatta shall be an international regatta under these rules.

#### *Bye-Law to Rule 25 - Masters*

*The age of a Masters rower shall be that which he attains during the current year. Masters events shall be held in the following crew age categories:*

- A. *Minimum age: 27 years,*
- B. *Average age: 36 years or more,*
- C. *Average age: 43 years or more,*
- D. *Average age: 50 years or more,*
- E. *Average age: 55 years or more,*
- F. *Average age: 60 years or more,*
- G. *Average age: 65 years or more,*
- H. *Average age: 70 years or more,*
- I. *Average age: 75 years or more.*

*Age categories do not apply to coxswains.*

*Each competitor shall be responsible for his own health and fitness. Every Masters rower must be in a position to prove his age by presentation of an official document (passport or identity card).*

### Rule 26 - Mixed Masters Events

Mixed crew events may be held for Masters crews in which half of the crew excluding the coxswain, shall be women and half shall be men. The coxswain may be of either gender.

## SECTION 6 - ADAPTIVE

### Rule 27 - Adaptive

An Adaptive rower is a rower with a disability who meets the criteria set out in the Adaptive Rowing classification regulations. The categories and boat classes are defined in the Regulations for FISA Events.

## PART III - CLASSES OF BOAT

### Rule 28 - Classes of Boat

The following classes of boat are recognised by FISA:

Single Sculls (1x)

Double Sculls (2x)

Pair (2-)

Coxed Pair (2+)

Quadruple Sculls (4x)

Four (4-)

Coxed Four (4+)

Eight (8+)

### Rule 29 - World Championship Boat Classes

World Rowing Championships are held in the following events:

Men (M) 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+, 2+, 4+,

Women (W) 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+

Lightweight Men (LM) 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+

Lightweight Women (LW) 1x, 2x, 4x

Adaptive (A): 1x, 2x, 4+

Under 23 Men (BM) 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+, 4+

Under 23 Women (BW) 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-

Under 23 Lightweight Men (BLM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-
Under 23 Lightweight Women (BLW)	1x, 2x
Junior Men (JM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+, 4+
Junior Women (JW)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+

If, in any of the above events, excluding the events designated below for the Olympic Games and all other 8+ events, there are less than seven starters in three consecutive World Championships, then that event shall be automatically removed from the programme of the World Championships for the following years. This does not apply to adaptive events until 2009.

For a World Championship, if there are less than seven entries at the time of the draw, there will be a race the results of which will be used to attribute the lanes for the final.

### Rule 30 - Olympic Games Boat Classes

The programme at an Olympic regatta includes the following events:

Men (M)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Women (W)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 8+
Lightweight Men (LM)	2x, 4-
Lightweight Women (LW)	2x

The programme of Regional and Continental Championships as well as regattas attached to multi-sport competitions shall be laid down by agreement between the organisers and the Council of FISA.

## PART IV - BOATS AND CONSTRUCTION

### Rule 31 - Free Construction

The construction, design and dimensions of boats and oars shall, in principle, be unrestricted subject to the limits laid down in Rule 1, paragraphs 1 and 2, and Rule 58. Nevertheless the Council of FISA may, in the Racing Bye-Laws, impose appropriate requirements.

### ***Bye-Law to Rule 31 - Boats and Equipment***

#### *1. Requirements for racing boats:*

*1.1 The bows of all boats shall be fitted with a white ball shape, minimum diameter 4 cm, in hard rubber or a hard material. If this is an external part it shall be firmly affixed to the bow of the boat, if an integral part of the hull construction it shall afford equivalent protection and visibility to a ball.*

*1.2 All boats and oars shall comply with the requirements set out in the Bye-Laws to Rule 41, below (name, symbol, etc.).*

*1.3 During racing, no wireless transmission equipment shall be used, whether for sending or receiving.*

*1.4 No substances or structures (including riblets) capable of modifying the natural properties of water or of the boundary layer of the hull/water interface shall be used.*

*1.5 To avoid accidents arising from capsizing, all boats shall be equipped with stretchers or shoes that allow the competitors to get clear of the boat without using their hands and with the least possible delay.*

*1.6 The edges of blades must have a minimum thickness throughout as follows:*

- oars 5 mm,*
- sculls 3 mm.*

*This thickness shall be measured 3 mm from the outer edge of the blade for oars and 2 mm for sculls.*

*1.7 The opening of the coxswain's seat must be at least 70 cm long and it must be as wide as the boat for at least 50 cm. The inner surface of the enclosed part must be smooth and no structure of any sort may restrict the inner width of the coxswains section.*

*1.8 All boats used in eights events at World Rowing Championships, Olympic regattas, Olympic qualification regattas, Regional Games and Continental Championships and at all International regattas shall be in a minimum of two sections, with no section longer than 11.9 metres.*

- 1.9 *At World Championships, Olympic Regattas or Rowing World Cup regattas, the Council may require crews to carry on their boats such equipment as it considers desirable for the better promotion of the sport of rowing (e.g. mini cameras) provided that such equipment is identical for all boats in a race.*
- 1.10 *Boats constructed or delivered after 1st January 1998 must have a production plaque or equivalent visible and permanently affixed inside the boat, up to 50 sq cm in area, on which is written the name and address of the boat builder, its mark or logo, the year the boat was constructed, the average weight of the crew for which the boat is designed, and the weight of the boat on construction or upon delivery.*
- 1.11 *Boats constructed or delivered after 1st January 2007 must also show on the production plaque (in 1.10 above) whether the boat meets "FISA's Minimum Guidelines for the Safe Practice of Rowing": "A boat when full of water with a crew of average weight equal to the design weight stated on the boat's production plaque, seated in the rowing position should float such that the top of the seat is a maximum of 5 cm below the static waterline."*
- 1.12 *Length of Boats - Minimum length of racing boats - The minimum overall length of a racing boat shall be 7.20 metres. This will be measured from the front of the bow ball to the furthest aft extent of the boat, which may include an extension beyond the hull. If an extension is used it will be firmly affixed to the stern and terminate in a 4 cm ball as described in Bye-Law to Rule 31:1.1.*
- If a boat cannot be correctly aligned because it is less than the minimum overall length, the Starter may exclude the crew from the race.*

## **Rule 32 - Boat Weights**

All boats used at Olympic regattas or qualification regattas, World Championships, Rowing World Cup regattas, Regional Games and Continental Championships and all international regattas shall be of defined minimum weights.

**Bye-Law to Rule 32 – Boat Weights**

1. *Minimum boat weights are the following:*  

<i>1x - 14 kgs,</i>	<i>2x - 27 kgs,</i>	<i>2- - 27 kgs,</i>	<i>2+ - 32 kgs,</i>
<i>4x - 52 kgs,</i>	<i>4- - 50 kgs,</i>	<i>4+ - 51 kgs,</i>	<i>8+ - 96 kgs</i>
2. *The minimum weight of the boat shall include only the fittings essential to its use; in particular - riggers, stretchers, shoes slides, seats and hull extensions. The minimum weight shall not include the oars or sculls, the bow number, any sound amplification equipment and loudspeakers or any other kind of electronic equipment.*
3. *Weighing Scale - The weighing scales shall be provided by a FISA approved manufacturer and shall indicate the weight of the boat to 0.1 kg. The scales shall be connected to a printer so that a printed record of the boat weight is immediately available. At the beginning of each official training day and of each racing day, the scales shall be tested, using calibrated (gauged) weights, by a member of the FISA Materials Commission and/or the member of the Control Commission responsible for boat weighing.*
4. *Test weighing of boats - The weighing scale(s) shall be available to the crews at least 24 hrs and, if possible, 48 hrs before the first race of the regatta for the test weighing of their boats. The scales shall be located on a horizontal floor, inside a building or a tent to provide protection from the wind. The weighing area shall be easily accessible from the incoming pontoons and shall be exclusively reserved for the weighing of boats during the regatta.*
5. *Responsibility for the weight of a boat - It is solely the responsibility of the crew that their boat has the required minimum weight.*
6. *Official Boat Weighing Procedure - The person authorised by the President of the Jury shall make a random draw before the start of each racing session. He shall also have the right to include additional boats to this list if there is a suspicion that certain boats are underweight. He shall deliver copies of this draw to the responsible person at the Control Commission. Members of the Control Commission shall inform the nominated crews as they leave the water after cooling-down and they, or people appointed for that purpose, shall accompany the crews*

*to the weighing scales. Once the crew has been nominated no extra weight of any description can be added to the boat until the boat has been weighed. Normally certain items of equipment shall be allowed to remain fixed in the boat. In this case, the following standard weight allowances shall be subtracted from the measured boat weight:*

- one loudspeaker: 0.15 kg,*
- one cable: 0.10 kg/seat,*
- one bottle holder: 0.10 kg,*
- one wire and magnet for stroke coach: 0.10 kg.*

*The crew shall have the option of removing all such equipment at any time during the weighing procedure. The member of the Control Commission and the representative of the crew shall identify and agree the number and type of equipment items and record this information in writing. If the member of the Control Commission has concerns that the equipment in a particular boat is much heavier than the standard weight allowances (above,) then the crew shall be asked to take this equipment out of the boat before it is officially weighed.*

*At the official weighing of the boat, the normal wetted surface of the boat is accepted. However, any standing water must be removed before the weighing, in particular any water between the shoulders and under the canvas. All other items (tools, clothes, sponges, bottles, etc.) must be taken out of the boat before the weighing.*

*The boat shall be officially weighed and the member of the Control Commission shall record on the printed result the name of the crew, the event and the number and type of equipment items included in the weighing. Both the crew representative and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed result.*

- 7. Failure to make the minimum weight - If a boat is below the minimum weight, the member of the Control Commission shall write the words "First Boat Weighing" on the printed result-sheet. He shall then test the scales with the gauged weights, observed by the crew representative, and print out the result of this test. He shall record on the printed test result the name of the crew and the event and shall write the words "Test Weighing" on the printed result sheet. Both the crew representative*

*and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed result of this test.*

*The boat concerned shall then be weighed for the second time. The member of the Control Commission shall record on the printed result the name of the crew, the event and the number and type of equipment items included in the weighing. He shall write the words "Second Boat Weighing" on the printed result sheet. Both the crew representative and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed result.*

*The member of the Control Commission shall deliver the three printed results (First Boat Weighing, Test Weighing of the scales and Second Boat Weighing) to the President of the Jury.*

*The penalty for having raced in an underweight boat shall be that the crew is relegated to last place in the particular race. If the crew races again in an underweight boat in a later round of the same event, then the penalty shall be the exclusion of the crew. No other or later reweighing, except the one mentioned above, shall be considered as valid.*

## PART V - COURSES

### Rule 33 - Characteristics

The standard FISA course for International, Continental, World Rowing Championships, Olympic Qualification and for Olympic regattas shall provide fair and equal racing conditions for six crews racing in separate, parallel lanes over a distance of 2,000 metres.

For Olympic, Olympic Qualification, World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas, the standard course must be provided with technical installations and equipment to Category A as defined in the Bye-Laws. In addition, it must also comply with all the specifications and descriptions given in the latest edition of "The FISA Manual for Rowing Championships".

In order to be classified as a championship course, full details of the course concerned must be submitted in writing to FISA by the applicants, and the course must be inspected at the cost of the federation concerned and approved by two experts appointed by FISA. The Council of FISA may lay down special requirements for World

Rowing Championship, Olympic, Olympic Qualification, Regional Games, Continental Championships or Rowing World Cup regattas.

### **Rule 34 - Length of the Course**

- a) International Regattas - The standard FISA racing distances shall be 2,000 metres straight for Men and Women; in the categories Seniors and Under 23, Lightweights and Juniors. For Masters (Men, Women and Mixed crews) the course shall be 1,000 metres straight.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - The length of the standard course for men and women and for juniors (men and women) shall be 2,000 metres straight. The provisions of this Rule require the use of moveable starting installations in order that the bows of all boats of whatever class may be aligned on the same start line.
- c) The length of the course and all intermediate distances shall be measured by an independent qualified surveyor and an accurate, certified plan shall be held by the Organising Committee. This plan shall be available for inspection by FISA at any time.
- d) The Executive Committee may grant exceptions to this rule where necessary for regattas in multi-sport competitions, continental or other championships.
- e) The non-standard course may be shorter (for example, sprints) or longer (for example, long distances, head of the river, etc.) than the standard course. It is not necessary that the course be straight.

### **Rule 35 - Number of Lanes**

- a) International Regattas - On standard courses, races shall normally be held over six lanes.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas and Rowing World Cup regattas - Races shall be held on six lanes but, in principle, the course shall have at least eight lanes.

### ***Bye-Laws to Rules 33 to 35 - Courses***

*These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 1 to the Rules of Racing.*