

PART VI - ORGANISATION OF REGATTAS

SECTION 1 - General

Rule 36 - Authority of FISA

- a) International Regattas - All international regattas and international rowing ergometer competitions are under the overriding authority of FISA and, subject thereto, of the member federation concerned. An Organising Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of regattas.
- b) World Rowing Championships, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Olympic Qualification and Continental Championship regattas as well as regattas in connection with Multi-Sport Competitions shall take place under the authority of FISA, which will give directions to the Organising Committee. The Executive Committee will nominate two Technical Delegates to oversee the work of the Organising Committee on meeting the FISA requirements for the Championships while regularly informing the Executive Committee on the progress.

Rule 37 - Duties of the Organising Committee

An Organising Committee is responsible for the proper organisation of the regatta. The Organising Committee shall, in particular:

1. Fix the date and the programme of the regatta in agreement with the member federation concerned and with the Council of FISA;
2. Draw up and distribute the advance programme including the date and time of the team managers meeting;
3. Make available a stretch of water and technical equipment conforming to the present Rules of Racing;
4. Appoint a Jury (except in the case of World Rowing Championships and Olympic Regattas);
5. Appoint a Safety Adviser;
6. Appoint a Medical Officer;

7. Take all other steps which may be required to ensure the proper organisation of the regatta.

Bye-Law to Rule 37 - Duties of the Organising Committee

1. *Authority of FISA - All international rowing regattas are under the authority of FISA and of the member federation concerned.*
2. *Responsibility of the Organising Committee - An organising committee is responsible for the preparation and running of the regatta.*
3. *Date and Programme - In agreement with the relevant member federation, the organising committee fixes the date and programme of the regatta. For its part, the member federation shall submit the proposed date to FISA for approval not later than 30th September of the year preceding the event.*
4. *Course, Installations, Advance Programme, Jury - The organising committee is responsible for the course and all necessary installations and equipment, both on land and on the water. It is also responsible for the organisation of the regatta. It shall draw up an advance programme which shall also describe the type of course installations and send it to all those concerned. It shall appoint the Jury.*
5. *Safety Adviser - The Organising Committee shall appoint a person as the regatta Safety Adviser with specific responsibilities for ensuring that all the appropriate safety measures, including traffic rules, have been considered and then implemented for the safe running of the regatta. Nevertheless, the legal responsibility for safety matters rests with the Organising Committee as a whole, and nothing in the Rules of Racing or Racing Bye-Laws shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Safety Adviser personally.*
6. *Medical Officer - The Organising Committee shall appoint a person as the regatta Medical Officer with specific responsibility for ensuring that appropriate medical support and facilities are readily accessible to the regatta. First aid facilities and a rescue service on the water must always be available.*
7. *Compliance with Rules of Racing - The Organising Committee is responsible for ensuring the proper running of the races and heats in accordance with the Rules of Racing. The Execu-*

tive Committee of FISA may nominate Technical Delegates to any event held under the FISA Rules of Racing to report on the conduct of the event.

8. *Radio and Telephone Communications - It is essential that there should be direct telephone and/or radio communication between the President of the Jury, the finish, the start and the Control Commission in order to enable the members of the Jury to carry out their duties properly. It is also essential that radio communication is provided between the rescue service on the water and the medical staff on duty at the course to deal with any emergency.*

Rule 38 - Disputes, Appeals and Cases not Covered

- a) International Regattas - Disputes between clubs or member federations shall be referred to the Organising Committee. Appeals against decisions of the Organising Committee may be submitted to the Executive Committee under Rule 78.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas – The Executive Committee shall adjudicate on all cases not covered by the Rules of Racing and the relevant Bye-Laws and the Regulations for FISA Events as well as on disputes which may arise during World Rowing Championship, Olympic and Olympic Qualification regattas. The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final. Any decision made by the Executive Committee under this Rule shall immediately be communicated to the member federations of FISA in writing.

Rule 39 - Prizes and Sponsorship Contracts

Competitors may receive cash or other prizes for competition. They may also enter into sponsorship contracts provided these contracts are reviewed and approved by their member federation in advance, and that these contracts are in compliance with FISA rules.

Rule 40 - FISA Merchandising Rights

At all regattas under its authority FISA retains the right to:

1. sell merchandise, souvenirs and other articles. The Organising Committee shall provide sites for this activity at no cost to FISA.
2. use and licence the name and official emblem of FISA and other

names, emblems and logos as registered by FISA. FISA shall negotiate with the various Organising Committees in order to determine what proportion of the proceeds of the sale of these rights shall be shared with them.

SECTION 2 - Advertising Provisions

Rule 41 - Commercial Publicity, Sponsorship and Advertising

The Council may prescribe Bye-Laws regarding commercial publicity, sponsorship and advertising at regattas.

Bye-Laws to Rule 41 - FISA Advertising Rules

These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 2 to the Rules of Racing.

Rule 42 - Rowers' Clothing and Blade Colours

- a) International Regattas – Members of the same crew shall compete wearing identical clothing in design and colours (racing uniform and any additional garments). If any members of crew wear headwear, then the headwear worn by those crew members shall be identical. The Council may issue further regulations regarding rowers' clothing, in particular, at Rowing World Cup regattas including use of a t-shirt provided by FISA or other FISA sponsor identification as in Rule 41. The blades of all oars and sculls shall be painted in the same manner on both sides.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas – Members of national crews shall wear the racing uniform of their member federation which must all be identical in design and colour except for permitted sponsor identifications which shall nonetheless be identical within each crew. Members of the same crew shall compete in identical clothing.

The racing uniform shall be designed so that the shoulders and arms of the t-shirts provided by FISA are seen clearly. If any members of a crew wear headwear, then the headwear worn by those crew members shall be identical. Any changes in design or colours of racing uniforms or blades registered with FISA must be submitted to the Executive Committee of FISA at least

two months before the date of the Championships.

The Council may issue further regulations regarding rowers' clothing at Championships, in particular, including use of a t-shirt provided by FISA or other FISA sponsor identification as in the Bye-Laws to Rule 41.

The blades of all oars and sculls shall be painted in the same manner on both sides in the colours of their federation.

SECTION 3 - Entries, Withdrawals and Crew Changes

Rule 43 - Authorisation of the Member Federation

- a) International Regattas - A crew may compete in an international regatta in another country only if authorised in writing by its member federation. The latter shall be held responsible for the payment of the entry fees. This rule shall not apply to masters. If an organising committee allows a crew to enter its regatta without written authorisation from the relevant member federation then that federation cannot be held responsible for the crew and for its actions.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - To represent a country in a World Rowing Championship, a competitor shall be a citizen of that country. He must be able to prove this by showing an official document (passport or identity card). In exceptional cases, the Executive Committee may make exceptions.

At World Rowing Championships rowers shall compete under the name of their member federation which shall alone be entitled to represent them. At Olympic Regattas rowers shall compete under the name of their National Olympic Committee which shall alone be entitled to represent them.

Rule 44 - Restrictions

- a) International Regattas - No competitor may compete for two different clubs or federations at the same regatta.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - No member federation may enter more than one crew in each event.

Rule 45 - Entries

- a) International Regattas - The entry of a crew for an international regatta should be made on a FISA approved entry form. The entry shall be valid only if all details required by the entry form have been completed. Names shall be shown starting with the bow rower and finishing with the stroke rower, followed by the coxswain. The organisers of an international regatta must accept every valid entry made by the closing date.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - FISA shall send to the member federations special entry forms two months before the closing date for entries. Entries must be received at FISA headquarters no later than 14 days before the date of the first heat. These entries shall indicate both the crews and the names of the rowers and coxswains in the crews. Names shall be shown starting with the bow rower and finishing with the stroke rower, followed by the coxswain. There shall be no entry fees.

Bye-Law to Rule 45 - Entries

- a. *The entry forms in Appendices 5 and 6 shall be used for international regattas.*
- b. *Entries by Boat – For the World Championships and regattas of the Rowing World Cup, member federations are required to make a provisional entry “by Boat” to be received at FISA Headquarters no later than one month before the date of the first heat.*

Rule 46 - List of Entries

- a) International Regattas - Not later than two days after the closing of the entries, the Organising Committee shall send, to all participating clubs and member federations, a list of the entries, a provisional timetable of the heats, the time(s) and venue(s) of the team managers' meeting and draw, and details of the traffic rules.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - FISA headquarters shall send a list of the nations entered in each event to all federations concerned after it has been prepared.

Rule 47 – False Declarations

Any false declaration regarding the name, classification or club

membership of a competitor shall result in the disqualification of every rower of the crew concerned from all races for which they are entered at the regatta in question.

Rule 48 - Objections to an entry

Any objection to an entry shall be lodged promptly with the Organising Committee and also with the Executive Committee of FISA. After consultation, the Organising Committee and the Executive Committee shall decide if the objection was well founded. In the case of any difference of opinion, the view of the Executive Committee shall prevail.

Rule 49 - Withdrawals

- a) International Regattas - If a club or member federation with draws from an event for which it has been entered, it shall give as much notice as possible, in writing, to the Organising Committee; at the latest, it shall give notice of the withdrawal at the team managers' meeting to be held, in principle, the day before the regatta. In the case of a regatta with two separate days of racing a withdrawal for the second day must be given, in writing, to the Organising Committee no later than one hour after the last race of the first day. In the event of a withdrawal the Organising Committee may conduct a new draw.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - If a member federation with draws a crew(s) from an event in which it has been entered it shall give notice of the withdrawal to FISA, at the latest, at the team managers' meeting before the draw. A withdrawal once made is irrevocable.

Bye-Law to Rule 49 - Withdrawals

For World Championships and regattas of the Rowing World Cup, withdrawals will be accepted without penalty until three hours before the Draw. For any withdrawals received after this time, except when accompanied by a medical certificate, the federation will be fined CHF 500 per withdrawal. At these events, changes and withdrawals will only be received at the FISA Regatta Office or another previously announced location. If a crew withdraws for valid safety reasons, there shall be no financial penalty.

Rule 50 - Crew Changes Before the First Heat

- a) International Regattas:
- i) Crews - Clubs or member federations may substitute up to one half the number of rowers (as well as the coxswain, if applicable) in all crews entered by them, provided that the substitutes are members of the same club (or, in the case of composite crews, of one of the clubs concerned); and in the case of national team crews, of the same member federation and that the changes are communicated in writing to the Organising Committee at least one hour before the first heat of the event.
 - ii) Single Scullers - No substitute is permitted for a single sculler.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas:
- i) Crews - Same as at International regattas above.
 - ii) Single Scullers - A single sculler who entered and falls ill or is injured in an accident may, on production of a medical certificate, be replaced before his heat.

Bye-Law to Rule 50 - Changes after the Entry Deadline and before the First Heat

In the case of illness of, or injury to, a member of a crew before the first heat, a substitution may be made if a medical certificate is provided and if the change is approved by a member of the Sports Medicine Commission of FISA or its delegate. A separate medical examination of the rower concerned may be required by this member or delegate. The replaced rower may compete at any point during the competition on production of a further medical certificate, and with the approval of the same member of the Sports Medicine Commission or delegate, and of the Executive Committee.

Rule 51 - Changes after the first Heat

- a) International Regattas:
- i) Crews - No change may be made in a crew which has already raced in their heat of the event, except in the case of serious illness or accident, in which case a medical certificate shall be required. Any necessary decision shall be

taken by the Organising Committee. A rower who has been replaced may no longer compete in the same event, even if he is restored to health.

- ii) Single Scullers – No substitute is permitted for a single sculler.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas:
- i) Crews – a crew which has already raced in the heat of its event may not make changes in the crew, except in the case of serious illness or accident, in which case a medical certificate shall be required. In such a case the change must be approved by a member of the Sports Medicine Commission of FISA or its delegate, who may require a separate medical examination of the rower concerned. The rower may compete again at any point during the competition on production of a further medical certificate, and with the approval of the same member of the Sports Medicine Commission or his delegate, and the President of the Jury. Not more than one half of the rowers in a crew (plus the coxswain, if applicable) may be changed in accordance with this Rule.
 - ii) Single Scullers - No substitution may be made of a single sculler once he has competed in his heat.

SECTION 4 - Safety and Fairness

Rule 52 - Guiding Principles - Safety and Fairness

The principles guiding the Organising Committee and the regatta officials in charge of the regatta shall be:

1. Safety of all competitors,
2. Fairness for all competitors.

Each individual competitor and team official shall act at all times in accordance with these principles.

Rule 53 - Safety - General Principles

Detailed measures to ensure the safety of competitors shall be included in the Bye-Laws, but an organising committee must in addition check the particular safety aspects of its regatta and impose

further safety measures as appropriate. The Council may remove a regatta from the FISA International Regatta Calendar if it is not satisfied that the Bye-Laws regarding safety have been observed.

During the official opening hours of the course, a medical and rescue service shall be ready to act both on the land and on the water.

The Organising Committee shall announce the official opening day of the course for training (a minimum of one day before the start of an International regatta and four days before at a World Championships), and shall also announce the opening time and the closing time of the course on each day of training and of racing.

All rowers shall compete in their races in accordance with the rules in force relating to the safety of their boats, oars, sculls and other items of equipment. In addition it is the responsibility of rowers, coaches and their club or member federation to ensure that all their equipment is in a suitable condition for the water conditions prevailing during the event. They shall comply with the instructions of the Jury and of the Organising Committee on any matter relating to safety.

At FISA Events, all care will be taken to provide the safest conditions possible. However, the ultimate responsibility for competing lies with the member federation or club for whom the rower is competing and with the individual. In this respect FISA accepts no legal liability.

Bye-Law to Rule 53 – Team Managers

At FISA Championship and World Cup Regattas each participating member federation shall appoint a Team Manager. The Team Manager, or his delegate, shall attend each official team managers' meeting and shall communicate information from the meeting concerning racing and safety to all rowers and coaches in their team. Failure of a member federation to appoint a team manager or failure of a team manager to attend official meetings or communicate information may result in the member federation being penalised by the Executive Committee.

Rule 54 - Traffic Rules on the Course

The Organising Committee must publish, and display clearly in the boathouse or embarkation area, the traffic rules to be followed to control the movement of the boats on the water. These rules must

cover:

- Traffic rules for training,
- Traffic rules for racing.

It is the responsibility of every rower, coach and team manager to read, to understand and to obey all the traffic rules.

In addition the rowers, while warming up or cooling down shall:-

1. Not cross the finish line (in any direction) while boats from another race are in the process of finishing,
2. Stop when competing crews approach their position,
3. Not follow a race over all or part of the course, even outside the buoyed area, when not taking part in a race.

Bye-Law to Rule 54 – Traffic Rules on the Course

A copy of the traffic rules must be sent to every club and national federation entered together with the list of entries. The traffic rules must also be published in the official programme and on large signs clearly displayed in the boating area. These signs shall be located beside the pontoons where the crews go out on to the water.

The traffic rules for training shall identify at least one clear lane of water (13.5m) as a neutral lane between crews travelling in opposite directions on the water. If it is not possible to provide the neutral lane, then the crews travelling in opposite directions must be separated by a “swimming line”, or equivalent, as a continuous, physical barrier.

In principle there shall be no training during racing at international regattas. The traffic rules for racing shall also cover the warm-up area and the cool-down area. They shall also take into consideration the safe movement of any boat taking part in the victory ceremony.

Rule 55 - Other Boats on the Water

During the official hours of training and racing no boat (moving or fixed) shall be allowed on the regatta course or the training areas without the specific authority of the President of the Jury. The President of the Jury shall determine the position and the movement of all approved vessels, i.e. Umpires' launches, rescue boats, television

boats etc.

Rule 56 - Damage to Equipment

Should a crew suffer damage to its equipment, the Board of the Jury shall, upon request from any of the crews involved, decide who is at fault.

Rule 57 - Fairness – General Principles

All rowers shall compete fairly, showing respect for their opponents and for the race officials. In particular, they shall be at the start on time, stay in their assigned lane throughout the duration of the race and follow instructions of the officials at all times.

Failure to comply with these requirements may lead to a penalty being imposed on the crew. The race officials shall ensure that the Rules of Racing are applied fairly to all competitors.

Rule 58 - Fairness - Innovations

1. Significant innovations in equipment including, but not limited to, boats, oars, related equipment and clothing, must meet the following requirements before they are allowed for use in FISA International Regattas; including World Championships and Olympic Games:
 - a. They must be available to all competitors (no exclusive patents);
 - b. The costs involved must be reasonable;
 - c. There must be equal chances for all competitors;
 - d. They must be safe and environmentally sound.
2. The innovation must be submitted to the FISA Executive Committee for evaluation. If it is judged to meet the above conditions and is approved for use, it must be readily available for all competitors by January 1st in order to be authorised for use in International regattas that year. Crews with unapproved innovations shall not be allowed to compete.

The Executive Committee has the sole authority to decide all matters under this Rule including whether an innovation is significant, whether it is readily available, whether the costs are reasonable and whether it is safe and environmentally sound.

Rule 59 - Fairness - Weather

Provisions to be applied when unfair weather conditions prevail at World Rowing Championships, Olympic Regattas, Olympic Qualification Regattas and Rowing World Cup regattas are set out in Rule 64.

At other international regattas, in unfair weather conditions, the President of the Jury may decide to apply similar provisions to Rule 64.

SECTION 5 - The Draw and Progressing to the Finals

Rule 60 - FISA Progression System

Should the number of crews taking part in an event exceed that of the available starting positions, a progression system or time trials shall be used. The draw for the heats shall take place at a team managers' meeting to be held, in principle, the day before the regatta. The draw shall be random unless the Executive Committee of FISA decides in the case of a major event that there should be seeded crews in each heat.

- a) International Regattas - Each round of an event shall finish at least two hours before the following round of the same event.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - If preliminary races are required before the Final, they shall, in general, be organised in such a way that a competitor shall not be required to race more than once a day in the same event. The progression system to be used at World Rowing Championships and Olympic Regattas shall be prescribed in the Bye-Laws.

Bye-Laws to Rule 60 - FISA Progression System to determine finalists

The system of Heats, Repêchages and Semi-finals used at FISA Championships and Rowing World Cup regattas is as follows:

<i>H</i>	=	<i>Heat,</i>
<i>R</i>	=	<i>Repêchage,</i>
<i>S A/B</i>	=	<i>Semi-finals for Finals A & B,</i>
<i>S C/D</i>	=	<i>Semi-finals for Finals C & D, etc.,</i>
<i>S A/B/C</i>	=	<i>Semi-finals for Finals A & B & C,</i>
<i>S D/E/F</i>	=	<i>Semi-finals for Finals D & E & F, etc.,</i>
<i>FA</i>	=	<i>(Final A) Final for places 1-6,</i>
<i>FB</i>	=	<i>(Final B) Final for places 7-12, etc.,</i>
<i>TT</i>	=	<i>Time-Trial,</i>
<i>X</i>	=	<i>Eliminated.</i>

In the cases where there are options these shall be chosen by a draw.

At the World Rowing Championships the Executive Committee may, in exceptional circumstances, decide not to hold Finals C, D, E, F and so on, and/or the relevant Semi-finals.

The details of the FISA Progression System are found in Appendix 3 to the Rules of Racing.

Rule 61 - The Draw

At World Rowing Championships, Olympic and Rowing World Cup regattas, the draw for the first round of heats shall take place at the Team Managers' meeting on the day before the first heat takes place, or earlier if appropriate. If an event has a final only, then the draw for lanes may also take place at the main draw.

For a World Rowing Championship regatta, if an event has less than seven entries at the time of the draw, there shall be a draw for lanes for a preliminary race and the results of that race shall determine the lanes attributed for the final.

If a crew withdraws after the draw, but at least one hour before the start of the first heat and if the number of crews remaining in the event involves another variant of the heats and repêchages, or if the withdrawal results in an avoidable imbalance between the number of crews in each heat, the Executive Committee shall hold a new draw.

Bye-Law to Rule 61 - Determining the Lanes (Normal Conditions)

1. *Where appropriate the Executive Committee of FISA shall appoint a Seeding Panel for a particular event. The purpose of seeding is to avoid having all the faster boats in an event being drawn into the same heat in the first round. The Seeding Panel will apply criteria determined by the Executive Committee and published in advance.*
2. *For the heats (or final where there are no heats), a draw shall be held to determine the lane to be occupied by each crew except where the crews have been seeded. Any seeded crews shall be drawn in lanes such that there are unseeded crews on both sides of the seeded crews. There shall be a random draw for the order of the heats so that the highest seeded crew is not always in heat 1. The seeding order shall only affect the placing of crews in the heats, it shall not be taken into account for any of the later rounds of competition.*
3. *For the repêchages, semi-finals and finals, the principle is to put the crews with the best placings in their previous round in the inner lanes. Similarly the crews with the lower placings in their previous round are put in the outer lanes. If the crews have the same placings in the heats, repêchages or semi-finals then there shall be a draw to determine their lanes in the next round.*

Rule 62 - Withdrawals and Disqualifications after the Draw

If a crew withdraws or is excluded or is disqualified after the Draw then the following procedures shall operate:

1. If the withdrawal, exclusion or disqualification takes place before the start of the first heat or the start of the first repêchage or the start of the first semi-final of the event the President of the Jury may take the appropriate steps to modify the Draw or to make a new Draw. The result of the race will show the crew as DNS (Did Not Start), EXC (Excluded) or DSQ (Disqualified) and the crew will be placed last in the overall ranking of that event.
2. If a crew stops rowing during a heat, a repêchage or a semi-final and does not finish the race then the result of the race will show the crew as DNF (Did Not Finish). The number of crews

stipulated in the draw will go forward to the next round. The crew that does not finish the race will not race again in the event and will be placed last in the overall ranking of that event. In the case of a problem outside the control of a crew which prevents the crew from finishing a race, the President of the Jury or, at a FISA Event, the Executive Committee, may decide to place that crew last in that race.

3. If a crew is excluded or disqualified after the start of the first heat of the event, then the result of the race will show the crew as EXC or as DSQ. The number of crews stipulated in the draw will go forward to the next round. The crew that has been excluded or disqualified will not race again in the event and will be placed last in the overall ranking of the event or events.
4. In any final, if a crew withdraws before the start of the race or if a crew stops rowing during the race and does not finish the race, then the result of the race will show the crew as DNS (Did Not Start) or DNF (Did Not Finish). The crew that withdraws or stops during the race will be placed last in that final.

Rule 63 - Time Trials

- a) International Regattas - In the case of a very large entry in certain events and/or limited time availability or in adverse conditions, the Organising Committee may decide to hold Time-Trials instead of or in combination with heats, repêchages, semi-finals and finals as provided below.
- b) World Rowing Championships - In the case of a very large entry in certain events and/or limited time availability, or in adverse weather conditions, the Executive Committee may decide to hold Time-Trials instead of, or in combination with heats, repêchages, semi-finals and finals as provided below.

Bye-Law to Rule 63 - Time Trials

1. *If the Time-Trial System is used for the heats then in each separate heat the highest seeded crew starts first and the second highest seeded crew shall start second. The remaining crews shall start in the order of their lanes, as given from the official draw.*
2. *If the Time-Trial System is used for repêchages, semi-finals or finals then in each separate race the crews shall start in order*

according to their placings in the previous round. Where two crews have the same placing, (e.g. both were heat winners), then there shall be a draw to determine their starting order.

3. *Each separate race shall be started at not more than five-minute intervals.*
4. *Crews in each race compete in the same lane and shall be started at approximately 30-second intervals.*
5. *Crews start with a “flying start” and are timed from the 100m mark. They race 1900m.*
6. *If a crew is caught by any crew that starts behind them then they must move out of the lane to allow the overtaking crew to pass safely. Once the crew has overtaken them then they must move back into the original lane.*
7. *In a Time-Trial, Rule 69 (Damage while in the Start Zone) does not apply.*

Rule 64 - Adverse Weather Conditions

- a) **International Regattas** – The President of the Jury shall consult with the appropriate members of the Jury and with the Chairman of the Organising Committee and may make changes to the programme if the weather creates unfair or unrowable conditions.
- b) **World Rowing Championships, Olympic Regattas, Olympic Qualification Regattas and Rowing World Cup Regattas** - the Executive Committee shall appoint a “Fairness Committee” to make changes to the programme and/or to the FISA Progression System if the weather creates unfair or unrowable conditions. The Fairness Committee shall consist of three persons being representatives of the Umpiring Commission, the Events Commission and the Competitive Rowing Commission or their delegates.

Bye-Law to Rule 64 - Alternative programmes in cases of Adverse Weather Conditions

1. *It is the duty of the Fairness Committee to determine that the weather has created, or is about to create, unfair or unrowable-conditions. It is then their responsibility to implement the appro-*

priate programme from the alternatives described below. In applying these alternatives the Fairness Committee will always consider (a), (b) and (c) before considering (d) or (e).

- (a) To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions.*
 - (b) To delay the racing programme, either to later in the same day or to the next day, if the weather forecast indicates that the conditions are likely to improve.*
 - (c) To start racing earlier than previously announced, provided that the announcement of the new times is made at the Team Managers' Meeting on the previous day.*
 - (d) To re-allocate the lanes for each individual race, using the placings from the previous round to put the crews with the better placings (or the seeded crews for the heats or final where there are no heats or the fastest in the case of a Time-Trial) in the better lanes. For a heat, the unseeded crews shall start in the order of their lanes, as assigned to them in the official draw. Where two or more crews have the same placing in the immediately previous round, (e.g. each were heat winners), then there shall be a draw to determine their lanes.*
 - (e) To implement the Time-Trial System for each individual race, e.g. if there were four heats from the official draw, then there shall be four separate Time-Trial Races.*
- 2. World Championships and Olympic Games –** *After the Fairness Committee has determined that alternatives (a) to (e) in 1) above are not appropriate solutions to the difficulties created by adverse weather conditions and after consultation with the teams at a Team Managers' Meeting convened for this purpose, it is the duty of the Executive Committee to decide whether to implement one of the following solutions in order to continue the regatta:*
- (a) To omit a round of the event (e.g. semi-finals) where adverse conditions have stopped racing for a significant period of time. In such a case the composition of the next rounds will be determined on the basis of the results of those rounds that have been completed and may necessitate more than six crews in each race. Wherever possible the rankings of the crews in the previous rounds will be used as the basis for the composition of the next rounds.*

- (b) To reduce the length of the race to no less than 1,000 m where conditions are so adverse that no other alternative is possible.*

SECTION 6 - The Start

Rule 65 - At the Start

The first 100 metres of the Regatta Course constitutes the start zone. A crew may enter the start zone if permitted by the Starter, but shall not enter the racing lanes until all crews from the preceding race have left the start zone and the Starter has attributed a lane to the crew. Crews must be attached to their starting positions at least two minutes before the designated start time.

The Starter may start the race without reference to absentees. A crew arriving late at its starting position may be awarded a Yellow Card by the Starter.

Rule 66 - The Starting Procedure

The Starter shall inform the crews of their starting positions. He shall start the race when the crews are ready and when the Judge at the Start indicates that the crews are correctly aligned. The Judge at the Start alone shall decide if the boats are correctly aligned and if one or more crews have committed a false start.

Should the Judge at the Start deem the start to be faulty, the Starter shall stop the race and shall award a Yellow Card to the crew or crews which, in the opinion of the Judge at the Start, caused the false start. A crew receiving two Yellow Cards which apply to the same race, for any infringement whatsoever, shall be excluded from the event.

Bye-Law to Rule 66 - The Starting Procedure

1. Starting Procedure (with flags)

Crews must attach themselves to their start pontoons at least two minutes before the starting time of their race. Two minutes before the designated start time, the Starter shall announce "Two minutes" and this shall signify to the crews that they are formally under

Starter's orders. The announcement of "Two minutes" shall also be an instruction to the crews to prepare to race i.e. remove additional clothing, check equipment etc.

Before giving the start commands, the Starter shall ensure that the Umpire and the Judge at the Start are ready. When the boats are aligned and the crews are ready to race, the Starter shall make a roll-call by announcing - in lane order - the names of each of the crews in the race. Once the roll-call begins the crews must make sure that their boats are straight. Each crew is responsible for being both straight and ready to race at the end of the roll-call.

Once the roll-call begins the Starter shall take no further notice of any crew which then indicates that it is not ready or that it is not straight. After the last crew has been named in the roll-call the Starter shall check that the Judge at the Start is indicating that the crews are still correctly aligned and shall then say: "Attention".

The Starter shall then raise the red flag.

After a clear pause the Starter shall give the start by dropping the red flag quickly to one side and simultaneously saying: "Go".

The pause between the raising of the flag and the start command (dropping the red flag and saying "Go") shall be clear and variable.

If the starting procedure is interrupted for any reason external to the crews or for a false start then the Starter must begin the procedure again, starting with the roll-call.

2. Starting Procedure (with traffic lights)

Crews must attach themselves to their start pontoon at least 2 minutes before the starting time of their race. At this stage, the traffic lights on the start pontoon are in a neutral state. Two minutes before the designated start time, the Starter shall announce "Two minutes" and this shall signify to the crews that they are formally under Starter's orders. The announcement of "Two Minutes" shall also be an instruction to the crews, to prepare to race i.e. remove additional clothing, check equipment, etc.

Where an Alignment Control Mechanism is in use, the Starter, after announcing "Two Minutes" shall alert crews by announcing "Raising Start System". He shall then activate the alignment mechanism to raise it to the surface.

Before giving the start command the Starter shall ensure that the Umpire and the Judge at the Start are ready. When the boats are aligned and the crews are ready to race the Starter shall make a roll-call by announcing - in lane order - the names of each of the crews in the race. Once the roll-call begins, the crews must make sure that their boats are straight. Each crew is responsible for being both straight and ready to race at the end of the roll-call.

Once the roll-call begins, the Starter shall take no further notice of any crew that then indicates it is not ready or it is not straight. After the last crew has been named in the roll-call the Starter shall check that the Judge at the Start is indicating that the crews are still correctly aligned and shall then say:

“Attention”,

The Starter shall then press a button (or switch) to change the traffic lights from the neutral position to red. After a clear pause, the Starter shall give the start by pressing a button that shall, at the same moment:

- (a) change the red light to green,*
- (b) make an audible signal through the loudspeakers,*
- (c) start the timing system for the race,*
- (d) freeze the picture on the monitor in the Aligner’s hut,*
- (e) release the Alignment Control Mechanism (if provided).*

The pause between the red light and the start command (the green light and the audible signal) shall be clear and variable.

If the starting procedure is interrupted for any reason external to the crews or for a false start, then the Starter shall begin the procedure again, starting with the roll-call.

3. Quick Start

In exceptional circumstances, the Starter may decide not to use the normal start with the roll-call. If so, the Starter shall inform the crews that the “Quick Start” shall be used. Once the normal start has been used, the Starter shall not change to the quick start for the same race. For the quick start, instead of the roll-call, the Starter shall say: “Quick Start”. He shall then say “Attention”.

The Starter shall then either:

- a) *raise the red flag, or*
- b) *press the button for the red light.*

After a clear and variable pause, the Starter shall give the start either:

- a) *by dropping the red flag quickly to one side and simultaneously saying: "Go", or*
- b) *by pressing the button to turn the red light to green and simultaneously to make an audible signal.*

Rule 67 - False Start

A boat crossing the start line after the Starter has raised his red flag, or the red light is shown, and before the start command is given has committed a false start. If more than one boat crosses the start line before the start command is given, only the crew or crews that the Judge at the Start decides actually caused the false start shall be awarded a Yellow Card.

Bye-Law to Rule 67 – Consequences of a False Start

After the start command has been given, the Starter shall look towards the Judge at the Start to satisfy himself that it was a good start. Should the Judge at the Start indicate that this not be so, the Starter shall stop the race by ringing his bell and waving his red flag from side to side. If the traffic lights start system includes both visual and audible signals to indicate a false start then these shall be used (instead of the bell and the red flag) by flashing the red light and sounding the audible signal repeatedly.

In the case of a false start, the Judge at the Start shall inform the Starter of the name of the crew or crews to be penalised and the Starter shall award that crew or crews a Yellow Card when they have returned to their starting position by stating "(Name of Crew), False Start, Yellow Card!"

The Starter shall instruct the official on the starting platforms to place a yellow marker adjacent to the starting position of the crew or crews at fault. This Yellow Card shall remain in effect until the race has been rowed and shall therefore apply in the case of a postponement or a re-row.

Rule 68 – Objections at the Start

A crew excluded or disqualified at the start may make an objection to the Umpire or the Starter at the time. The Umpire or the Starter shall decide immediately on the objection and shall communicate his decision to the crews in the race and to the other race officials.

SECTION 7 - During the Race**Rule 69 - Damage while in the Start Zone**

If a crew, while still in the start zone, sustains damage to its boat or equipment then a member of the crew shall raise his arm to indicate that there is a problem. The Starter or the Umpire shall stop the race. The Umpire shall then decide on the steps to be taken, after consulting (if necessary) with the President of the Jury.

Rule 70 - Responsibility of the Rowers

All rowers shall compete in their races in accordance with the rules. Rowers are responsible for their own steering. Each crew shall have a lane reserved for its own use and shall remain completely (i.e., including its oars or sculls) within this lane throughout the race. If a crew leaves its own lane then it does so at its own risk. If it impedes or interferes with any of its opponents or gains any advantage thereby, it may be penalised.

Rule 71 - Interference

A crew causes interference to its opponents if its oars, sculls or boat encroach into the opponent's lane and cause a disadvantage to its opponents by contact, its wash or other distraction, or in any other way. The Umpire alone shall decide if a crew is in its own lane or if it is interfering with another crew and causing them a disadvantage. If a crew has caused interference to another crew and has, in the Umpire's opinion, affected the finishing position of that crew then it shall be excluded by the Umpire but, in principle, only after it has been warned by the Umpire. In the situation where a collision between boats or oars or sculls has occurred the Umpire may exclude the crew causing the collision even if no prior warning has been given to that crew.

In no case may the Umpire alter a placing.

Bye-Laws to Rule 71 - Consequences of Interference

- 1. Warning a crew - If a crew is about to interfere with another by its wash or by leaving its lane, the Umpire shall raise his white flag, call to the crew at fault, stating the name of the crew and indicate the required change of direction by lowering his flag to that side. In principle, the Umpire may not steer a crew unless there is an obstruction in its lane.*
- 2. Stopping a crew - To ensure the safety of the competitors and to prevent damage to boats and equipment, the Umpire may intervene by raising his white flag, naming the crew and giving the command "Stop".*
- 3. Alerting the Umpire - If, during a race, a crew considers that it is being interfered with by another crew and is suffering a disadvantage thereby, then a member of the crew should, if possible, draw the attention of the Umpire to the interference at the time the interference occurs to indicate that it intends to make an objection.*
- 4. Remedying a disadvantage - If a crew is placed at a disadvantage, the first priority is to restore its chances of winning. The imposition of any penalties is a secondary priority. Should a crew's chance of winning be lost, the Umpire must take the most appropriate course of action provided by the Rules. He may, for example, stop the race, impose the appropriate penalty and order the race to be re-rowed. Depending on circumstances, he may allow the race to continue and the Umpire will then announce his decision after the race is over. He may not simply penalise the crew at fault while the crew that has suffered interference does not have its chances restored to it.*

Rule 72 – Coaching during racing

It is prohibited to give any instructions, advice or directions to rowers or crews that are racing with any electric, electronic or other technical device, either directly or indirectly.

SECTION 8 - The Finish

Rule 73 - Finish of the Race

A crew has finished the race when the bow of its boat has crossed the finish line. The race shall be valid even if the crew is incomplete. Nevertheless, a crew of a coxed boat crossing the finish line without its coxswain shall not be placed.

Bye-Laws to Rule 73 - Finish of the Race

1. *The race was in order - A race is over only when the last crew has crossed the finish line. Even if he is satisfied that the race was in order, the Umpire must check to be sure that no crew is making an objection under Rules 71 or 74 before indicating to a Judge at the Finish, by raising his white flag, that the race was in order. Before leaving the finish area he shall make sure that a Judge at the Finish has acknowledged his signal.*
2. *The race was not in order - If the Umpire considers that the race was not in order he shall raise his red flag. If an objection has been raised, he shall speak to the affected crew(s) in order to understand the reasons for the objection. He shall then inform the crews and the Judges at the Finish of his decision. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision.*

Rule 74 – Objections

A crew claiming that its race was not in order or was improperly judged may make an objection to the Umpire immediately after the finish of the race and before leaving the finish area by raising an arm.

The Umpire of the race decides on the objection and communicates his decision to the crews in the race and to the other race officials.

Bye-Law to Rule 74 - Objections

If a crew considers that the race was not in order a member of the crew must raise his arm to indicate that it is making an objection. In this case the Umpire shall not raise any flag but he shall consult with the objecting crew and consider their objection. The Umpire may then decide upon one of a number of alternative actions e.g.:-

- a) *He may over-rule the crew's objection and raise a white flag to signify that he has decided that the race was in order,*
- b) *He may accept the crew's objection and raise a red flag to signify that he has decided that the race was not in order. In this case he must go to the Judges at the Finish in order to give them his decision and any necessary explanations. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision,*
- c) *He may decide to seek further information regarding the objection. In this case, he shall raise a red flag and then take any necessary further steps to resolve the issues relating to the objection, e.g., consult with other officials, consult with other persons, consult with the President of the Jury etc. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision.*

If there is likely to be a long delay in resolving the objection, the Judges at the Finish may announce an "unofficial" result of the race but with the clear statement "Subject to an Objection".

Rule 75 - Dead-Heats

When the order of finish between two or more crews cannot be determined, then the result is declared a dead heat between the crews involved. If there is a dead-heat, the following procedure shall operate:

1. In a heat, a repêchage or a semi-final if a dead-heat occurs between crews and if only one of the crews progresses into the next round, then there must be a re-row over the full course between the crews involved. The re-row must take place on the same day as the dead-heat and not less than two hours after the race in which the dead-heat occurred. If all crews involved in the dead-heat progress anyway into the next round, there will be no re-row and their relative positions in the next round shall be decided by lot.
2. In a final, if a dead-heat occurs between crews, then they shall be given equal placing in the final order and the next placing(s) shall be left vacant. If the tied placing is for a medal position then the Organising Committee shall provide additional medals.

SECTION 9 – Protests, Outcome of Protests, Appeals

Rule 76 – Protests

A crew whose objection has been rejected or crews affected by the acceptance of the objection or crews disputing the published results may lodge a protest in writing to the President of the Jury not later than one hour after the Umpire has communicated his decision regarding the objection or, in the case of disputing the published results, one hour after the results have been published. It shall be accompanied by a deposit of CHF 100 or equivalent, which amount shall be refunded if the protest or appeal is allowed.

The Board of the Jury shall decide if the protest was justified. It will make its decision before the next round of races in the event concerned, and, in any case, no later than two hours after the last race of the day.

As a general rule, in the case of a protest concerning the final of an event, the victory ceremony of that event will be postponed until after the Board of the Jury has made its decision.

Rule 77 - The Outcome of the Protest

The Board of the Jury shall decide on the protest and on the measures resulting from its decision including:

1. reprimand;
2. Yellow Card (applying to the next round in which the crew is concerned);
3. relegation (in minimum boat weight violations),
4. exclusion (from all the rounds of the event in question);
5. disqualification (from all events in the regatta);
6. re-row (for a specified number of crews).

After application of the appropriate penalty, if any, the Board of the Jury shall take any other appropriate measure to restore the chances of a crew that has suffered a disadvantage.

Rule 78 – Appeals

- a) International Regattas - An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury (or of an Organising Committee under Rule 38) by a person affected can only be made to the Executive Committee within three days after such decision has been communicated by the Board of the Jury to the person affected.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas – An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury by a person affected can only be made to the Executive Committee on the same day. A decision will be given before the next round of the event concerned.

Decisions of the Executive Committee under this rule are final.

SECTION 10 - The Jury**Rule 79 - International Umpires**

Any Umpire who has held a national licence for at least three years may become an international Umpire, provided that:

1. he has normal sight and hearing, and
2. he passes the examination held by FISA.

The International Umpires' Licence is valid for a period of four years. When the holder participates in an Umpires seminar organised by FISA, the licence is automatically extended for the next four years. These seminars are normally organised at FISA Championships, some international regattas or at the request of a national federation. In the latter case, the federation must pay the travel and accommodation expenses of the FISA experts who attend.

Bye-Law to Rule 79 – Expiry of an Umpire's Licence

1. *The holder of an expired international licence who wishes to act as an Umpire shall take a fresh examination. An international licence shall expire finally on December 31 following the 65th birthday of the holder.*
2. *The expiry of a national licence automatically results in the cessation of validity of an international licence.*

Rule 80 - Composition of the Jury

- a) International Regattas - The Jury shall be appointed by the organising committee (see Rule 37) and consist of persons carrying out the following duties:
1. President of the Jury,
 2. Starter,
 3. Judge at the Start,
 4. Umpire,
 5. Judge at the Finish, one shall be the senior Judge,
 6. Senior member of the Control Commission and members of the Control Commission.

The President of the Jury, the Starters, the Judges at the Start, the Umpires, the senior Judge at the Finish and the senior member of the Control Commission shall be holders of an international Umpire's licence.

- b) FISA Championship Regattas - The FISA Umpiring Commission shall appoint the Jury for World Rowing Championships and shall supervise its activities.

Rule 81 - Role of the Jury

The Jury shall ensure that the regatta is run in accordance with these Rules of Racing and, in particular, that all crews race under the same conditions.

Rule 82 - Collaboration with the Organising Committee

The proper running of a regatta requires close collaboration between the Organising Committee and the Jury. The members of the Jury shall, within the scope of their duties, maintain a constant check on the various items of technical equipment on the course.

Rule 83 - The Board of the Jury

The Board of the Jury shall consist of the President of the Jury and two other members of the Jury designated by the President of the Jury on a daily basis prior to the start of racing. The names of the Board of the Jury shall be displayed on the notice boards in the boat-house area each day. This Board shall decide on any protests made

according to Rule 76.

At International Regattas, the President of the Jury shall also nominate three substitutes. In the case of a protest, any member of the Board directly involved in the dispute (e.g. the Umpire or the Starter) shall not be a member of the Board which decides that protest. In such a case, the President of the Jury shall call upon one or more of the substitutes.

Rule 84 - President of the Jury

The President of the Jury shall allot duties to each member of the Jury and shall supervise their activities. He shall take the chair at meetings and ensure proper co-ordination with the Organising Committee. In principle, at FISA Championship regattas, the Chair of the Umpiring Commission shall be the President of the Jury.

Rule 85 - Exceptional Cases

- a) International Regattas - Should it be necessary to make decisions in exceptional cases (e.g., postponement of a session of races or suspension of the regatta), the President of the Jury shall appoint and preside over a body to make such decisions.
- b) FISA Championship Regattas - Should it be necessary to take decisions in exceptional cases (e.g., postponement of a session of races or suspension of the regatta), the Executive Committee or another committee specifically appointed by the Executive Committee for that purpose shall make such decisions.

Rule 86 - Safety of Rowers

The safety of rowers must be the prime concern of the Jury at all times during the regatta. The President of the Jury shall ensure proper co-ordination between the Jury and the Organising Committee, in particular with the Safety Adviser and with the Medical Officer.

Rule 87 - Penalties

The Jury shall impose appropriate penalties in any case of breach of the rules. The penalties available to the Jury are:

1. reprimand,
2. Yellow Card (it will apply to the next round in which the crew

competes),

3. relegation (in minimum boat weight violations),
4. exclusion (from all the rounds of the event in question),
5. disqualification (from all events in the regatta).

The Umpire may also order a race to be re-rowed with all the crews or with a limited number of the crews should this be necessary, in his opinion, to ensure the fairness of the competition.

Rule 88 - The Regatta Report

The Jury shall carry out its duties until the end of the regatta. The Chairman of the Organising Committee and the President of the Jury shall write the regatta report on the standard form of FISA (Appendix 7) which shall include comments on the running of the races and on any incidents and disputes arising. This report shall be received at FISA not later than 7 days after the regatta. Each Organising Committee shall also send to FISA not later than 7 days after the regatta the complete results of the regatta.

Rule 89 - The Starter and the Judge at the Start

The Starter and the Judge at the Start shall ensure that the correct starting procedure is followed.

Bye-Laws to Rule 89 - Duties of the Starter and the Judge at the Start

1. Starter

- 1.1 *General Duties - Before taking up his duties, the Starter must satisfy himself that all equipment and installations required by the Rules covering the start and the course are present and in working order. The Starter shall check that the steering guides are present and that the radio and/or telephone communication with the Judge at the Start, the President of the Jury, the Judges at the Finish and the Control Commission is in working order. The Starter shall also make certain that any crews on the water are obeying the prescribed traffic rules.*
- 1.2 *Languages - In principle, the Starter and the Umpire give their information in English. If, for any reason, the use*

of another language enables a member of the Jury to be better understood by a crew, a competitor or an accompanying official, he may repeat his information in that language.

- 1.3 *Unfair conditions - The Starter shall consider whether the wind is likely to create unequal conditions and, after consultation as described in a) and b) below, he shall take whatever steps may be necessary in accordance with these rules to ensure a fair race.*
 - a) *International Regattas – The Starter shall consult with the President of the Jury.*
 - b) *FISA Championship Regattas – The Starter shall consult with the Fairness Committee.*
- 1.4 *Information to Crews – The Starter shall inform the crews of the time remaining before the start and tell them (as soon as they enter the starting zone for the first time) in which lane they will race. In addition, he shall inform the crews when there is five minutes, four minutes and three minutes remaining before the start time. He shall check that the competitors' equipment and clothing are in order.*
- 1.5 *Starting Procedures - The Starting Procedures to be employed by the Starter (including Quick Starts and False Starts) are described in the Bye-Law to Rule 66 in the Rules of Racing.*
- 1.6 *Exclusion - The Starter shall exclude from the race a crew having received two Yellow Cards that apply to the same race.*
- 1.7 *Late Arrival - The Starter may award a Yellow Card to crews arriving late (less than 2 minutes before the start time) at their starting positions or not ready to race at the designated start time. He may exclude a crew arriving after the start time.*
- 1.8 *Postponement - Should it be necessary to postpone a race (e.g. equipment breakage) or should some other unexpected event occur (e.g. lightning), the Starter shall consult with the Umpire and the President of the Jury; then inform the crews of the new starting time both verbally and in writing (legible to all competitors) on a board affixed to the start tower. The Starter shall inform*

the Control Commission and the Judge at the Finish of the new starting time and the President of the Jury of anything unusual. In all cases, crews must inquire from a member of the Jury regarding any changes before getting out of the boat.

2. Judge at the Start

2.1 Communications - Before taking up his duties, the Judge at the Start shall ensure that the radio and telephone link with the Starter and between the aligner and the officials on the starting platforms is in working order. The Judge at the Start sits at the front of the aligner's hut, in line with the start line.

2.2 Aligning - The Organising Committee shall appoint the aligner and the officials on the starting platforms. The aligner instructs these officials to adjust the position of the boats until they are correctly aligned. The aligner sits behind the Judge at the Start, in line with the start line, seated on a higher (30cm) chair or platform, looking over the head of the Judge at the Start.

The Judge at the Start checks that the aligner has positioned all the boats with their bows exactly on the start line. When he is satisfied that this is the case he indicates this to the Starter by raising his white flag. (Where a white and red light are available for this purpose, the Judge at the Start shall use these lights in place of the white and red flags.) Should correct alignment be lost during the subsequent starting procedure he shall lower his flag or switch off the white light until the boats are realigned.

2.3 False Start - Should he consider that there is a false start, the Judge at the Start shall inform the Starter and the Umpire by waving a red flag or displaying a red light. After the race has been stopped, he shall inform the Starter of the name of the crew or crews which caused the false start. The decision as to whether one or more crews caused a false start is the sole responsibility of the Judge at the Start.

2.4 Contact with the Umpire – Before the start, the Judge at the Start shall make contact with the Umpire to assure himself that the latter is ready.

Rule 90 - The Umpire

The Umpire shall ensure the proper conduct of the race and the safety of the rowers. In particular, he shall endeavour to ensure that no crew gains any advantage or suffers any disadvantage from its opponents or from outside interference. Where the Umpire is satisfied that a crew has been significantly impeded, the Umpire shall endeavour to ensure that its chance of winning is fully restored to it. He shall impose appropriate penalties on crews at fault but, in principle, only after a previous warning. The Umpire shall not give any steering indications to crews. Nevertheless, he shall endeavour to ensure that accidents are avoided and to prevent crews from being impeded by their opponents.

If necessary, the Umpire may stop the race, impose any necessary penalties and order the race to be re-rowed from the start, either immediately or later. In the latter case, he shall decide on the new starting time in consultation with the President of the Jury and he shall inform the crews concerned.

The Umpire may also allow the race to continue and exclude crews after the race has finished. He may confine any re-row to such crews as he shall designate. However, when the Umpire has serious doubt whether the impediment affected the result of the race, or considers the effect of the impediment was not significant, he may decline to order a re-row of the race or of the crews involved in the incident.

Bye-Laws to Rule 90 - Duties of the Umpire

- 1. Precedence - Except for the duties specifically attributed to them, both the Starter and the Judge at the Start are subordinate to the Umpire.*
- 2. Duties on the Way to the Start - On the way to the start, the Umpire shall inspect the course installations to ensure that they are in proper order and shall satisfy himself that there are no obstacles on the course. He also makes certain that any crews on the water are following the prescribed traffic rules. Should he find any defect in the installations, he shall inform (e.g. by radio from the start if necessary) the President of the Jury and he shall also inform any crews concerned.*
- 3. Duties during the Starting Procedure - During the starting procedure, the Umpire's launch should either be immediately beside the Judge at the Start or behind the crews, in the centre*

of the course. Should the start for any reason be faulty, the Umpire may order the Starter to stop the race or may stop it himself by ringing a bell and waving his red flag.

4. *Duties in the Start Zone - As soon as the race has started, the Umpire's launch shall follow immediately the competitors in the centre of the course. If a crew, while still in the start zone, indicates that it has suffered damage to its boat or equipment, and if the Starter has stopped the race, the Umpire shall decide, after having examined the damage, whether the claim was justified and shall if necessary apply any appropriate penalties. He may himself stop the race, if there is delay on the part of the Starter.*
5. *Position of the Umpire's Launch - During the race, the Umpire must ensure that his launch is so placed as best to enable him to take action as effectively as possible. The position of the Umpire's launch depends on the progress of the race and the possible positions of the crews in the subsequent heats; it may also depend on weather conditions.*

The Umpire must satisfy himself that crews whom he may wish to address can hear him. Should it be necessary to overtake one or more crews, he must see to it that they are not hampered more than is necessary by the wash of his launch.

6. *Type of Race - The Umpire's decision may be influenced by the type of race (heat, repêchage, semi-final or final). He must therefore take this factor as well as the position in the subsequent races into account in considering any action which he may take under these rules.*
7. *Safety - The Umpire shall take every care to ensure the safety of the competitors and he must do his utmost to prevent damage to boats and equipment. When necessary, he may call a crew's attention by raising his white flag, stating the name of the crew, and stop it by giving the command "Stop". Should one or more competitors fall into the water or should any boat capsize or sink, the Umpire must satisfy himself that the rescue service is in action and, if not, himself take any necessary measures.*
8. *Adverse Weather - In the case of squalls or sudden deterioration of the weather, it is the responsibility of the Umpire to decide if the race may be started, is to continue or if it is to be stopped. The safety of the competitors is more important than any of the provisions of the Rules of Racing.*

9. *Clothing - When officiating, the Umpire shall stand upright in his launch and wear the prescribed clothing (dark blue blazer, light blue shirt, FISA tie and grey trousers and, if worn, a dark blue hat). In wet weather, he may wear a blue raincoat. In very hot weather, he may officiate in his shirtsleeves, with or without a tie. Decisions on dress shall be taken by the President of the Jury, taking weather conditions into account.*
10. *Overall Ability, Coaching - The Umpire must keep himself informed on rowing questions in general. It is also desirable that he should get to know the racing characteristics of individual crews and coaches. As coaching with electric, electronic or other technical devices is not allowed during racing, the Umpire must make a regular check on the area adjacent to the course.*

Rule 91 – Judges at the Finish

The Judges at the Finish shall determine the order in which the bows of the boats cross the finish line. They shall ascertain that the race was in order. They shall be responsible for validating the results.

Bye-Laws to Rule 91 - Duties of the Judge at the Finish

1. *Duties - The duties of the Judges at the Finish are as follows:*
 - a) *To determine the order in which the bows of the boats cross the finish line;*
 - b) *To satisfy themselves that the Umpire has indicated, by raising his white flag, that the race was in order and to indicate to the Umpire acknowledgement of his signal by raising a white flag or displaying a white light;*
 - c) *To list the crews in their correct order of finish;*
 - d) *To check that the official results on the result sheet and on the scoreboard are correct.*

The senior Judge at the Finish shall sign the official record of the results.
2. *Position - In order to enable the officials in the finish tower to carry out their duties correctly, they must be seated one behind the other and one above the other along the projection of the finish line. As a general rule, there shall be at least two judges, one of them the senior judge, at the finish.*

3. *Timing - Intermediate times and finish times shall be recorded to 1/100th of a second. The necessary equipment shall be operated by specialists who do not form part of the team of Judges at the finish.*
 - a) *International Regattas - If the order of finish can be clearly determined by the naked eye, times taken by hand-operated timing equipment may be used. In the case of a photo-finish the times shown on the result sheets and on the scoreboard shall be taken from the photo-finish for all the crews in the race.*
 - b) *FISA Championship Regattas and World Cups – All times shown on the result sheets and on the scoreboard shall be taken from the photo-finish for all the crews in the race.*
4. *Photo-finish - In the case of a close finish the Judge at the Finish shall determine the order of finish by viewing the picture produced by the photo-finish system. If the Judge at the Finish is not able to determine the order of finish between two or more crews then the result will be declared as a dead heat between the crews involved. The necessary equipment shall be operated by specialists who do not form part of the team of Judges at the Finish. Systems using less than 100 frames per second are not suitable for determining the order of finish. Organisers must provide equipment specially designed for the purpose.*

Rule 92 - Control Commission

The Control Commission shall ensure that the composition of the crews is correct and that their equipment is in order. It shall also assist in the identification of the rowers required to undergo doping tests after their race.

Bye-Laws to Rule 92 - Duties of the Control Commission

The organising committee shall appoint the members of the Control Commission taking into account the regatta programme and the number of competitors. FISA (at FISA Events) or the appropriate national federation (at International regattas) shall supervise the activities of the Commission which shall carry out its duties in the boathouse area and at the boat stages. In particular, the Control Commission is responsible for checking the following points:

1. *Crew changes before the race;*
2. *The provision of substitutes for competitors who have fallen ill between heats of a race;*
3. *Weighing of coxswain;*
4. *Dead weight to be carried by coxswains (before and after the race);*
5. *Weighing of competitors in lightweight events;*
6. *Classification of competitors where necessary;*
7. *The nationality of competitors, the ages of Junior, Under 23 and Masters competitors and, where applicable, the average ages of Masters crews;*
8. *Boats and equipment:*
 - a) *provision of a white ball on the bow of each boat (or equivalent construction),*
 - b) *lane numbers,*
 - c) *possible use of unauthorised radios for coaching and water soluble chemicals intended to increase the speed of the boat, and structures prohibited by the Bye-Laws to Rule 31,*
 - d) *where applicable, minimum weights of boats,*
 - e) *conformity of the boat with the rules regarding advertising,*
 - f) *painting of oar-blades where required;*
9. *Uniform clothing of competitors and its conformity with the rules regarding advertising;*
10. *Where doping tests are carried out, the Control Commission is responsible for seeing that the competitors required to undergo tests are taken to the officials responsible for this immediately after getting out of the boat;*
11. *At World Championships, that the photographing of competitors has taken place, either before the Heats or immediately after the Heats, and the checking of the competitors' identity with those photographs before each subsequent race.*

PART VII - Anti-Doping Rules

Rule 93 – Anti Doping

Doping is strictly prohibited.

The fight against doping is regulated by the World Anti-Doping Code, that the FISA Congress has formally adopted as FISA rules and that the FISA Council has the power to clarify and/or supplement, by appropriate Bye-Laws.

In rowing, for those who infringe doping provisions, a penalty may be imposed extending to, in a relevant case, a life ban from all competition.

The version of the World Anti-Doping Code, its Bye-Laws and the FISA Anti-doping Bye-Laws valid at the time of the violation shall apply.

Bye-Laws to Rule 93 – Anti-Doping

These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 4 to the Rule of Racing.

PART VIII - CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Rule 94 – Concluding Provisions

These Rules of Racing were approved effective immediately by the FISA Extraordinary Congress from 3rd to 5th February 2005 in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Denis Oswald
President

Matt Smith
Executive Director