



5 May 2008

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Dear Matt

### **2010 WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS – LAKE KARAPIRO – DATES**

As advised in my email of 27 February 2008, Rowing New Zealand applied to host the 2010 World Rowing Championships from 12-19 September 2010 on advice that such a date would be preferred by the Northern Hemisphere nations because of its proximity to the World Cup series and the end of the northern rowing season. September is relatively cold (average 10-15 degrees from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm), but a relatively calm month as regard wind speeds.

From the standpoint of the total event, November would have been our preferred month as it was in 1978, notwithstanding that it is slightly more wind prone than September. If proximity to the World Cup series is not a major consideration, then we wish to seek approval to change the date to for the World Championships to Sunday 31 October through to Sunday 7 November 2010.

The principal reasons for the change are:

- November is well into the southern spring, and temperatures are on average 5 degrees warmer than September throughout the day;
- There will be leaves on the trees and the course and surroundings, as well as New Zealand overall will have a more pleasant ambience;
- The course embankment area and the boat park and team areas will be in better (drier) condition for spectators and athletes respectively;
- For the same reason, car parking areas will be more proximate to the venue thus improving spectator logistics;
- September is the climax for winter sports in New Zealand, and rugby in particular, which may compromise spectator support for the World Championships if they were held in September.

As regards the weather, we have undertaken as comprehensive analysis as possible of weather conditions during the first 2 weeks of September and November from 2003-07 with the following conclusions:



**(i) Temperature**

- November temperatures are on average around 5 degrees warmer than September

Degrees C	Av at 9.00 am	9.00 am Range	Av at 3.00 pm	3.00 pm Range
November	16.1	11 -20	18.5	12 -24
September	10.6	5 – 15	15.4	9 - 20

**(ii) Wind**

- Average and maximum wind speeds in November are around 1 m/s higher than in September.

Meters/second	Av at 9.00 am	Max at 9.00 am	Av at 3.00 pm	Max at 3.00 pm
November	3.5	7.8	5.5	9.3
September	2.4	6.5	4.1	10.3

- In our experience the course is rowable and fair at wind speeds of up to 8 metres per second (15.6 knots). There is a greater possibility of maximum wind speeds exceeding this in November (7% incidence over the past 5 years) than in September (1.5% incidence over the past 5 years).

	Av m/s 9.00am	Av m/s 3.00pm	No. of Days where av. Exceeds 4 m/s	No. of Days where av. Exceeds 6 m/s	No. of Days where av. Exceeds 8 m/s
1-14 September					
2003	3.05	4.3	8	3	1
2004	2.56	5.16	7	1	0
2005	1.6	3.08	2	0	0
2006	2.46	4.71	2	0	0
2007	1.88	3.59	4	2	0
1-14 November					
2003	3.75	6.8	9	4	1
2004	2.67	5.04	4	2	1
2005	3.19	5.07	7	3	1
2006	3.64	5.45	6	6	1
2007	2.57	4.62	4	1	1

- However, the above is drawn from data collected at the Hamilton Airport which is 15 km from the course, and exposed to all winds. The course is sheltered from the prevailing winds (NW and SW) to an extent, and although gusting can occur, wind speeds on the lake are less than those recorded at the airport, and the above incidence factors would be less.
- Point in time data suggests that gusting may be up to 3-4 times average wind speeds when it occurs.



- The course is most vulnerable to NE and SE winds above 4 m/s (Matt and Svetla will recall the North Easter during the finals day of this National Championships, which is about as bad as it gets). The incidence of such winds over the past 5 years has been around 7 per cent, with no distinction as between November and September.

**(iii) Fog**

- While September does experience milder winds than November, a consequence of the colder temperatures and minimal winds is that the course may experience fog up until 9.30-10.00 am.

**(iv) Conclusion**

September is a calmer month, but it is colder and fog prone. The data suggests that in November the course may well experience winds of around 6 m/s, but we conclude that this is tolerable, and will not compromise some splendid racing.

Overall therefore, while we have no control over the weather, or influence with who or whatever determines the weather, we recall that the 1978 Championships which spanned October and November experienced excellent weather, and we are comfortable in recommending a November date for the World Championships.

**Accommodation**

We have been able to secure the hotel prices quoted in the bid for November, despite it being the beginning of the high tourist season, but we will need to confirm the date quickly, and would appreciate your early consideration.

Yours sincerely

W J Falconer  
Chairman