

Message to FISA International Umpires

Re: a new requirement to be eligible for World Rowing event juries in 2018 and beyond

Dear FISA umpires,

In February many significant changes were made to FISA's Statutes and Rules of Racing at the 2017 FISA Extraordinary Congress in Tokyo. Many FISA Member Federations will inform their own umpires about these changes. The new Statutes and Rules are now available on the website at this link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/rule-book> and, as well, each FISA Umpire will be sent a 2017 FISA Rule Book by post.

However, our experience shows that, in many cases, just reading the rules is not enough. There is quite a difference between the 'theory' and the 'practice' and the 'practice' is better explained in our seminars.

Having this in mind, the FISA Umpiring Commission will organise a number of (shorter than usual) **Rules Update Clinics** during the 2017 international season. These will mostly be linked to our FISA-events or major international regattas. The main subject of the clinics will be to explain the Tokyo changes and consequences to the umpires.

One of the reasons for the Rules Update Clinics is that we want well prepared juries so the jury members do not learn about these Tokyo changes at the first jury meeting of future world rowing events (even in 2018, 2019 or 2020). Being shorter (max. 1,5 to 2 hrs) the Rules Update Clinics (with a limited content) will not count for the 'normal' extension of the umpires license. Another option will be to participate in a "Online" Rules Update Clinic conducted by the FISA Umpiring Commission. More details will be issued soon on how to participate in one.

Attendance at a Rules Update Clinic is a requirement for an Umpire to be selected for the 2018 (and beyond) FISA juries.

As usual, attendance at a standard Umpiring Seminar (4,5 to 6 hrs) in 2017 and beyond will continue to be a requirement for an international umpire to extend the umpiring license and to be considered as a potential candidate for FISA juries in 2018 and beyond.

Attached you will find the 2017 FISA Umpiring Exam / Seminar (updating & normal) list as is known today.

We would be pleased to add seminars upon requests by National federations to organise a **Rules Update Clinic or standard Umpiring Seminar**. If you would like to request a seminar, do not hesitate to contact FISA-office or myself to discuss the practical arrangements.

Sincere regards,

Patrick ROMBAUT

Chair FISA Umpiring Commission

15 March 2017