

Athlete Lane Selection System for International Events

at the First 2018 World Rowing Cup regatta

The Council has agreed to test a system where athletes choose their own lanes for all rounds following the heats. The system will be tested at World Rowing Cup I in Belgrade for repechages, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals of all International events.

As an outdoor sport, rowing results can be affected by the impact of weather conditions on lanes. The purpose of athlete lane selection is to place in the hands of athletes the key decision on lane assignment based on their previous round performance. The lane selection process shall be as follows:

- Crews shall nominate one rower to make the lane selection on their behalf;
- The lane selection will take place at the Control Commission close to the outgoing pontoons;
- The nominated rower for each crew must be present at the Control Commission 90 minutes before their race time in order to make the lane selection;
- Each crew shall have a maximum of 30 seconds to make the selection;
- Crews with the higher ranking in the previous round shall choose their lane first. Where crews have equal ranking a random draw shall be made to decide which of those crews chooses first. The order in which crews will select their lanes will be indicated on a Preliminary Start List;
- Any crew not present in the lane selection area at the designated time shall lose their priority and select last. Crews not present by the end of the lane selection process shall be allocated the remaining lane or in the case that more than one crew is not present for the lane selection, a random draw will be made for lanes between the missing crews.
- Once the lane selection has been completed for a race, an updated start list showing the lane allocation will be produced and distributed via the normal channels, i.e. at the team information centre and on www.worldrowing.com.

Contingency arrangements will be in place where athletes are delayed through no fault of their own or if the race programme is delayed.

Crews should make their own analysis of weather and forecasts to enable their lane selection. FISA will publish a weather forecast but will not take responsibility for changing weather or the accuracy of the forecasts.

Where athlete lane selection is in place, the Fairness Committee will not reallocate lanes in the case of adverse or changing weather. The Fairness Committee will only have the option to move lanes across the course (for example use lanes 2–7, instead of 1–6) or can stop racing if conditions become unrowable.

Full details of the procedures for lane selection will be published and distributed to teams on their arrival at the venue in Belgrade and a briefing will be held directly after the Team Managers Meeting and Draw to explain the process to teams.