

## **The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress for the Attribution of the 2015 World Rowing Championships**

The 2015 World Rowing Championships bid process commenced in August 2010 when FISA received interest from five candidates; Aiguebelette (FRA), Brandenburg (GER), Brest (BLR), Strathclyde (GBR) and Varese (ITA).

Each of these federations was then sent an explanation of the bidding process, the rules of conduct and a detailed bid questionnaire. The technical requirements and possibilities for differentiation of the bids were explained and bidders had an opportunity to ask questions at a bid seminar. During the subsequent months, each candidate was required to submit all necessary information and guarantees needed to enable FISA to examine and analyse their bid in detail and prepare for inspection visits in Spring 2011 and then prepare final bids.

Final bids were received from Aiguebelette (FRA), Strathclyde (GBR) and Varese (ITA) on 31 May. On Saturday 18 June, in Hamburg, Germany the three candidates formally presented their final bids to the FISA Council. The standards of preparation and presentation by all candidates were very high and enabled the Council to form clear and informed opinions.

A chart is attached which sets out and compares only the main points of differentiation between the bidding candidates.

### **Major factors in the Council's assessment**

The major factors in the Council's assessment of the bids are as follows:

#### **1. Racing conditions and fairness:**

Strathclyde has stronger and more frequent wind speeds compared to Aiguebelette and Varese, although previous results at the venue indicate that the wind does not create unfair conditions. Average wind speeds in Varese and Aiguebelette are low and the risk of adverse weather conditions is relatively low compared to Strathclyde. Aiguebelette and Varese also have a large area outside of the course that can be used for warm up, cool down and adaptive training lanes, reducing the impact of these activities on the racing lanes.

#### **2. Course installations:**

All three venues will offer high quality installations and facilities, although Strathclyde is the venue with more complete facilities at the time of the bid. While Aiguebelette and Varese currently have existing courses, the Aiguebelette bid is based on the laying of a new course with difficult anchoring conditions because of the depth of the lake and construction of a new finish tower. The bid committee has engaged an engineering firm that has fully analysed the situation and provides guarantees for the installation of the Albano course and floating installations. The Varese course will be moved slightly in less challenging conditions and a new finish tower is currently being built – both course and finish tower will be ready for the 2012 European Rowing Championships.

#### **3. Financial support:**

All three bids have solid financial support with a low proportion of the budget revenue allocated to unguaranteed sources, being mainly ticketing and sponsor income. Aiguebelette has the highest percentage of the operating budget guaranteed by government.

#### **4. Organisational experience:**

Strathclyde and Aiguebelette have successfully organised World Rowing events previously and retain many of the skills and resources from those events. Following the organisation of the 2012 European Rowing Championships and the 2013 World Rowing Masters Regatta, Varese should have an experienced organisation by 2015 that will also benefit from the experience of the personnel gained from hosting the 2008 World Road Cycling Championships.

#### **The Council's Proposal to Congress**

Having examined the detailed aspects of the bids submitted, and taking all relevant factors into account in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of Racing, the FISA Council has selected Aiguebelette, France as the most suitable candidate and proposes to the Congress that the right and responsibility of hosting of the 2015 World Rowing Championships be attributed to the French Rowing Federation, in Aiguebelette, France.

Chart follows.

## Analysis of the FISA Council on the Bids for the 2015 World Rowing Championships

FISA received bids for the 2015 World Rowing Championships from three candidates; Aiguebelette (FRA), Strathclyde (GBR) and Varese (ITA). Each bid has been examined and analysed by the FISA Bid Inspection Team and the Council.

Set out below are the main points of differentiation and comparison between the bidding candidates.

	<b>Aiguebelette (FRA)</b>	<b>Strathclyde, Scotland (GBR)</b>	<b>Varese (ITA)</b>
<b>1. The water body</b>	A natural lake that allows for warming up and cooling down areas away from the course. TV coverage and race commentary would take place from catamarans on the water.	A man-made lake with limited space outside the course. Warming up/cooling down areas are close to the racing lanes in some areas. Race commentary would take place from catamarans, with TV coverage from catamarans or cabled cameras.	A natural lake that allows for warming up and cooling down areas away from the course. TV coverage and race commentary would take place from catamarans on the water
<b>2. Racing conditions</b>	Weather statistics indicate a low risk of adverse weather conditions. The location of the warm up and cool down zones should cause little or no disturbance to the racing lanes.	Weather statistics indicate that the prevailing winds in Strathclyde are stronger and more frequent than in Aiguebelette and Varese, however statistics indicate that the course remains reasonably fair in windy conditions. The proximity of the warm up and cool down zones to the course may cause some disturbance to racing lanes.	Weather statistics indicate a low risk of adverse weather conditions. The location of the warm up and cool down zones should cause little or no disturbance to the racing lanes
<b>3. Adaptive rowing conditions</b>	The proposed facilities and installations for the adaptive rowers are adequate. The installation of a temporary/removable start bridge at the 1000m mark will be difficult as a result of the deep water, however a specialist agency will be employed to ensure accurate and secure installation. There is space for a dedicated adaptive training area outside the course.	The proposed facilities and installations for the adaptive rowers are adequate. An existing removable start bridge will be installed at the 1000m mark.	The proposed facilities and installations for adaptive rowers are adequate. An existing removable start bridge will be installed at the 1000m mark. There is space for a dedicated adaptive training area outside the course.

## Analysis of the FISA Council on the Bids for the 2015 World Rowing Championships

<p><b>4. Course installations and venue</b></p>	<p>The position of the course on the lake will be changed from its current position, so new race installations must be constructed and a new Albano anchoring system must be installed. All technical installations except the finish tower and the aligner's hut would be floating.</p> <p>Some temporary structures would be required to supplement the existing permanent facilities. The existing team facilities will be renewed and will be adequate.</p>	<p>The existing Albano system will be renewed. Most technical installations are existing and on land. It is proposed that the Finish Tower be relocated to provide more space between the course and the finish tower.</p> <p>A small number of temporary structures will be required to supplement existing permanent facilities. The existing team facilities are renewed and of a good quality.</p>	<p>New race installations and a new Albano system will be in place for the 2012 European Championships. All technical installations except the finish tower are floating. The aligner's hut will be fixed on piles.</p> <p>Some temporary structures will be required to supplement existing permanent facilities, but the venue facilities will be adequate.</p>
<p><b>5. Accommodation &amp; transport</b></p>	<p>The accommodation offer is characterised by a large number of small hotels, clustered in two main areas. The majority of the hotels are in the two and three star category. Prices, on average, are more than Varese but less than Strathclyde.</p> <p>Maximum driving time to the venue is estimated at 30 minutes.</p> <p>The closest large airport is Lyon, which is a 45 minute drive from Aiguebelette. Geneva airport is a 1 hour drive away.</p>	<p>The bulk of the accommodation will be in an athletes' village, based at two adjacent university residences, with hotels also available. Prices are more expensive than in Aiguebelette and Varese.</p> <p>Maximum driving time to the venue is estimated at 28 minutes.</p> <p>Teams can fly into either Glasgow or Edinburgh airport, both a 45 minute drive from Strathclyde.</p>	<p>The Varese bid offers high quality accommodation in close proximity to the course. The accommodation prices are lower than the Aiguebelette and Strathclyde prices.</p> <p>Average driving time from hotels to the course is between 10 and 20 minutes.</p> <p>Milan's Malpensa airport is a 20-minute drive from Varese, with two more airports, Linate (50 minutes) and Orio (1 hour 15 minutes).</p>
<p><b>6. Financial strength</b></p>	<p>81% of the operating budget expense is guaranteed by government.</p> <p>100% of the infrastructure budget is guaranteed by the local government.</p>	<p>60% of the operating budget expense is secured at the bid stage by government. No significant infrastructure spending is required but a re-working of the finish tower is being considered.</p>	<p>68% of the operating budget expense is guaranteed by government at the time of the bid.</p> <p>100% of the infrastructure budget is guaranteed by the local government.</p>

## Analysis of the FISA Council on the Bids for the 2015 World Rowing Championships

<p><b>7. Organisational strength</b></p>	<p>The organising committee would benefit from the experience of the French federation (1997 World Championships, 2009 World Junior Championships) and the local authorities of the Savoie region (1992 winter Olympics, 2009 Alpine Skiing World Championships, national rowing regattas).</p>	<p>The organising committee would benefit from the combined experience of the local resources (1996 non-Olympic and Junior World Championships, 2007 World Under 23 Championships), British Rowing (2006 World Championships, 2011 World Junior Championships) UK Sport, EventScotland as well as a pool of resources with experience from the 2012 Olympics and the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.</p>	<p>The current organising committee has little experience in the organisation of major rowing events. Varese will host the 2012 European Championships and the 2013 Masters Regatta and so the OC would build experience through these events. The organising committee will have access to the staff of the local and regional authorities and will also benefit from their event management experience gained by at the 2008 Road Cycling World Championships.</p>
<p><b>8. Environmental sustainability</b></p>	<p>The environmental strategy is well integrated into all aspects of the event. The lake and surrounding land is a protected area and subject to stringent standards. It is also central to the ecotourism strategy of the Savoie Council. The bid focuses on minimising impact on the environment and also using the Championships for a positive impact on the environment.</p>	<p>The approach to environmental sustainability is thorough, stating an environmental sustainability policy with clear objectives and specified targets. The OC will implement an ISO 20121 event sustainability management system.</p>	<p>The bid focuses on four areas: protection of nature, 'climatic neutrality', waste management and environmental communication. It will use the Championships as an opportunity to make a positive impact on the environment in accordance with the ecotourism strategy of the province of Varese.</p>
<p><b>9. Participant experience</b></p>	<p>The new course and the land-based facilities would provide an attractive ambience for the teams, media and spectators. An effort has been made to ensure that transport would be efficient for all groups.</p>	<p>Many angles have been explored to ensure that all participants would enjoy a distinctly Scottish experience at the Championships. A high level of service is planned for athletes, media and spectators.</p>	<p>For most teams, media, officials and spectators, Varese would be the easiest venue to travel to by road or air. The hotels and venue are short distances apart and should ensure a stress-free transportation.</p>

## Analysis of the FISA Council on the Bids for the 2015 World Rowing Championships

<p><b>10.Promotion &amp; presentation of the sport of rowing</b></p>	<p>The promotions plan is in line with FISA's objectives of promoting the sport of rowing and presenting it in a way that attracts spectators on site and offers a good product for television.</p>	<p>The Strathclyde bid focuses strongly on targeted communications and advertising to promote the event, as well as programmes to promote FISA's objectives and the sport of rowing. The event would be linked to the Edinburgh Festival.</p>	<p>The promotional plan is in line with FISA's objectives of promoting the sport of rowing. It is strongly linked to the 2015 World Exposition "EXPO 2015". There is an agreement in place with the Expo, which will link and promote the World Championships and could attract additional spectators to the venue. Clean water is a theme of the Expo.</p>
<p><b>11.Support for the development programme</b></p>	<p>Accommodation, meals and transport offered for 150 people for 10 days, as well as a training camp prior to the event, with boats and coaching support provided by free of charge. This offer satisfies FISA requirements.</p>	<p>Accommodation, meals and transport offered for 120 people for 10 days, as well as a training camp prior to the event, with boats and coaching support provided free of charge. This offer satisfies FISA requirements.</p>	<p>Accommodation, meals and transport offered for 150 people for 10 days, as well as a training camp prior to the event, with boats and coaching support provided free of charge. This offer satisfies FISA requirements.</p>
<p><b>12. Legacy</b></p>	<p>Having already staged a world championship, the local/regional impact on rowing would be medium. The World Championships would cause a major change in the regatta course and on the land infrastructure. It should be noted that no world level events have been held at this venue since the 1997 Championships.</p>	<p>This would be the first full World Championship for Scotland but not for British Rowing. A new finish tower might be built and some technical structures renovated, but no major changes are currently planned for the infrastructure.</p>	<p>This would be the first World Championships for this location. The OC have demonstrated through its bidding programme that the venue infrastructure improvements are intended to support future international events.</p>