

FISA RULES OF RACING AND RELATED BYE-LAWS

PART I – SCOPE

Rule 1- Rowing, Boats, Regattas

Rowing is the propulsion of a displacement boat, with or without coxswain, by the muscular force of one or more rowers, using oars as simple levers of the second order and sitting with their backs to the direction of movement of the boat. Rowing on a machine or in a tank which simulates the action of rowing in a boat is also considered as rowing.

In a rowing boat, all load bearing parts including the axes of moving parts, must be firmly fixed to the body of the boat, but the rower's seat may move along the axis of the boat.

A rowing regatta is a sporting competition consisting of one or more events divided, if necessary, into a number of races, in one or more classes of boats for rowers divided, as a general rule, into different categories of sex, age or weight.

Rule 2 – Application

These Rules and the relevant Bye-Laws shall apply to:

1. World Rowing Championship regattas,
2. Olympic, Youth Olympic and Paralympic regattas within the limits of the authority of FISA and the relevant Qualification regattas,
3. Regattas held as part of regional or other Games within the limits of the authority of FISA,
4. Continental and Regional Championship regattas,
5. International Regattas including the Rowing World Cup and the World Rowing Masters regattas,
6. where appropriate, international rowing ergometer competitions.

FISA Events are also governed by the FISA Events Regulations. These rules also apply equally and by analogy to rowing regattas organised in connection with multi-sport competitions.

The Executive Committee of FISA may authorise exceptions notably for continental championships.

Any member federation, club or individual who participates in any capacity in a rowing competition governed by these Rules is deemed to accept without exception or reservation the application of these Rules and the related Bye-Laws, particularly those relating to the authority and jurisdiction of FISA and of the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Rule 3 – Exceptions

At International Regattas, the host member federation or the Organising Committee, acting in agreement with the member federation may, in exceptional cases, depart from these provisions and apply its own national rules. In any such case, the Executive Committee shall be notified immediately after the regatta and the reasons for such change shall be given.

Rule 4 – World Rowing Championships

The following shall be deemed to be World Rowing Championships:

1. World Rowing Championships for men and women in Senior, Lightweight and Adaptive categories,
2. World Rowing Under 23 Championships for men and women and lightweight men and lightweight women,
3. World Rowing Junior Championships for men and women.

These titles shall be used only for World Rowing Championships organised by FISA.

Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas shall have the same status and follow the same rules as World Rowing Championship. Within the limits of the authority of FISA the same Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws shall apply.

World Rowing Championships shall be held in every year. However, in an Olympic and Paralympic year, the Olympic and Paralympic events will not be offered at the World Championships in that year.

World Rowing Junior Championships and World Rowing Under 23 Championships shall be held in every year.

The World Rowing Under 23 Championships may be held at the same time and same venue as the World Rowing Junior Championships.

Rule 5 – Attribution of World Rowing Championships

The Council shall select the most suitable candidate(s) and propose it (them) to the Congress for final approval. The Congress shall vote to accept the proposed candidate or, where more than one candidate is proposed by the Council, to elect one of those candidates by a majority of valid votes cast. In the event that Congress fails to so accept the Council's proposed candidate or one of the candidates proposed by the Council, a second election shall then take place for which all candidates for that Championships shall be eligible.

FISA shall encourage a worldwide attribution of World Rowing Championship regattas to suitable candidates

The Council may directly attribute a World Rowing Championship regatta for the year before an Olympic Games regatta to an Olympic host city as a test event for the Olympic Regatta without a vote of Congress.

Rule 6 – Right to Participate

World Rowing Championships are open to all member federations. World Rowing Championships for Lightweight, Adaptive, Under 23 and Junior rowers as well as lightweight events included in the Olympic Games are open only to rowers complying with the requirements of the relevant category.

The other events at the World Rowing Championships and Olympic Regattas are open to all rowers without restriction of age or weight. Youth Olympic and Paralympic regattas are open only to those rowers whose federations have qualified in the appropriate boat classes in accordance with the relevant qualification system prescribed in the Bye-Laws.

Rule 7 – Rowing World Cup – Definition

The Rowing World Cup is a series of designated international regattas, staged at intervals throughout the international regatta calendar. FISA has the sole right to designate regattas as Rowing World Cup regattas and to use the Rowing World Cup name and logo. The Council may prescribe Regulations and Bye-Laws governing the Rowing World Cup.

Rule 8 – International Regattas – Definition

An International Regatta is a rowing competition, over any distance whether started abreast or against the clock, which is open to competitors from all

member federations. Each member federation is responsible for informing FISA of any competition to be held in its country which conforms to this definition. FISA will decide whether such competition is to be defined as an International Regatta and, if so, that Regatta will be included in the FISA International Regatta Calendar under Rule 15.

Rule 9 – International Regattas – Control by FISA

In principle, International Regattas shall be conducted according to the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws, but FISA's Executive Committee may approve exceptions to these Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

International Regattas shall take place under the authority of FISA, which may give directions to the Organising Committee and may nominate two Technical Delegates to supervise and verify the application of the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws or any variation of them approved by FISA's Executive Committee.

Details of any exceptions made to the FISA Rules of Racing or Bye-Laws shall be provided to competing federations and clubs at the time of their invitation to take part in the Regatta. Each member federation is responsible for ensuring that the organisation of any competition within its country defined by FISA as an International Regatta complies with the requirements of this Rule.

Rule 10 – Competition in International Regattas

No competitor shall enter for International Regattas, nor, in general, make any direct approach to FISA (e.g. on a question of appeal) except in the name of and through his club and member federation.

A member federation may participate in events at all International Regattas as the national team without club designation. If rowers compete in an International Regatta under the name of their national team, they shall be citizens of the country of that member federation. In this last regard, the Executive Committee may make exceptions in exceptional cases.

The Council may authorise competitions between members and non-members of FISA.

Rule 11 – International Matches – Definition

An International Match is a rowing competition, over any distance whether started abreast or against the clock, which is restricted only to competitors from certain member federations.

Each member federation is responsible for informing FISA of any competition to be held in its country that conforms with this definition. FISA shall decide whether such competition is to be defined as an International Match and, if so, that match shall be included in the FISA International Regatta Calendar under Rule 15.

Rule 12 – International Matches – Control by FISA

In principle, International Matches shall be rowed according to the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws, but FISA may approve exceptions to these Rules and Bye-Laws.

International Matches shall take place under the authority of FISA, which may give directions to the Organising Committee and may nominate two Technical Delegates to supervise and verify the application of the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws or any variation of them approved by FISA. Details of any exceptions to the FISA Rules of Racing or Bye-Laws shall be provided to competing member federations at the time of their invitation to take part in the International Match.

Each member federation is responsible for ensuring that the organisation of any competition within its country defined by FISA as an International Match complies with the requirements of this Rule.

Bye-Law to Rules 9 to 12 – Technical Delegates

1. *Duties – In general, the duties of the Technical Delegates are to ensure that the FISA Rules of Racing and Racing Bye-Laws are complied with, and that the regatta is satisfactorily run both from the safety and competitive points of view.*
2. *Appointment – The Technical Delegates shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and their appointment shall be notified by the Executive Director to the Organising Committee of the Regatta.*
The Organising Committee shall notify the President of the Jury, the Safety Adviser and the Medical Officer of the appointment of the Technical Delegates.
3. *Arrangements – The Organising Committee shall be requested to arrange free accommodation, meals and local transport for the Technical Delegates during the period of the visit.*
4. *Duration of Stay – The Technical Delegates should arrive at the regatta site at least one day before the Team Managers' Meeting at which the draw*

shall be carried out, and should stay for the whole time of the regatta. They should make themselves known to the Chairman of the Organising Committee, the President of the Jury, the Safety Adviser and the Medical Officer.

- 5. Inspection – On arrival the Technical Delegates should inspect the regatta course with a representative of the Organising Committee taking particular note of safety aspects, including warm-up and cool-down areas, traffic rules in racing and training, and areas where crews will be marshalled. They will also inspect the boating area, to ensure that the arrangements for boating and disembarking are satisfactory and that the traffic rules are adequately displayed. They will also ensure that the minimum requirements for an international regatta required by the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws are in place (e.g. distance markers, photo finish, weighing arrangements, medical facilities, rescue services, etc.).*
- 6. Draw – The Technical Delegates shall attend the Team Managers' Meeting and observe the draw. In a regatta where the Executive Committee has decided that seeding is to be applied, they shall ensure that the Competitive Rowing Commission's advice as regards seeding is put into effect, and that the competitors are made aware that seeding is being practised.*
- 7. Jury Meeting – The Technical Delegates shall attend at least the first meeting of the Jury. They should notify the Jury of any problems which they foresee, either from a safety or competitive point of view. However, the Technical Delegates should leave the Jury to carry out its role as set out in Rules 91 to 94 of the Rules of Racing.*
- 8. Advice – During the regatta, the Organising Committee and/or the Jury shall consult the Technical Delegates on any matter where there is any uncertainty concerning the application of FISA rules. The Technical Delegates shall advise the Organising Committee and the President of the Jury of any failure to comply with FISA rules.*
- 9. Safety Responsibility – The legal responsibility for matters of safety rests with the Organising Committee and nothing in the Rules of Racing or Racing Bye-Laws shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Technical Delegates.*
- 10. Technical Delegate's Report – Within seven days of the end of the regatta, the Technical Delegates shall send a report to the Executive Committee of FISA, which shall then forward it to the Organising Committee of the*

Regatta. The report should set out comments, proposals, criticisms in a prescribed format.

Rule 13 – National Regattas

A National Regatta is a rowing competition, over any distance whether started abreast or against the clock, which is intended in general for competitors from one federation only. The fact that competitors from other member federations may enter such regattas does not necessarily render them International Regattas.

National Regattas shall be governed by the rules of racing of the member federation of the organising body.

Rule 14 – Approval of International Regattas

All member federations shall, not later than 30th September in each year, send to the headquarters of FISA a list of all competitions proposed to be held in their countries during the following year, that conform with the definitions of an International Regatta in Rule 8 or of an International Match in Rule 11. They shall submit to the Council for approval:

1. The dates on which these Regattas and Matches are to be held,
2. Details of the courses (stretches of water and technical installations) proposed,
3. The type of Regatta proposed,
4. The categories of competitors and classes of boats proposed,
5. Any envisaged exception to the FISA Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

Rule 15 – FISA International Regatta Calendar

All International Regattas and International Matches approved by FISA under Rule 9 or 12 shall be entered in the FISA International Regatta Calendar. However, FISA may, at its discretion, also include the dates of other competitions in the Calendar for the convenience of the member federations, but the fact that such competitions are not held under the authority of FISA shall be identified in the Calendar.

FISA shall forward to all member federations not later than 31st October in each year, the list of all International Regattas and International Matches approved to be held in the following year.

PART II – ROWERS AND COXSWAINS

SECTION 1 – General

Rule 16 – Eligibility

World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Continental Championship and International regattas shall be open to all competitors who are authorised to compete by their member federation and who are eligible under the relevant rules.

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.

Rule 17 – Health and Insurance

Each member federation shall ensure that their competitors shall have a state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the competition level of the particular event and ensure each competitor, team official and the member federation carries appropriate health, accident and property insurance covering their persons, equipment and property.

Rule 18 – Commitment

Rowers may only compete at World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas if they have submitted a signed commitment form, according to Article 56. Each team official must have submitted a signed commitment form to FISA before accreditation may be issued at a FISA Event.

Rule 19 – Age Categories

The following age categories for rowers are recognised by FISA:

1. Juniors,
2. Under 23,
3. Seniors,
4. Masters.

Rule 20 – Additional Categories

In addition to the age categories, FISA recognises a lightweight category for Seniors and Under 23 as well as an adaptive category for Seniors.

Rule 21 – Licences

The Council may decide on the introduction of licences for all categories of rowers.

Where applicable, the Jury shall appoint a person to check the licences of all competitors at the beginning of every regatta not later than two hours before the first race of the rowers concerned.

Rule 22 – Coxswains

Coxswains are members of the crew. A women's crew may not therefore be steered by a man nor may a men's crew be steered by a woman except in races for masters or if, in special circumstances, the Executive Committee permits otherwise. Age categories shall also apply to coxswains, except in Masters events.

The minimum weight for a coxswain wearing the racing uniform is 55 kgs. for men's, Under 23 men's and junior men's crews, and 50 kgs. for women's, Under 23 women's, junior women's and mixed crews. The weighing scales shall indicate the weight of the coxswain to 0.1 kg.

To make up this weight, a coxswain may carry a maximum of 10 kgs. dead weight which shall be placed in the boat as close as possible to his person. No article of racing equipment shall be considered as part of this dead weight. At any time, before or until immediately after the race, the Control Commission may require the dead weight to be reweighed.

These provisions shall also apply to coxswains in lightweight races.

Rule 23 – Weighing of Coxswains

Coxswains shall be weighed wearing only their racing uniform on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than two hours before their first race in each event in which they are competing on each day of the competition.

The Control Commission may require on the occasion of the first weighing or subsequently the presentation of an official identity card with photograph.

SECTION 2 – Juniors

Rule 24 – Juniors

A rower may compete in a Junior rowing event until 31st of December of the year in which he reaches the age of 18.

SECTION 3 – Seniors and Under 23

Rule 25 – Seniors and Under 23

A rower may compete in an Under 23 rowing event until 31st of December of the year in which he reaches the age of 22.

Senior rowing events are open to rowers of all ages.

SECTION 4 – Lightweights

Rule 26 – Lightweights

A rower may compete in Lightweight rowing events if he meets the following criteria:

A Lightweight men's crew (excluding coxswain) shall have an average weight not exceeding 70 kg. No individual Lightweight male rower may weigh more than 72.5kg. A Lightweight male single sculler may not weigh more than 72.5 kg.

A Lightweight women's crew (excluding coxswain) shall have an average weight not exceeding 57 kg. No individual Lightweight female rower may weigh more than 59 kg. A female Lightweight single sculler may not weigh more than 59 kg.

Lightweight rowers shall be weighed wearing only their racing uniform on tested scales not less than one hour and not more than two hours before their first race of each lightweight event in which they are competing, each day of the competition.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if two rounds of the same event take place on the same day of competition and some rowers in the second round do not have to race in the first round of that day, then these rowers in the second round shall be weighed at the same time as the rowers in the first round.

They shall present themselves as a crew at the weighing centre wearing their racing uniform. The weighing scales should indicate the weight of the rower to 0.1 kg. If the first race is subsequently postponed or cancelled, the

lightweight rower is not required to be weighed later on the same day for that event.

The Control Commission shall require on the occasion of the first weighing or subsequently the presentation of an official identity card with photograph.

Any rower who has been re-hydrated intravenously between the weigh-in and the respective race shall not be allowed to start.

If a rower exceeds the required weight or a crew exceeds the required average weight by the expiry of the time permitted for weighing, the rower (and the crew of that rower) or the crew concerned are no longer eligible and shall be excluded from the event.

Rule 27 – Masters

A rower may compete in Masters rowing events from the beginning of the year during which he attains the age of 27. A World Masters Regatta shall be conducted each year under the supervision of the Masters Commission. The World Masters Regatta shall be an international regatta under these rules.

Bye-Law to Rule 27 – Masters

The age of a rower in a Masters rowing event shall be that which he attains during the year of the event. Masters rowing events shall be held in the following crew age categories:

- A *Minimum age: 27 years,*
- B *Average age: 36 years or more,*
- C *Average age: 43 years or more,*
- D *Average age: 50 years or more,*
- E *Average age: 55 years or more,*
- F *Average age: 60 years or more,*
- G *Average age: 65 years or more,*
- H *Average age: 70 years or more,*
- I *Average age: 75 years or more,*
- J *Average age: 80 years or more.*

Age categories do not apply to coxswains. Each competitor shall be responsible for his own health and fitness.

Every Masters rower must be in a position to prove his age by presentation of an official document (passport or identity card).

Rule 28 – Mixed Masters Events

Mixed crew events may be held for Masters crews in which half of the crew excluding the coxswain, shall be women and half shall be men. The coxswain may be of either gender.

SECTION 5 – Adaptive

Rule 29 – Adaptive

A rower may compete in an Adaptive rowing event if his disability meets the criteria set out in the Adaptive Rowing Regulations. The categories and boat classes are defined in the Event Regulations.

PART III – CLASSES OF BOAT

Rule 30 – Classes of Boat

The following classes of boat are recognised by FISA:

1. Single Sculls (1x)
2. Double Sculls (2x)
3. Pair (2-)
4. Coxed Pair (2+)
5. Quadruple Sculls (4x)
6. Four (4-)
7. Coxed Four (4+)
8. Eight (8+)

Rule 31 – World Championship Boat Classes

World Rowing Championships are held in the following events:

Men (M)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+, 2+
Women (W)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Lightweight Men (LM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Lightweight Women (LW)	1x, 2x, 4x
Adaptive (A)	1x, 2x, 4+
Under 23 Men (BM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+, 4+
Under 23 Women (BW)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Under 23 Lightweight Men (BLM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-
Under 23 Lightweight Women (BLW)	1x, 2x, 4x
Junior Men (JM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+, 4+
Junior Women (JW)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+

If, in any of the above events, excluding the events designated for the Olympic and Paralympic Games and all events for Olympic boat classes in Senior, Under 23 and Junior categories, there are less than seven starters in three consecutive World Rowing Championship regattas, then that event

shall be automatically removed from the programme of subsequent World Rowing Championship regattas.

Rule 32 – Olympic Games Boat Classes

The programme at an Olympic regatta includes the following events:

Men (M)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Women (W)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 8+
Lightweight Men (LM)	2x, 4-
Lightweight Women (LW)	2x

The programme of Regional and Continental Championships as well as regattas attached to multi-sport competitions shall be determined by agreement between the organisers and the regional or continental confederation, as appropriate, and the Council.

PART IV – BOATS AND CONSTRUCTION

Rule 33 – Free Construction

The construction, design and dimensions of boats and oars shall, in principle, be unrestricted subject to the limits laid down in Rule 1, paragraphs 1 and 2, and Rule 60. Nevertheless the Council of FISA may, in the Racing Bye-Laws, impose appropriate requirements.

Bye-Law to Rule 33 – Boats and Equipment

Requirements for racing boats and equipment

1 Boat Length

- 1.1 *Maximum Length – All boats used in eights events at World Rowing Championship, Olympic, and Olympic Qualification regattas, Regional Games and Continental Championships and at all International regattas shall be a minimum of two sections, with no section longer than 11.9m.*

In addition, with effect from 1 January 2015 all boats used in events at World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas shall not be longer than 11.9m without a section. No section shall be longer than 11.9m.

- 1.2 *Minimum Length – The minimum overall length of a racing boat shall be 7.20 metres. This will be measured from the front of the bow ball to the furthest aft extent of the boat, which may include an extension beyond the hull. If an extension is used it shall be firmly affixed to the stern and terminate in a 4 cm ball as described in Bye-Law to Rule 33, para 7. If a boat cannot be correctly aligned because it is less than the minimum overall length, the Starter may exclude the crew from the race.*

2. Safety

- 2.1 *Oar Blade Thickness – Oar blades may not be less than 5 mm thick for sweep oars, and 3 mm thick for sculls. This thickness shall be measured 3 mm from the outer edge of the blade for sweep oars and 2 mm for sculls.*

- 2.2 *Coxswains Seat – The opening of the coxswain's seat must be at least 70 cm long and it must be as wide as the boat for at least 50 cm. The*

inner surface of the enclosed part must be smooth and no structure of any sort may restrict the inner width of the coxswains section.

- 2.3 *Flotation – All boats constructed or delivered after 1st January 2007 must show on the production plaque (in paragraph 3a below) whether the boat meets “FISA’s Minimum Guidelines for the Safe Practice of Rowing”: “A boat when full of water with a crew of average weight equal to the design weight stated on the boat’s production plaque, seated in the rowing position should float such that the top of the seat is a maximum of 5 cm below the static waterline.”*
- 2.4 *Bow Balls – The bows of all boats shall be fitted with a solid white ball shape, minimum diameter 4 cm which covers the point of the bows. If this is an external part it shall be firmly affixed to the bow of the boat such that it does not significantly deflect if a side force is applied. If it is an integral part of the hull construction, it shall afford equivalent protection and visibility.*
- 2.5 *Quick release foot stretchers – To avoid accidents arising from capsizing, all boats shall be equipped with foot stretchers or shoes that allow the rowers to get clear of the boat without using their hands and with the least possible delay. If heel restraints are used each shoe must be independently restrained they should not allow the heel to lift more than 7 cm.*

3. *Identifications*

- 3.1 *Production Plaque – All boats constructed or delivered after 1st January 1998 must have a production plaque or equivalent visible and permanently affixed inside the boat, up to 50 sq cm in area, on which is written the name and address of the boat builder, its mark or logo, the year the boat was constructed, the average weight of the crew for which the boat is designed, and the weight of the boat on construction or upon delivery.*
- 3.2 *All boats and oars shall comply with the requirements set out in the Bye-Laws to Rule 43, below (name, symbol, etc.).*

4. *Natural properties*

- 4.1 *No substances or structures (including riblets) capable of modifying the natural properties of water or of the boundary layer of the hull/water interface shall be used.*

5. *No Wireless Communication*

5.1 *Communication – During racing, no processed data or communications may be electronically received in the boat and no data or communication of any sort may be sent electronically from the boat. Raw data, such as from speed sensors, gps location, heart and stroke rate, etc., may be collected, received, processed and/or stored in the boat during racing. However, FISA may install on each boat a device(s) for the purpose of transmitting real-time race information which shall be owned by FISA and may be used for any purpose including presentation and promotion of the event and the sport.*

6. *Promotional Equipment*

6.1 *At World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas, the Council may require crews to carry on their boats such equipment as it considers desirable for the better promotion of the sport of rowing (e.g. mini cameras) provided that such equipment is identical for all boats in a race.*

Rule 34 – Boat Weights

All boats used at World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic, relevant qualification, Regional Games and Continental Championship and all other international regattas shall be of defined minimum weights.

Bye-Law to Rule 34 – Boat Weights

1. *Minimum boat weights are the following:*

<i>Designation</i>	<i>Boat Type</i>	<i>Minimum Weight (kg)</i>
1x	Single Sculls	14 kilograms
2x	Double Sculls	27 kilograms
2–	Pair	27 kilograms
2+	Coxed Pair	32 kilograms
4x	Quadruple Sculls	52 kilograms
4–	Four	50 kilograms
4+	Coxed Four	51 kilograms
8+	Eight	96 kilograms

The minimum weight of the boat shall include only the fittings essential to its use; in particular - riggers, stretchers, shoes, slides, seats and hull extensions. The minimum weight shall not include the oars or sculls, the bow number, any sound amplification equipment and loudspeakers or any other kind of electronic equipment. Additional weight carried in the boat to achieve the required weight shall be firmly fastened to the boat or to the essential fittings described above.

2. *Responsibility – It is solely the responsibility of the crew that their boat meets the required minimum weight.*
3. *Weighing Scale – The weighing scales shall be provided by a FISA approved manufacturer and shall indicate the weight of the boat to 0.1 kg. The scales shall be connected to a printer so that a printed record of the boat weight is immediately available. At the beginning of each official training day and of each racing day, the scales shall be tested, using calibrated (gauged) weights, by a member of the FISA Materials Commission and/or the member of the Control Commission responsible for boat weighing.*
4. *Test weighing of boats – The weighing scale(s) shall be available to the crews at least 24 hours before the first race of the regatta for the test weighing of their boats. The scales shall be located on a horizontal floor, inside a building or a tent to provide protection from the wind. The weighing area shall be easily accessible from the incoming pontoons and shall be exclusively reserved for the weighing of boats during the regatta.*
5. *Selection of Boats to be Weighed – The person authorised by the President of the Jury shall make a random draw before the start of each racing session to select the boats which are to be weighed. He shall also have the right to include additional boats at any time before the finish of the race of the boat concerned if there is a suspicion that certain boats are underweight. He shall deliver copies of the draw to the responsible person at the Control Commission.*
6. *Notification to Crews - A member of the Control Commission shall notify the crews of the selected boats as they leave the water after their races and they, or people appointed for that purpose, shall accompany each boat to the weighing scales.*

A selected crew is required to take its boat directly to the weighing scales when it is notified that the boat has been selected for weighing. Failure to do so may lead to the crew being penalised as if the boat had been underweight.

Once the crew has been notified that the boat has been selected for weighing, no extra weight of any description can be added to the boat until the boat has been weighed.

7. *Additional Items to be deducted or removed – Normally certain items of equipment shall be allowed to remain fixed in the boat during weighing. In this case, the following standard weight allowances shall be subtracted from the measured boat weight:*

<i>one loudspeaker:</i>	<i>0.15 kg,</i>
<i>one cable:</i>	<i>0.10 kg/seat,</i>
<i>one bottle holder:</i>	<i>0.10 kg,</i>
<i>one wire and magnet for stroke coach: 0.10 kg.</i>	

The crew shall have the option of removing all such equipment at any time during the weighing procedure. The member of the Control Commission and the representative of the crew shall identify and agree the number and type of equipment items and record this information in writing. If the member of the Control Commission has concerns that the equipment in a particular boat is much heavier than the standard weight allowances (above,) then the crew shall be asked to take this equipment out of the boat before it is officially weighed.

At the official weighing of the boat, the normal wetted surface of the boat is accepted. However, any standing water must be removed before the weighing, in particular any water between the shoulders and under the canvas. All other items (tools, clothes, sponges, bottles, etc.) must be taken out of the boat before the weighing.

8. *Official Weighing – The boat shall be officially weighed.*
9. *Failure to make the minimum weight – If a boat is below the minimum weight, the member of the Control Commission shall print out the record of weighing and proceed as follows:*
- 9.1 *write the words “First Boat Weighing” on the printed record of weighing.*
- 9.2 *test the scales with the gauged weights, observed by the crew representative, print out the result of this test, and write on the printed record of weighing the name of the crew and the event and the words “Test Weighing”. Both the crew representative and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed record of this test.*

- 9.3 *weigh the boat concerned for the second time, write on the printed record of weighing the name of the crew, the event and the number and type of equipment items included in the weighing and the words "Second Boat Weighing". Both the crew representative and the member of the Control Commission shall sign the printed record of this weighing.*
- 9.4 *deliver the three printed records of weighing (First Boat Weighing, Test Weighing of the scales and Second Boat Weighing) to the President of the Jury.*
10. *Penalty for Underweight Boat – The penalty for having raced in an underweight boat shall be that the crew is relegated to last place in the particular race. If the crew races again in an underweight boat in a later round of the same event, then the penalty shall be the exclusion of the crew. No other or later reweighing, except the one mentioned above, shall be considered as valid.*

PART V – COURSES

Rule 35 – Characteristics

The standard FISA course for World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, relevant qualification, Regional Games, Continental Championship and International regattas shall provide fair and equal racing conditions for six crews racing in separate, straight, parallel lanes over a distance of 2,000 metres and 1,000 metres for Paralympic Games and its Qualification regattas.

For World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas, the standard course must be provided with technical installations and equipment to Category A as defined in the Bye-Laws. In addition, it must also comply with all the specifications and descriptions given in the latest edition of “The FISA Manual for Rowing Championships”.

In order to be classified as a standard course, full details of the course concerned must be submitted in writing to FISA by the applicants, and the course must be inspected at the cost of the federation concerned and approved by two experts appointed by FISA. The Council of FISA may lay down special requirements for World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic, relevant qualification, Regional Games and Continental Championship regattas.

Rule 36 – Length of the Course

1. International Regattas – The standard FISA racing distances shall be 2,000 metres straight for Men and Women; in the categories Seniors and Under 23, Lightweights and Juniors. For Masters (Men, Women and Mixed crews) the course shall be 1,000 metres straight.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – The length of the standard course shall be 2,000 metres straight. The provisions of this Rule require the use of moveable starting installations in order that the bows of all boats of whatever class may be aligned on the same start line.
3. The length of the course and all intermediate distances shall be measured by an independent qualified surveyor and a certified plan shall be held by the Organising Committee. This plan shall be available for inspection by FISA at any time. For a World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas,

FISA may request a further survey be carried out to standards specified in the latest edition of the “FISA Manual for Rowing Championships”.

4. The Executive Committee may grant exceptions to this rule where necessary for regattas in multi-sport competitions, continental or other championships where it is clearly demonstrated that a standard course is not reasonably achievable.
5. A non-standard course may be shorter (for example, sprints) or longer (for example, long distances, head of the river, etc.) than the standard course. It is not necessary that a non-standard course be straight.

Rule 37 – Number of Lanes

1. International Regattas – On standard courses, races shall normally be held over six lanes.
2. World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas- Races shall be held on six lanes but, in principle, the course shall have at least eight lanes.

Bye-Laws to Rules 35 to 37 – Courses

These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 1 to the Rules of Racing.

PART VI – ORGANISATION OF REGATTAS

SECTION 1 – General

Rule 38 – Authority of FISA

1. 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.
2. World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic, relevant qualification, Continental and Regional 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 may nominate two Technical Delegates to oversee the work of the Organising Committee on meeting the FISA requirements for the Championships and regularly informing the Executive Committee on progress.

Rule 39 – 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. Prepare 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 Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification 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 39 – 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 (except in the case of World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas).*
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 to ensure the proper running of the regatta in accordance with the Rules of Racing. The Executive Committee of FISA may nominate Technical Delegates to any event held under the FISA Rules of Racing to advise the Organising Committee where required and 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 40 – Disputes, Appeals and Cases not Covered

1. 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 80.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – The Executive Committee shall adjudicate on all cases not covered by the Rules of Racing and the relevant Bye-Laws and the Event Regulations as well as on disputes which may arise during World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant 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 41 – 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 Statutes and Rules.

Rule 42 – 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 43 – Identifications Displayed on Equipment and Rowers – Commercial Publicity, Sponsorship and Advertising

Prohibited Advertising

1. Any form of advertising (including body advertising) or Identifications, not specifically permitted by these Rules, is prohibited.
2. All advertising must comply with the laws of the country or region in which the regatta is being staged.
3. Even if otherwise permitted by laws of the country or region, no advertising is permitted which is inappropriate or which is harmful to the image of rowing including tobacco and strong liquor (more than 15% alcohol content) or in contradiction with FISA Statutes or Rules, in particular with Article 3 of the Statutes. In case of doubt, the Executive Committee shall decide. In events, regattas and championships solely for juniors advertising relating to alcohol is strictly prohibited.
4. Where an advertiser or sponsor deals mainly in products which are prohibited by this clause, but also produces some other (not prohibited) product or service, it may have identifications, provided that the identification is clearly associated with the product or service that is not prohibited and cannot be seen as advertising the prohibited product.

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

Bye-Laws to Rule 43 – FISA Advertising Rules

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

Rule 44 – Rowers' Clothing and Blade Colours

Members of the same crew shall compete wearing identical clothing. If any members of the crew wear headwear, then the headwear worn by those crew members shall be identical.

The colours and design of the blades of all oars and sculls shall be identical on both sides.

In adverse weather conditions, for health reasons, coxswains may race wearing additional clothing in the registered colours of the federation.

1. World Rowing Championship regattas – Members of national crews shall wear the registered racing uniform of their member federation. The design and colours of racing uniforms and blades shall be registered with FISA in accordance with Art. 13. Any change must be registered at least two months before the competition in which they are proposed to be used.

The blades of all oars and sculls shall be in the registered colours of their federation.

The Council may issue further regulations regarding rowers' clothing at World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas, in particular, including use of a t-shirt provided by FISA or other FISA sponsor identification as in the Bye-Laws to Rule 43.

SECTION 3 – Entries, Withdrawals and Crew Changes

Rule 45 – Authorisation of the Member Federation

1. 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.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – Rowers shall compete under the name of their member federation which shall alone be entitled to represent them.
3. Olympic, Youth Olympic and Paralympic regattas – Rowers shall compete under the name of their National Olympic or Paralympic Committee which shall alone be entitled to represent them.

Rule 46 – Restrictions

1. International Regattas – No competitor may compete for two different clubs or federations at the same regatta.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – No member federation may enter more than one crew in each event.

Rule 47 – Entries

1. 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.
2. World Rowing 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 the crews, the names and the birthdates of the rowers 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 47 – Entries

The entry forms in Appendices 5 and 6 shall be used for international regattas.

Rule 48 – List of Entries

1. 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.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – FISA headquarters shall send a list of the entries from member federations entered in each event to all federations concerned.

Rule 49 – False Declarations

Any false declaration regarding the name, classification, club membership or eligibility 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 50 – 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 51 – Withdrawals

1. International Regattas – If a club or member federation withdraws 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.
2. World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas – If a member federation withdraws a crew or crews from an event in which it has been entered, it shall give notice of the withdrawal to FISA, at the latest, three hours before the draw. A withdrawal once made is irrevocable.

Bye-Law to Rule 51 – Withdrawals

In the case of withdrawals at World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas received less than three hours before the draw and until the end of the regatta, 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 52 – Crew Changes before the First Heat

1. International Regattas:
 - 1.1 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.

- 1.2 Single Scullers – No substitute is permitted for a single sculler.
2. World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas
 - 2.1 Crews – Same as at International regattas above.
 - 2.2 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 52 – Changes after the Entry Deadline and before the First Heat

World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas – 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 53 – Changes after the first Heat

1. International Regattas:
 - 1.1 Crews – No change may be made in a crew which has already raced in their heat of the event, except in the case of illness or injury, 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 the rower is restored to health. Up to half of the rowers in a crew plus the coxswain, if applicable, may be changed in accordance with this Rule.
 - 1.2 Single Scullers – No substitute is permitted for a single sculler.
2. World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas:
 - 2.1 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 illness or injury, 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. Up to half of the rowers in a crew plus the coxswain, if applicable, may be changed in accordance with this Rule.

- 2.2 Single Scullers – No substitution of a single sculler may be made once he has competed in his heat.

SECTION 4 – Safety and Fairness

Rule 54 – 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 55 – 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 Rowing Championship regatta), 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 at all times act and compete in accordance with the rules in force relating to the safe use and condition 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 World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas, 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 rower. In this respect FISA accepts no legal liability.

Bye-Law to Rule 55 – Team Managers

At World Rowing Championship and Rowing 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 56 – 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:

1. Traffic rules for training,
2. 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 56 – 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 (13.5 m) 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 57 – 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, work boats, etc.

The organising committee is responsible for ensuring that no unauthorised rowers or crews shall be permitted on the water at any time during the course opening times, from the first day the course opens until the end of the regatta without the specific approval of the President of the Jury.

Rule 58 – 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 59 – 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 and follow instructions of the officials at all times, on the water and off.

The race officials shall ensure that the Rules of Racing are applied fairly to all competitors.

Rule 60 – Fairness – Innovations

1. Significant innovations in equipment including, but not limited to, boats, oars, related equipment and clothing, must meet the following requirements before being for use in the sport of rowing:
 - 1.1 be commercially available to all competitors (patents may not exclude the use by a team or a competitor);
 - 1.2 not significantly add to the cost of the sport;
 - 1.3 not provide an advantage to some competitors over others or change the nature of the sport;
 - 1.4 be safe and environmentally sound; and
 - 1.5 be a positive development for the sport of rowing and maintain the Principles of the sport.
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.
3. 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 61 – Fairness – Weather

Provisions to be applied when unfair weather conditions prevail at World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic, and relevant qualification regattas are set out in Rule 66.

At other international regattas, in unfair weather conditions, the President of the Jury may decide to apply provisions similar to Rule 66.

SECTION 5 – The Draw and Progressing to the Finals**Rule 62 – 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.

1. International Regattas – Each round of an event shall finish at least two hours before the following round of the same event.
2. World Rowing 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 systems to be used at World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas shall be prescribed in the Bye-Laws.

Bye-Laws to Rule 62 – FISA Progression System to determine finalists

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

H = Heat,

R = Repêchage,

Q = Quarter-finals,

S A/B = Semi-finals for Finals A & B,

SC/D = Semi-finals for Finals C & D, etc.,

S A/B/C = Semi-finals for Finals A & B & C,

SD/E/F = Semi-finals for Finals D & E & F, etc., FA = (Final A) Final for places 1-6,

FB = (Final B) Final for places 7-12, etc., TT = Time-Trial,

ELM = Eliminated,

P = Preliminary Race

The draw of the options (appendix 3) is supervised by a member of the Jury before the end of the first race of the preceding round in that event. The result of the draw of the options shall not be published before the end of the preceding round.

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

In the cases where there are options, these shall be chosen by a draw. At World Rowing Championship regattas 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 63 – The Draw

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 decides in the case of a major event that there should be seeded crews in each heat.

At World Rowing Championship, Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification 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, or earlier if appropriate.

For a World Rowing Championship regatta, if an event has less than seven entries at the time of the draw, there shall be a preliminary race to determine the lanes for the final. At an international regatta, if an event has only a final these Rules do not require a preliminary race to determine the lanes for the final and, therefore, the draw for lanes may also take place at the main draw.

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 63 – Determining the Lanes (Normal Conditions)

Where appropriate the Executive Committee shall appoint a Seeding Panel for a particular regatta. The Seeding Panel shall determine which crews in which events should be seeded. 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.

For the heats (or final where there are no heats and there is no requirement for a preliminary race), a draw shall be held to determine the lane to be assigned to each crew. There shall be a random draw for the order of the heats so that the highest seeded crew is not always in heat 1 and for the lanes of the seeded crews in each heat. 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.

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 64 – 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, the start of the first repêchage, the start of the first quarter-final 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 make a new Draw. The result of the race will show the crew as DNS (Did Not Start), EXC (Excluded) or DSQ (Disqualified). A crew withdrawing before its Heat or which is excluded or disqualified at any point in the event shall not be ranked in that event. A crew withdrawing after its Heat but before the start of its repechage or its quarter-final or its semi-final will be placed last in the overall ranking of that event, and if there is more than one, then equally in last place.
2. If a crew stops rowing during a heat, a repêchage, a quarter-final, 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 World Rowing Championship regatta, 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 not be ranked in 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 65 – Time Trials

In cases of limited time availability or in adverse conditions, the President of the Jury at International Regattas, or the Executive Committee at World

Rowing Championships, may decide to hold Time-Trials instead of or in combination with heats, repêchages, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals as provided below.

Bye-Law to Rule 65 – Time Trials

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.

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.

Each separate race shall be started at not more than five-minute intervals.

Crews in each race compete in the same lane, and shall be started at approximately 30-second intervals. Where the Fairness Committee, in case of adverse weather conditions, or otherwise the President of the Jury, decides that conditions are equal in two lanes, then racing shall take place using those two lanes with crews starting alternately in adjacent lanes.

Time Trials shall be started from the normal fixed start positions. If conditions so require, they will start with a “flying start” in which case crews are timed from the 100 m mark and race 1900 m.

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. Where two lanes are being used for the Time Trial the crew moving out of their lane must ensure they cause no interference to crews racing in the other lane.

In a Time-Trial, Rule 71 (Damage while in the Start Zone) does not apply.

Rule 66 – Adverse Weather Conditions

1. International Regattas – The President of the Jury shall consult with the appropriate members of the Jury and with the Chair of the Organising Committee and may make changes to the programme if the weather creates unfair or unrowable conditions.
2. World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup Regattas – The Executive Committee shall appoint a Fairness Committee consisting of

three persons with appropriate experience and ability. This committee may take the appropriate measures if the weather creates unfair or un-rowable conditions. The President of the Jury shall implement the decisions of the Fairness Committee.

Bye-Law to Rule 66 – Alternative programmes in cases of Adverse Weather Conditions

1. *It is the duty of the Fairness Committee to determine if the weather has created, or is about to create, unfair or unrowable conditions. It is then their responsibility to select or recommend the most appropriate programme from the alternatives described below. In applying these alternatives the Fairness Committee will always consider (1.1), (1.2) and (1.3) before considering (1.4).*
 - 1.1 *To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions.*
 - 1.2 *Before the scheduled start of racing, recommend that racing be brought forward based on the forecasts that indicate weather conditions will be potentially unfair or unrowable and therefore.*
 - 1.3 *To suspend racing when weather conditions are unfair or unrowable and recommend alternative times for racing.*
 - 1.4 *To re-allocate the lanes for each individual race, using the placings from the previous round to put the crews with similar placings from the previous round into adjoining lanes and giving the crews having achieved better placings better lanes. For a heat, 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.*
2. *After the Fairness Committee has determined that alternatives 1.1 to 1.4 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 or its designed representative at World Rowing Championship regattas, or the Technical Delegate at Rowing World Cup regattas, to decide whether to implement one of the following solutions in order to continue the regatta:*
 - 2.1 *To start racing earlier than previously scheduled, provided that the announcement of the new times is made at the Team Managers'*

- Meeting on the previous day, after consultation with the Fairness Committee;*
- 2.2 *To resume racing at a later time when conditions have improved, after consultation with the Fairness Committee;*
 - 2.3 *To omit a round of the event (e.g. semi-finals) where adverse conditions have stopped racing for a significant period of time or where the weather forecast indicates that racing will not be possible on any of the remaining days. 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.*
 - 2.4 *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.*
 - 2.5 *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.*
3. *Results from the previous rounds of racing may be used other than in accordance with the normal progression system.*

SECTION 6 – The Start

Rule 67 – 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 68 – 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 there to be a false start or the start to be otherwise faulty, the Starter shall stop the race and, if there was a false start, shall award a Yellow Card to the crew or crews which, in the opinion of the Judge at the Start, caused it. A crew causing two false starts or receiving two Yellow Cards which apply to the same race, for any infringement whatsoever, shall be awarded a Red Card and be excluded from the event.

Bye-Law to Rule 68 – 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 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 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.

Where an Alignment Control Mechanism is in use, the Starter, after all crews are attached to their start pontoon, shall alert crews by announcing "Raising Start System". He shall then activate the alignment mechanism to raise it to the surface.

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 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:

- 2.1 change the red light to green,*
- 2.2 make an audible signal through the loudspeakers,*
- 2.3 start the timing system for the race,*

- 2.4 freeze the picture on the monitor in the Aligner's hut,
- 2.5 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:

- 3.1 raise the red flag, or
- 3.2 press the button for the red light.

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

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

Rule 69 – 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 69 – 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 and in this case, the Judge at the Start may directly activate the signal to stop the race.

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, or in the case of a Red Card, a red marker, adjacent to the starting position of the crew or crews so penalised.

A 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 70 – 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 the decision to the objecting crew, to the other crews in the race, and to the other race officials.

SECTION 7 – During the Race

Rule 71 – 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.

For the purpose of this rule, a crew is still in the start zone if the bow of its boat has not yet crossed the 100 metres line.

Rule 72 – 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 73 – 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 73 – Consequences of Interference

1. *Warning a crew – If a crew is about to cause interference to another crew, the Umpire shall raise his white flag, call to the crew at fault, state 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 74 – 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 75 – 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 75 – Finish of the Race

A race is concluded when the Umpire so indicates by raising white or a red flag.

The race was in order – 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 73 or 76 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.

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 and may consult the Judges at the Finish to obtain the finishing order of the affected crews. He shall then inform the crews and the Judges at the Finish of the decision. The Judges at the Finish, in such cases, must not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given the decision.

Rule 76 – Objections

A crew claiming that its race was not in order may make an objection to the Umpire immediately after the finish of the race and before leaving the area of the finish line by a member of the crew raising an arm. The Umpire of the race shall decide on the objection and communicate his decision to the crews in the race and to the other race officials.

Bye-Law to Rule 76 – 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.:-

- 1. 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,*
- 2. 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, shall not announce the official result of the race until the Umpire has given his decision,*
- 3. 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, shall 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 77 – Dead-Heats

When the order of finish between two or more crews is too close for any difference to be determined, then the result shall be 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, a quarter-final 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 78 – 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 79 – 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 competes);
3. Relegation where specifically provided in these Rules;
4. Red Card or 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 80 – Appeals

1. International Regattas – An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury (or of an Organising Committee under Rule 40) 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.

2. World Rowing Championship Regattas – An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury by a person claiming to have been affected can only be submitted in written form to the Executive Committee on the same day as the decision being appealed. 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 81 – 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. Where such seminars are organised at the request of a national federation, the federation must pay the travel and accommodation expenses of the FISA experts who attend.

Bye-Law to Rule 81 – FISA Umpire's Licence

Maximum age of candidates – Candidates must be less than 56 years of age on 31 December of the year of the examination to be eligible as a candidate for examination for a FISA Umpire's licence.

Number of examinations – After 1 January 2011, candidates for the FISA International Umpiring License failing their first examination attempt shall not be accepted for further examination for one year. Candidates failing for a second time shall then not be accepted for further examination for another three years. Candidates failing the examination at the third attempt shall not be accepted for further examination.

Expiry – A FISA Umpire's license shall expire finally on the 31st of December of the year in which the umpire reaches the age of 65.

An umpire must hold a valid national umpiring license in order to act as a FISA international umpire. The FISA license shall expire automatically upon the expiry of the national license.

The holder of an expired FISA Umpire's license who wishes to act as a FISA Umpire shall first re-take and pass the examination.

FISA Umpire's badge – FISA umpires who are members of the Jury at an International regatta or World Rowing Championship regatta, shall wear the FISA Umpire's badge.

Rule 82 – Composition of the Jury

The Jury shall consist of persons carrying out the following duties:

1. President of the Jury,
2. Starter,
3. Judge at the Start,
4. Umpire,
5. Judges at the Finish, one of whom shall be the senior Judge,
6. Members of the Control Commission, one of whom shall be senior member.

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

1. International Regattas – The Jury shall be appointed by the organising committee (see Rule 39).
2. World Rowing Championship Rowing World Cup, Olympic, Youth Olympic, Paralympic and relevant qualification regattas – The Jury shall be appointed and supervised by the FISA Umpiring Commission.

Rule 83 – 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 84 – 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 85 – 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 boathouse area each day. This Board shall decide on any protests made according to Rule 78. 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 86 – 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 World Rowing Championship regattas, the Chair of the Umpiring Commission shall be the President of the Jury.

Rule 87 – Exceptional Cases

1. 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.
2. World Rowing 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 88 – Safety of Rowers

The safety of rowers must be the prime concern of the Jury at all times during the regatta.

In the case of unsafe conditions, the President of the Jury is empowered to take any necessary decisions and communicate any required changes to the Starter and the Umpires on the course. If time allows, the President of the Jury shall consult the Organising Committee before taking such decisions. 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 89 – 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 where specifically provided in these Rules,
4. Red Card or exclusion (from all the rounds of the event in question),
5. Disqualification (from all events in the regatta).

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

Rule 90 – 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 91 – 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 91 – 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 *Communication – In principle, the Starter and the Umpire shall use visual signals to convey information. Where verbal communication is necessary, they shall address the rowers 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, if directed as described below, or after consulting with the President of the Jury, shall take whatever steps may be necessary in accordance with these rules to ensure a fair race. The President of the Jury shall inform the Starter of any required changes at least two minutes before a start.*
- 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 68 in the Rules of Racing.*
- 1.6 *Exclusion – The Starter shall award a Red Card and exclude a crew if the crew has 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 the Judge at the Start consider that there is a false start, the Judge shall inform the Starter and the Umpire by waving a red flag or displaying a red light. The Judge at the Start may directly activate the signal to stop the race if the technical installations are in place for him to do so. After the race has been stopped, the Judge 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 92 – 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 considers that the impediment has not 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 92 – 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, quarter-final, 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 93 – 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 93 – Duties of the Judge at the Finish

1. *Duties – The duties of the Judges at the Finish are as follows:*
 - 1.1 *To determine the order in which the bows of the boats cross the finish line;*
 - 1.2 *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;*
 - 1.3 *To list the crews in their correct order of finish;*
 - 1.4 *To check that the official results on the result sheet and on the scoreboard are correct.*
2. *The senior Judge at the Finish shall sign the official record of the results.*
3. *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.*
4. *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.*
 - 4.1 *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.*

- 4.2 *World Rowing Championship and Rowing World Cup regattas – 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.*
5. *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 94 – 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 94 – 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 coxswains;*
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;*

- 8.1 *provision of a white ball on the bow of each boat (or equivalent construction),*
- 8.2 *bow numbers,*
- 8.3 *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 33,*
- 8.4 *where applicable, minimum weights of boats,*
- 8.5 *conformity of the boat with the rules regarding advertising,*
- 8.6 *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 Rowing Championship regattas, make sure that photographs are taken of competitors, either before the Heats or immediately after the Heats, and that the competitors' identities with those photographs are checked before each subsequent race.*
- 12. *Safety – to ensure that the safety requirements of Rule 33 are met.*

PART VII – ANTI-DOPING RULES

Rule 95 – 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 95 – Anti-Doping

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

PART VIII – CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Rule 96 – Concluding Provisions

These Rules of Racing were approved effective immediately by the FISA Extraordinary Congress from 13th to 14th February 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa.

Denis Oswald
President

Matt Smith
Executive Director