

Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron

World Rowing Federation

Rules of Racing

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 gender, age or weight.

Rule 2 – Application

These Rules of Racing and relevant Bye-Laws shall apply to:

1. all International Regattas and Matches;
2. World Rowing Championship regattas;
3. Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic regattas within the limits of the authority of FISA and the relevant qualification regattas;
4. regattas held as part of Continental, Regional or other multi-sport Games within the limits of the authority of FISA;
5. Continental and Regional Championship regattas;
6. the World Rowing Cup and the World Rowing Masters regattas;
7. where appropriate, International Coastal and Ergometer Rowing competitions.

In addition, these Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws shall be supplemented by Event Regulations.

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 Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws, subject to any exceptions under the provisions of Rule 3.

Any member federation, club or individual who participates in any capacity in a rowing competition governed by the Statutes, Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations is deemed to accept without exception or reservation the application of these Statutes, Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations, 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 depart from these provisions, including applying its own national rules. In any such case, details of departures or exceptions to these Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws or Event Regulations shall be provided to competing federations and clubs at the time of their invitation to take part in the regatta. 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 in Senior, Lightweight and Para-Rowing categories;
2. World Rowing Under 23 Championships and Under 23 Lightweight categories;
3. World Rowing Junior Championships;
4. World Rowing Coastal Championships;
5. World Rowing Ergometer Championships.

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

World Rowing Championships shall be held in every year. However, in the year of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Olympic and Paralympic events will not be on the programme of the World Championships.

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

Rule 5 – Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Rules

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

Rule 6 – Attribution of World Rowing Championships

The Council shall review all final bids, reject any that do not satisfy the minimum requirements and then 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 the relevant Championships that have satisfied the minimum requirements 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 7 – Right to Participate

World Rowing Championships are open to all member federations.

Rule 8 – World Rowing Cup – Definition

The World Rowing 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 World Rowing Cup regattas and to use the World Rowing Cup name and logo. The Council may prescribe regulations governing the World Rowing Cup.

Rule 9 – 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 17.

Rule 10 – International Regattas – Control by FISA

In principle, International Regattas shall be conducted according to the Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations, but FISA's Executive Committee may approve exceptions to these Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws or Event Regulations in accordance with Rule 3.

International Regattas shall take place under the authority of FISA, which may give directions to the organising committee.

Rule 11 – 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 12 – 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 to 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 17.

Rule 13 – International Matches – Control by FISA

In principle, International Matches shall be rowed according to the Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations, 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. Details of any exceptions to the Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws or Event Regulations 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.

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

Rule 14 – Technical Delegates

The FISA Executive Committee shall appoint up to two Technical Delegates for World Rowing Championships and World Rowing Cup regattas as well as selected International Regattas and International Matches to ensure that the FISA Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations are complied with, and that the regattas are satisfactorily operated in terms of safety and competition.

Bye-Law to Rule 14 – Duties of the Technical Delegates

- 1. Appointment – The appointment of the Technical Delegate(s) 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 Delegate(s).*
- 2. Arrangements – The organising committee shall be requested to arrange free accommodation, meals and local transport for the Technical Delegate(s) during the duration of stay.*
- 3. Duration of Stay – The Technical Delegate(s) 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.*
4. *Inspection – On arrival the Technical Delegate(s) 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, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations are in place (e.g. distance markers, photo finish, weighing arrangements, medical facilities, rescue services, etc.).*
 5. *Draw – The Technical Delegate(s) 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 Seeding Panel's advice as regards seeding is put into effect, and that the competitors are made aware that seeding is being practised.*
 6. *Jury Meeting – The Technical Delegate(s) 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 Delegate(s) should leave the Jury to carry out its role as set out in Rules 95 to 98 of the Rules of Racing.*
 7. *Advice – During the regatta, the organising committee and/or the Jury shall consult the Technical Delegate(s) on any matter where there is any uncertainty concerning the application of the Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations. The Technical Delegate(s) shall advise the organising committee and the President of the Jury of any failure to comply with the Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations.*
 8. *Safety Responsibility – The legal responsibility for matters of safety rests with the organising committee and nothing in the Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Technical Delegate(s).*
 9. *Technical Delegate's Report – Within seven days of the end of the regatta, the Technical Delegate(s) shall send a report to the Executive Committee of FISA, which shall then forward it to the organising committee of the Regatta. The report shall be in a format prescribed by the Executive Committee.*

Rule 15 – 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 16 – Approval of International Regattas and Matches

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 9 or of an International Match in Rule 12. 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 17 – 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 18 – Right to Participate

World Rowing Championships for Lightweight, Para-Rowing, Under 23 and Junior rowers as well as lightweight events included in the Olympic Games and events in the Paralympic and Youth 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. Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic 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 19 – Eligibility and Nationality

World Rowing Championship, World Rowing 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 regatta, a competitor shall be a national 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.

To represent a country at a continental or final qualification regatta for the Olympic, Paralympic or Youth Olympic Games, a competitor shall prove that he is eligible under the eligibility rules of the International Olympic Committee or the International Paralympic Committee respectively. In exceptional cases, the Executive Committee may make exceptions.

A rower who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as the rower may elect. However, after having represented one country in a World Championship, Olympic or Paralympic Games regatta, or Continental or Regional Games or Championship regatta, the rower may not represent another country unless the rower meets the conditions set out in the paragraph below that apply to persons who have changed nationality or acquired a new nationality.

A rower who has represented one country in a World Championship or Olympic or Paralympic Games regatta, or Continental or Regional Games or Championship regatta, and who has changed nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in a World Championship, Continental or Regional Games or Championship regatta representing the new country provided that at least two years of competition have passed since the year in which the rower last represented the former country. In exceptional cases, the Executive Committee may make exceptions, and in doing so may consult the member federations concerned.

Rule 20 - Men's and Women's Events

Only men may compete in men's events and only women may compete in women's events.

Rule 21 – Health

Each member federation shall ensure that their competitors have a state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the competition level of the particular event. For all World Rowing Championship and World Rowing Cup regattas, member federations are responsible to ensure that each entered competitor has undergone a FISA Pre-Competition Health Screening and shall confirm in writing that such screening has been completed (see Rule 99).

Rule 22 – Insurance

Each member federation shall ensure that each competitor and team official has adequate medical and accident insurance as well as insurance covering liability, property and equipment.

Rule 23 – Commitment

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

Rule 24 – Age Categories

The following age categories for rowers are recognised by FISA:

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

Rule 25 – Additional Categories

In addition to the age categories, FISA recognises a lightweight category for Seniors and Under 23 as well as Para-Rowing category for seniors.

Rule 26 – 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 27 – 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 kilogrammes ("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.

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 the race or until immediately after disembarkation, the Control Commission may require the weight of the dead weight to be checked.

These provisions shall also apply to coxswains in lightweight races.

Rule 28 – 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 weighing scales shall indicate the weight of the coxswain to 0.1 kgs.

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 29 - 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 30 – 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 31 – Lightweights

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

1. A lightweight men's crew (excluding coxswain) shall have an average weight not exceeding 70 kgs. No individual lightweight male rower may weigh more than 72.5 kgs.
2. A lightweight male single sculler may not weigh more than 72.5 kgs.
3. A lightweight women's crew (excluding coxswain) shall have an average weight not exceeding 57 kgs. No individual lightweight female rower may weigh more than 59 kgs.
4. A female lightweight single sculler may not weigh more than 59 kgs.

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 again on the same day for that event.

The Control Commission shall require presentation of each rower's official identity card with photograph at the time of the first weighing of the rower or subsequently. Where an official photograph of the crew has been checked for correctness against such identity card, this photograph may be used instead by the Control Commission at time of weighing.

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

Where a lightweight crew has already officially weighed and has met the required weight and, within the time allowed for weighing, a member of the crew is replaced under Rule 59 and Rule 60, then the rower replacing the ill or injured rower may be weighed alone, and not together with the remainder of the crew. The average official weight of the crew with the replacement rower shall not exceed the permitted average.

SECTION 5 – Masters

Rule 32 – 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 Rowing Masters Regatta shall be conducted each year under the supervision of the Masters Commission. The World Rowing Masters Regatta shall be an International Regatta under these rules.

Bye-Law to Rule 32 – 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:

<i>A</i>	<i>Minimum age: 27 years,</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>Average age: 36 years or more</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>Average age: 43 years or more</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>Average age: 50 years or more</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>Average age: 55 years or more</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>Average age: 60 years or more</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>Average age: 65 years or more</i>
<i>H</i>	<i>Average age: 70 years or more</i>
<i>I</i>	<i>Average age: 75 years or more</i>
<i>J</i>	<i>Average age: 80 years or more</i>
<i>K</i>	<i>Average age: 85 years or more</i>

Age categories do not apply to coxswains of Masters crews. 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 33 – 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 6 – Para-Rowing

Rule 34 – Para-Rowing

A rower may compete in a Para-Rowing event if his disability meets the criteria set out in the Para-Rowing Classification Regulations (Appendix 17). The categories and boat classes are defined in the Para-Rowing Regulations (in Appendix 13).

PART III – Classes of Boat

Rule 35 – 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 36 – World Championship Boat Classes

World Rowing Championships are held in the following events:

Men (M)	1x, 2x, 2-, 2+, 4x, 4-, 8+
Women (W)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Lightweight Men (LM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
Lightweight Women (LW)	1x, 2x, 4x
Para-Rowing (A)	ASM1x, ASW1x, TA Mixed 2x, LTA Mixed 2x, LTA Mixed 4+
Under 23 Men (BM)	1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 4+, 8+
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-, 4+, 8+
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 37 – 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

Rule 38 - Boat Classes at Other Events

The events at Regional and Continental Championship regattas as well as multi-sport Games regattas shall be determined by the FISA Council after consultation with the organisers and the Regional or Continental confederation, as appropriate.

PART IV – BOATS AND CONSTRUCTION

Rule 39 – Free Construction

The construction, design and dimensions of boats and oars shall, in principle, be unrestricted subject to the limits defined in Rule 1, paragraphs 1 and 2, and Rule 40. Nevertheless the Council of FISA may, in the racing Bye-Laws, impose appropriate requirements.

Bye-Law to Rule 39 – 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.

With effect from 1 January 2015, all boats used in events at World Rowing Championship regatta, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games regatta and relevant qualification regattas, Regional Games and Continental Championships and at all International Regattas shall not be longer than 12.3 m without a section. If a boat is in sections, no section shall be longer than 12.2 m. The purpose of this Bye-Law is that all such boats should fit level within a standard forty-foot container.

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 39, para 2.4 . 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. This rule does not apply to boats used at Para-Rowing and Coastal Rowing events.

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. Coxswain's 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 – From 1st January 2015, all boats used in World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and World Rowing Cup regattas shall meet the flotation requirements specified in FISA's Minimum Guidelines for the Safe Practice of Rowing, i.e. that "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 ball shape, minimum diameter 4 cm which covers the point of the bows and is bright white. 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 – Quick release foot stretchers – In all boats the foot stretchers, shoes or other devices holding the feet of the rowers shall be a type which allow the rowers to get clear of the boat with no delay. Where shoes or other devices holding the feet will remain in the boat, each shoe or device shall be independently restrained such that the heel will not lift more than 7 cm. In addition, where laces, Velcro or similar materials must be opened before the rower can remove his feet from the shoes or other device, these must be able to be released immediately by the rower with a single quick hand action of pulling on one easily accessible strap.

3. Identifications

3.1. Production Plaque – All boats 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, the weight of the boat on construction or upon delivery and stating whether the boat meets the flotation requirements specified in FISA's Minimum Guidelines for the Safe Practice of Rowing.

3.2. *All boats and oars shall comply with the requirements set out in the Bye-Laws to Rule 50, 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. Failure to comply with this Bye-Law may result in the exclusion of the crew. However, FISA may install on each boat a device(s) for the purpose of transmitting real-time race and other 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, World Rowing Cup, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic 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 40 – Innovations in Equipment

Innovations in equipment including, but not limited to, boats, oars, related equipment and clothing, must meet the following requirements before being used in the sport of rowing:

1. be commercially available to all competitors (patents may not exclude the use by a team or a competitor);
2. not significantly add to the cost of the sport;
3. not provide an advantage to some competitors over others or change the nature of the sport;
4. be safe and environmentally sound; and
5. be a positive development for the sport of rowing and maintain the principles, in particular those of fairness and equality, in the sport.

An 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.

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, whether it is safe and environmentally sound and whether it is a positive development for the sport of rowing and maintains the principles of the sport.

Rule 41 – Weight of Boats

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

Bye-Law to Rule 41 – Weight of Boats

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 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 or the bow number. It shall include sound amplification equipment or any other kind of electronic equipment, including cables or wires carried in the boat for connecting such equipment within the boat, housing or fixing for electronic or other equipment and any loud speakers, only when such equipment is firmly fixed to the boat. 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 kgs. 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 Equipment and Technology 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 test weighing of their boats. The scales shall be located on a horizontal base, 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 removed – Equipment which is not to be included in the weight of the boat shall be removed from the boat before weighing.*

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. If, on the second weighing, the boat weight is not below the minimum, no further action is necessary. If, however, the boat is still below the minimum weight, the member of the Control Commission responsible for boat weighing will 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. No other or later weighing shall be considered as valid.*

- 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 two or more boats in the same race are underweight, they shall all be relegated and they shall be ranked in the descending order of their respective boat weights. 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.*

PART V – COURSES

Rule 42 – Characteristics

The standard international course for World Rowing Championship, World Rowing Cup, Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas, Regional Games, Continental Championships 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, World Rowing Cup, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas, the standard international course must be provided with technical installations and equipment to Category A level 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 Events”.

In order to be classified as a standard international 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 FISA Council may lay down special requirements for World Rowing Championship, World Rowing Cup, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas, Continental and Regional Games and Continental Championship regattas.

Rule 43 – Length of the Course

1. International Regattas – The standard international 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 World Championship 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, Paralympic, Youth Olympic 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 Events”.
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 44 – Number of Lanes

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

Bye-Laws to Rules 42 to 44 – Courses

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

PART VI – ORGANISATION OF REGATTAS

SECTION 1 – General

Rule 45 – Authority of FISA

All International Regattas and International Ergometer Rowing 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.

World Rowing Championship, World Rowing Cup, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas, 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 technical delegates for each regatta in accordance with Rule 14.

Rule 46 – The Organising Committee

The relevant member federation shall ensure that an organising committee is formed for each International Regatta or International Match. The organising committee is responsible to ensure the proper preparation and operation of the regatta in accordance with the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

The organising committee shall, in particular:

1. fix the date and the programme of the regatta in agreement with the member federation concerned and, for World Rowing Championship and World Rowing Cup regattas, with the agreement of the FISA Council;
2. prepare and distribute the advance programme including the date and time of the Team Managers' Meeting and draw;
3. make available a stretch of water and technical equipment conforming to the present Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations;
4. appoint a Jury (except in the case of those events stipulated in Rule 92 where the Jury is appointed by the FISA Umpiring Commission);
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 46 – 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. *Date and Programme – For International Regattas and International Matches, the organising committee fixes the date and programme of the regatta in agreement with the relevant member federation (or with FISA for a World Rowing Championship and World Rowing Cup 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.*
3. *Course, Installations, Advance Programme – 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.*
4. *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 and Bye-Laws shall be taken as imposing legal liability on the Safety Adviser personally.*
5. *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.*
6. *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.

7. *The organising committee shall publish an Environmental Management plan at least two years before the event.*

Rule 47 – Team Manager

The Team Manager is the key communication contact to the rowers and coaches for the organising committee and FISA during a regatta. The Team Manager is responsible for his team and he or his delegate must attend all Team Managers' Meetings.

At World Rowing Championships, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas, and World Rowing 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 all relevant information from the meeting or otherwise distributed to Team Managers, including that 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.

In addition to their other responsibilities, Team Managers shall be authorised by their member federation to make withdrawals of crews and substitutions of rowers at regattas.

Rule 48 – 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 of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations.

Rule 49 – FISA Merchandising Rights

At all regattas under its authority FISA retains all rights 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 may share a proportion of the proceeds of the sale of these rights with the organising committees of relevant regattas.

SECTION 2 – Advertising Provisions

Rule 50 – 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 of Racing and related Bye-Laws, in particular with Art. 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 50 – FISA Advertising Rules

These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 5 to the Rules of Racing.

Rule 51 – 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.

World Rowing Championship regattas - Members of national crews shall wear the registered racing uniform of their member federation. The blades of all oars and sculls shall be in the registered colours of their 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 Council may issue further regulations regarding rowers' clothing at World Rowing Championship and World Rowing Cup regattas in particular, including use of a t-shirt provided by FISA or other FISA sponsor identification as defined in the Bye-Laws to Rule 50.

SECTION 3 – Entries, Withdrawals and Crew Changes

Rule 52 – 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 regattas. 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 and World Rowing Cup regattas and qualification regattas for Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games – Rowers shall compete under the name of their member federation which shall alone be entitled to enter and represent them.
3. Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic regattas – Rowers shall compete under the name of their national Olympic or Paralympic committee which shall alone be entitled to enter and represent them.

Rule 53 – 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 54 – 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 organising committee of an International Regatta must accept every valid entry made by the closing date.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – Dedicated entry forms shall be made available to the

member federations two months before the closing date for entries. Entries must be received at FISA headquarters before the specified deadline (usually between 9 and 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 54 – Entries

The entry forms shall be used for International Regattas (Appendix 18).

Rule 55 – 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 shall make a list of the entries from member federations entered in each event available to all federations concerned within 48 hours of the entry deadline.

Rule 56 – False declarations

Any false declaration regarding the name, age, 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. The Executive Committee may apply additional penalties.

Rule 57 – Objections to an Entry

International Regattas - Any objection to an entry shall be lodged promptly with the organising committee. After consultation with the affected parties, the organising committee shall decide on the objection and if found justified shall reject the entry concerned.

World Rowing Championship and World Rowing Cup regattas - Any objection to an entry shall be lodged promptly with the Executive Committee. After consultation with the affected parties, the Executive Committee shall decide on the objection and if found justified shall reject the entry concerned.

Rule 58 – 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, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and World Rowing Cup regattas – If a member federation withdraws a crew or crews from an event in which it has been entered, it shall give notice in writing of the withdrawal to FISA, at the latest, three hours before the draw. A withdrawal once made is irrevocable.

Bye-Law to Rule 58 – Withdrawals after the Withdrawal Deadline

World Rowing Championship regattas, qualification regattas for the Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games and World Rowing Cup regattas - In cases of withdrawals received later than the deadline of three hours before the draw and until the end of the regatta, except when accompanied by a medical certificate, the member federation concerned will be fined CHF 500 or equivalent 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 medical or safety reasons, there shall be no financial penalty.

Rule 59 – Crew Changes after the Entry Deadline and up to one hour 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 except in the case of Masters crews where a substitute from another club shall also be valid); in the case of national team crews, the substitute shall be of the same member federation. The changes shall be communicated in writing to the organising committee at least one hour before the first heat of the event.

In the case of Masters crews a substitute shall not be permitted if the age of the substituting rower would result in the lowering of the average age of the crew by more than one year or would change the age category of the crew concerned.

1.2 Single scullers – A single sculler who is entered and falls ill or is injured may, after the entry deadline and on production of a medical certificate, be replaced up to one hour before his first heat provided that the substitute is a member of the same club, and in the case of national teams of the same member federation and that the change is communicated in writing to the organising committee at least one hour before the first heat of the event.

2. World Rowing Championship regattas, qualification regattas for the Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games, and World Rowing Cup regattas

2.1 Crews – 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 eligible to represent that federation in accordance with these rules, and that the changes are communicated in writing to FISA at least one hour before the first heat of the event.

2.2 Single scullers – A single sculler who is entered and falls ill or is injured may, on production of a medical certificate, be replaced up to one hour before his heat provided that the substitute sculler is eligible to represent that federation in accordance with these rules and that the change is communicated in writing to FISA at least one hour before the first heat of the event.

Bye-Law to Rule 59 – Changes after the Entry Deadline and before the First Heat for Medical Reasons

World Rowing Championship regattas, qualification regattas for Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games and World Rowing Cup regattas – In addition to the provisions of paragraph 2.1 of this rule, 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 his delegate who shall first examine the ill or injured rower. The replaced rower may compete again in the same crew 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, who shall first make a further examination of the rower concerned. Any replacement rower must be eligible to represent that member federation in accordance with these rules.

Lightweight crews - Where the change involves a lightweight crew which has already officially weighed in, then the replacement rower is required to be weighed in racing uniform and meet the weight limits under Rule 31. In such a case the other members of the crew shall not be required to weigh again for the same race.

Rule 60 – 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 and the crew change shall be notified in writing to the organising committee. Any necessary

decision shall be taken by the organising committee. A rower who has been replaced may no longer compete at the regatta, 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. Any replacement rower must be a member of the same club, and in the case of national team, of the same member federation.

- 1.2. Single scullers – No substitute is permitted for a single sculler who has already raced in the heat of his event.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas, qualification regattas for the Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games and World Rowing Cup regattas:
 - 2.1. Crews – No change shall be made in a crew which has already raced in the heat of its event except in the case of illness or injury to a member of the crew, in which case a medical certificate shall be required and the crew change request shall be submitted in writing to FISA. The change may only be made if it is approved by a member of the Sports Medicine Commission of FISA or his delegate, who shall first examine the ill or injured rower. The rower may compete again if he has returned to health, but only in the same crew, at any point during the competition upon notification to FISA in writing and upon presentation of a further medical certificate, and with the approval of the same member of the Sports Medicine Commission or his delegate. Up to half of the rowers in a crew plus the coxswain, if applicable, may be changed in accordance with this rule. Any replacement rower must be eligible to represent that member federation in accordance with the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.
 - 2.2. Where the change involves a lightweight crew which has already officially weighed in, then the replacement rower is required to be weighed in racing uniform and meet the weight limits under Rule 31. In such a case the other members of the crew shall not be required to weigh again for the same race.
 - 2.3. Single scullers – No substitution of a single sculler may be made once he has competed in his heat.
 - 2.4. Consequential Substitutions - Where a rower is ill or injured and a substitution is made for that rower using a rower from a second boat (with no doubling up), the rower from the second boat may in turn be substituted in that boat by another rower, even though the rower from the second boat is not ill or injured. This consequential substitution may only occur if the line of substitutions is clearly resulting from the illness or injury of a rower in the first boat in accordance with Bye-Law to Rule 59 or Rule 60. If the ill or injured rower recovers and is substituted back into the boat, the rower substituted for the ill or injured rower and any other rower substituted as a consequence of the initial substitution, must then at the same time, and effective immediately, be substituted back into their original boat for the next round of their event. Any replacement rower must be eligible to represent the member federation in accordance with the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws.

SECTION 4 – Safety and Fairness

Rule 61 – 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 62 – Safety – General Principles

An organising committee must check all safety aspects of its regatta and impose any further safety measures as appropriate. The Council may remove a regatta from the FISA International Regatta Calendar if it is not satisfied that the Rules of Racing and 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 the start of 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 and team officials 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 World Rowing Cup regattas, reasonable care will be taken to provide safe conditions. However, the ultimate responsibility for competing lies with the member federation for whom the rower is competing and with the individual rower. In this respect FISA accepts no legal liability.

Rule 63 – Traffic Rules on the Course

The organising committee must publish, and display clearly in the embarkation or boathouse 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; and
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 races approach their position; and
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 63 – Traffic Rules on the Course

A copy of the traffic rules must be sent to every club and member 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 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 on the water surface.

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 64 – 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 in the training areas unless it has the approval 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 65 – 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 66 – 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, and in an atmosphere of respect, to all competitors.

SECTION 5 – The Draw and Progressing to the Finals

Rule 67 – FISA Progression System

Should the number of crews taking part in an event exceed that of the number of lanes used for racing, a progression system shall be used to determine the finalists.

International Regattas – Each round of an event shall finish at least two hours before the following round of the same event.

World Rowing Championship regattas, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas – If earlier rounds of racing are required before the Final, they shall, in principle, 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 regattas, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas shall be prescribed in the Bye-Laws and shall be the FISA Progression System. Modified progression systems may be approved by the Executive Committee for the World Rowing Cup and other events.

Bye-Laws to Rule 67 – FISA Progression System to determine finalists

The details of the FISA Progression System are set out in Appendix 6 to the Rules of Racing. The system includes Heats, Repêchages, Quarter-finals and Semi-finals and Time Trials. Terminology and abbreviations used shall be as follows:

H = Heat

Q = Quarter-finals

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

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

ELM = Eliminated

R = Repêchage

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

FA = (Final A) Final for places 1-6

TT = Time-Trial

P =Preliminary Race

At international regattas, where the progression system provides two options for determining the allocation of crews to the next round (see Appendix 6), the option to be used for each round of each event shall be decided by random draw, supervised by a member of the Jury, before the end of the first race of the immediately preceding round in that event. The result of the draw of the options shall not be published before the end of that immediately preceding round.

At World Rowing Championship regattas, Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games regattas, the Executive Committee shall appoint two persons with appropriate experience and ability to review, at the end of each round, the balance of the crews allocated to the next round by the two options. If one of the options appears to offer a better balance of crews than the other, based solely on the performance of the crews in all completed rounds of the regatta, they shall select that option. If there is little discernible difference between the two options, a random draw supervised by a member of the Jury will take place to select the option to be used.

Rule 68 – The Draw

International Regattas - 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 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.

At World Rowing Championship regattas, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games regattas and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing 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. The Executive Committee may appoint a Seeding Panel for each regatta to determine the seeded crews.

For World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas, if an event has less than seven entries at the time of the draw, there shall be a mandatory preliminary race for all crews to determine the lanes for the final in that event.

If a crew withdraws after the draw, but before the start of the first heat in their event and if the number of crews remaining in the event implies 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 President of the Jury shall supervise a new draw and, if necessary, postpone the race times to allow the redraw to be implemented.

Bye-Law to Rule 68 – Determining the Lanes (Normal Conditions)

A random draw, supervised by the Jury, shall be held to determine the heat and lane to which each crew will be assigned in the first round of the progression system, subject to the provision for seeded crews.

Where a Seeding Panel has been appointed by the Executive Committee under this Rule for a particular regatta, the Seeding Panel shall determine which crews in which events should be seeded. The Seeding Panel will apply criteria determined by the Executive Committee and published in advance.

The seeding order shall only affect the placing of crews in the heats and is for no other purpose. It shall not be taken into account for any of the later rounds of competition.

There shall be a random draw, supervised by a member of the Jury, to determine the heat for each pair of seeded crews so that the highest seeded crew is not always in heat 1. The lanes of each of the seeded crews in their heat shall also be determined by random draw.

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. The crews with the next lower placings in their previous round are put in the next outer lanes, etc. If the crews have the same placings in the previous round then there shall be a draw, supervised by a member of the Jury, to determine their lanes in the next round.

Rule 69 – Withdrawals and Disqualifications after the draw

If a crew withdraws or is excluded or 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 repêchage 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 progression system will go forward to the next round. The crew that does not finish the race will not be placed in that race and 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 which prevents the crew from finishing a race, the President of the Jury or, at a World Rowing Championship regatta, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas or World Rowing Cup 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 70 – 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 Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas, 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 70 – Time Trials

Depending on the weather conditions and the circumstances under which a decision is taken to hold time trials, the time trials may be conducted (1) as individual heats in accordance with the draw or progression system, or (2) may be conducted as one time trial in which all crews in that round shall compete against each other.

1. *Time trials conducted as individual heats*

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, quarter-finals, 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, supervised by a member of the Jury, to determine their starting order.

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

2. *Time trials conducted as one trial for all crews in an event*

If the time trial is for the heat, the highest seeded crew starts first, followed by the second highest seeded crew, etc., and after all the seeded crews then the remaining crews shall start in order of a random draw, supervised by a member of the Jury, made for this purpose.

If the time trial is for a subsequent round (repêchage, quarter-final, semi-final, final) the crews shall start in order according to their placings in the previous round. Where two or more crews have the same placing in the previous round then there shall be a draw, supervised by a member of the Jury, to determine their starting order.

Crews in each time trial 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.

Rule 71 – Adverse Weather Conditions

1. At International Regattas, when unfair or unrowable conditions prevail, after consultation with appropriate members of the Jury and the organising committee, the President of the Jury may decide to apply provisions as described in the Bye-Law to Rule 71 (below).
2. For World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant

qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Fairness Committee consisting of three persons with appropriate experience and ability to take the appropriate measures if the weather creates unfair or unrowable conditions. The President of the Jury shall implement the decisions of the Fairness Committee.

Bye-Law to Rule 71 – 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 adopt the most appropriate alternative from those described below. In adopting these alternatives the Fairness Committee will always consider 1.1 and 1.2 before considering 1.3:*

- 1.1. *To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions;*

- 1.2. *To suspend racing when weather conditions are, or are about to become, unfair or unrowable and recommend alternative times for racing;*

- 1.3. *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. 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 new draw, supervised by a member of the Jury, to determine their reallocated lanes. This alternative shall not be used for heats (or in finals of an event with less than seven crews where there has been no preliminary rounds or preliminary race).*

In each scenario, information about the decisions must be communicated to the Team Managers promptly at a Team Managers' Meeting or through other appropriate communication means.

2. *After the Fairness Committee has adopted any of the alternatives at 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 above, or has determined that those alternatives are not appropriate solutions, it is the duty of the Executive Committee or its designated representative at World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas, or the Technical Delegate at World Rowing 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 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 one or more rounds 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 implement a time trial in which all the remaining crews in a round or rounds of an event compete together in one time trial.*

- 2.6. *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.*

In each scenario, adequate time must be given to the teams to prepare and information communicated to the Team Managers promptly at a Team Managers' Meeting or through other appropriate communication means.

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 72 – 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 73 – 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 73 – The Starting Procedure

1. Starting Procedure with flag

- 1.1. *Crews must attach themselves to their start pontoons at least two minutes before the start 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.*
- 1.2. *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.*
- 1.3. *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”.*
- 1.4. *The Starter shall then raise the red flag.*
- 1.5. *After a clear pause the Starter shall give the start by dropping the red flag quickly to one side and simultaneously saying: “Go!”.*
- 1.6. *The pause between the raising of the flag and the start command (dropping the red flag and saying “Go!”) shall be clear and shall be variable from race to race.*
- 1.7. *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

- 2.1 *Crews must attach themselves to their start pontoon at least two minutes before the starting time of their race. At this stage, the traffic lights on the start pontoon are in a neutral state.*
- 2.2 *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.*

- 2.3 *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.*
- 2.4 *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.*
- 2.5 *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”.*
- 2.6 *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:*
- 2.6.1 *change the red light to green;*
 - 2.6.2 *make an audible signal through the loudspeakers;*
 - 2.6.3 *start the timing system for the race;*
 - 2.6.4 *freeze the picture on the monitor in the Aligner’s hut (if freeze frame facility is provided);*
 - 2.6.5 *release the Alignment Control Mechanism (if provided).*
- 2.7 *The pause between the red light and the start command (the green light and audible signal) shall be clear and shall be variable from race to race.*
- 2.8 *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*
- 3.1 *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”.*
- 3.2 *The Starter shall then either:*
- 3.2.1 *raise the red flag; or*
 - 3.2.2 *press the button for the red light.*
 - 3.2.3 *After a clear and variable pause, the Starter shall give the start either:*
 - (1) *by dropping the red flag quickly to one side and simultaneously saying: “Go”;*
or,
 - (2) *by pressing the button to turn the red light to green and simultaneously to make an audible signal.*

Rule 74 – False Start

A crew whose rowers begin rowing and whose boat crosses 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 and shall be awarded a warning indicated by a Yellow Card. If more than one boat commits a false start, only the crew or crews that the Judge at the Start decides actually caused the false start shall be awarded a warning(s) indicated by a Yellow Card(s).

Bye-Law to Rule 74 – Consequences of a False Start

- 1. 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. In this case, the Judge at the Start may directly activate the signal to stop the race.*
- 2. 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 warning indicated by a Yellow Card when they have returned to their starting position by stating "(Name of Crew), False Start, Yellow Card!".*
- 3. The Starter shall instruct the official on the starting platforms to place a yellow marker, or in the case of a second warning (indicated by a Red Card), a red marker, adjacent to the starting position of the crew or crews so penalised.*
- 4. 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. A crew which is awarded two warnings (Yellow Cards) applying to the same race shall be excluded (indicated by a Red Card).*

Rule 75 – 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 President of the Jury and other race officials.

SECTION 7 – During the Race

Rule 76 – Responsibility of the Rowers

All rowers shall compete in their races in accordance with these Rules. Crews 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 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 77 – 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 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. 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 77 – Consequences of Interference

1. *Alerting 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 78 – Coaching during racing

In addition to the provisions of Bye-Law 5.1 to Rule 39, 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 from outside the boat.

SECTION 8 – The Finish

Rule 79 – 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 be excluded.

Bye-Laws to Rule 79 – Finish of the Race

1. *Race concluded - A race is concluded when the Umpire so indicates by raising a white or a red flag.*
2. *Official result - The official result of the race shall be determined by the Judge at the Finish and crews shall be ranked in order of the bows of their boats crossing the finish line. Where the Umpire considers that the race was not in order, the Judge at the Finish shall take into account the decision of the Umpire in determining the official result of the race.*
3. *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. 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.*
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 finish of the race for each crew 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, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing 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. *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 77 or 82 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.*
6. *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 in accordance with Rule 77, 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 80 – 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.

Bye-Law to Rule 80 – Dead-Heats

If there is a dead-heat, the following procedure shall operate:

1. *In a heat, 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 a draw supervised by a member of the Jury.*
For regattas of the World Rowing Cup, the Executive Committee may determine that there is a logical way to avoid a re-row that preserves equality of chance, fairness and, in principle, does not require the use of more than six lanes.
2. *In 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, it shall be the crew which had the highest ranking in the immediate preceding round. The immediate preceding round shall be the last previous round in which both/all of the dead-heat crews competed. If the crews had the same result in that round then the ranking in the next previous round shall be used for this purpose. If on this basis the results of the crews concerned are identical, 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. Where such a dead-heat involves more than two crews and this number exceeds the number of crews advancing to the next round, the above procedure shall be used to determine which of the dead-heat crews shall so advance. 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 a draw supervised by a member of the Jury.*
3. *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 – Penalties, Objections, Protests, Outcome of Protests, Appeals and Disputes

Rule 81 – Penalties

In any case of breach of the rules, the Jury shall impose appropriate penalties. The penalties available to the Jury are:

1. Reprimand;
2. Warning indicated by a Yellow Card;
3. Relegation where specifically provided in these rules;
4. Exclusion indicated by a Red Card (from all the rounds of the event in question);
5. Disqualification (from all events in the regatta).

In cases of exclusion or disqualification, the Jury 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.

Bye-Law to Rule 81 – Yellow and Red Cards

When a warning indicated by a Yellow Card or exclusion indicated by a Red Card is awarded to a crew, the penalised crew shall be informed immediately or as soon thereafter as possible.

At World Rowing Championship regattas, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas, the penalty shall be confirmed in writing on the same day by delivery to the Team Manager at the team's regatta mail box. This written notification shall state:

1. *the crew to which the penalty is awarded;*
2. *the penalty;*
3. *the nature of the infraction;*
4. *time and location of the infraction;*
5. *any other important facts; and*
6. *The name and function of the Jury member who awarded the penalty.*

In the case of a warning indicated by a Yellow Card applying to the next race of the penalised crew for which the crew is not yet on the water, the penalty shall be announced verbally to the crew by the Jury member at the Control Commission at the outgoing pontoon when the crew concerned boats for their next race. It will also be announced by the Starter as part of the start procedure.

Rule 82 – 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. To be valid the objection must be made before the boat has left in the immediate area of the finish line and before the crew disembarks. Such objection may only concern the conduct of the race.

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. A crew excluded or otherwise penalised at the Start may make an objection to the Starter or Umpire at the time the penalty is awarded in accordance with Rule 75.

Bye-Law to Rule 82 – 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 at the end of the race 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:

1. *The Umpire may reject the crew's objection and raise a white flag to signify that he has decided the race was in order.*
2. *The Umpire 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. *The Umpire 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.

Rule 83 – Protests

A crew or crews whose objection has been rejected or who are affected by the acceptance of the objection, or a crew that has been disqualified or excluded or ruled DNS or DNF, as well as 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, not later than 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 a subsequent 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.

At a World Rowing Championship regatta or World Rowing Cup regatta, in the case of a protest arising from an objection concerning the final of an event, the Executive Committee may postpone the victory ceremony of that event. If the victory ceremony has taken place, and if the subsequent decision of the Board of the Jury changes the final result of the event then the official result shall be changed accordingly and, where the medal placings are affected, then the medals shall be re-awarded as necessary in accordance with the decision.

Rule 84 – The Outcome of the Protest

The measures resulting from the decision of the Board of the Jury may include:

1. Reprimand;
2. Warning, indicated by a Yellow card (a crew receiving two Yellow Cards applying to the same race shall be awarded a Red Card and excluded from that event);
3. Relegation, where specifically provided in these Rules;
4. Exclusion, indicated by a Red Card (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(s) to restore the chances of a crew that has suffered a disadvantage.

Rule 85 – Appeals

1. International Regattas – An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury (or of an organising committee under Rule 82) 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 or by the organising committee to the person affected.
2. World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas – An appeal against a decision of the Board of the Jury may only be made by a person whose accepted objection has been overturned by the Board of the Jury or whose protest against the published results was rejected by the Board of the Jury. The protest must 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. If the decision of the Executive Committee on the appeal changes the final result of the event then the official result shall be changed accordingly and, where the medal placings are affected, the medals shall be re-awarded as necessary in accordance with the decision.
3. At World Rowing Championship and World Rowing Cup regattas as a general rule the victory ceremony will not be postponed for an appeal.

Decisions of the Executive Committee under this rule are final.

Rule 86 – 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 85.
2. World Rowing Championship regattas – The Executive Committee shall adjudicate on appeals from a decision of the Board of the Jury and on all cases not covered by the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws and the Event Regulations as well as on disputes which may arise during World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup 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 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, Olympic, Paralympic and Youth Olympic Games qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas – Should it be necessary to take decisions in exceptional cases, the Executive Committee members present or others specifically appointed by the Executive Committee for that purpose shall make such decisions.

Rule 88 – The Regatta Report

The Jury shall carry out its duties until the end of the regatta. The Chair of the organising committee and the President of the Jury shall write the regatta report on the standard form of FISA (Appendix 19) 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.

SECTION 10 – The Jury and the Board of the Jury

Rule 89 – The Jury

The Jury shall be comprised of a group of International Umpires and shall be responsible for ensuring that the regatta is run in accordance with these Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations.

Rule 90 – Jury's Prime Concern

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.

Bye-Law to Rule 90 – 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 91 – 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 of the Jury and ensure proper co-ordination with the organising committee. The President of the Jury shall chair the Board of the Jury under Rule 85.

Bye-Law to Rule 91 – Appointment of President of the Jury

1. *International regattas - The President of the Jury shall be appointed by the organising committee.*
2. *World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant*

qualification regattas, World Rowing Cup regattas and World Rowing Masters Regattas – The President of the Jury shall be appointed by the FISA Executive Committee.

Rule 92 – 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.

Bye-Law to Rule 92 – Appointment of the Jury

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

Rule 93 – 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 83. 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 94 – 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 member federation, the federation must pay the travel and accommodation expenses of the FISA experts who attend.

Bye-Law to Rule 94 – International Umpire's Licence

These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 7 to the Rules of Racing

SECTION 11 - Duties of the Umpires

Rule 95 – 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 selected to undergo doping tests after their race.

Bye-Laws to Rule 95 – Duties of the Control Commission

The Control Commission shall include Jury members and national technical officials. The number of such Jury members and officials appointed shall take into account the regatta programme and the number of competitors. The FISA Umpiring Commission (at World Rowing Championship regattas, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and the relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas and World Rowing Masters regattas) or the President of the Jury (at International

Regattas) shall supervise the activities of the Control Commission which shall carry out its duties in the boathouse area and at the boating pontoons. In particular, the Control Commission is responsible for checking the following:

1. The correct weighing of coxswains following the procedures required by the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws;
2. Dead-weight to be carried by coxswains (before and after the race);
3. The correct weighing of competitors in lightweight events following the procedures required by the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws;
4. Crew changes before the race at International Regattas;
5. The provision of substitutes for competitors who are injured or have fallen ill after the first heat of their event at International Regattas;
6. The identity of competitors to ensure that the composition of the crew is the same as the official entry and any subsequent changes which have been approved in accordance with the Rules of Racing and Bye-Laws. Unless otherwise provided, the organising committee shall prepare the required sets of updated crew photographs for this purpose.
7. At International Regattas where other arrangements are not in place for this purpose, the nationality of competitors, the ages of Junior, Under 23 and Masters competitors and, where applicable, the average ages of Masters crews;
8. Where doping tests are carried out, that rowers required to undergo tests are taken to the officials responsible for this immediately after getting out of the boat;
9. Boats and equipment:
 - 9.1. compliance with all safety requirements in accordance with Rule 39 and its Bye-Law;
 - 9.2. correct bow numbers on each boat;
 - 9.3. possible use of unauthorised equipment;
 - 9.4. where applicable, minimum weights of boats;
 - 9.5. conformity of the boat with the rules regarding identifications;
 - 9.6. painting of oar-blades, where required;
10. Uniform clothing of competitors and its conformity with the rules regarding identifications.

Rule 96 – 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 96 – 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 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 or unsafe conditions* – The Starter shall consider whether the wind is likely to create unequal or unsafe 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 and safe 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 73 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 warnings, indicated by Yellow Cards, that apply to the same race.*
- 1.7. Late Arrival – The Starter may award a warning, indicated by 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 Communications –

- 2.1 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 – The Judge at the Start, the Starter and the Umpire shall follow the procedure outlined in Rule 74.*
- 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 97 – 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 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.

Static Umpiring – The Executive Committee may decide that at a World Rowing Championship or World Rowing Cup regatta, umpiring of some races shall be carried out from boats which are stationary or which do not follow the whole race or by umpires stationed on the land adjacent to the course, and shall issue instructions and guidelines accordingly.

Bye-Laws to Rule 97 – 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 or wash from other motor boats affecting 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 or any other problem, 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, in principle, 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, other than a false start, for which the Judge at the Start alone is responsible, 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.*
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 should depend on the progress of the race and the progression of the crews to the subsequent rounds; 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. He should position his launch, whenever possible, so as not to impede the crews' view of each other.*
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, take any necessary measures himself.*
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. *Coaching – 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.*
11. *Overall Ability – 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.*

Rule 98 – 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 98 – Duties of the Judge at the Finish

1. *The Judges at the Finish shall:*
 - 1.1. *determine the order in which the bows of the boats cross the finish line;*

- 1.2. *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. *list the crews in their correct order of finish;*
- 1.4. *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.*

PART VII - Medical provisions

Rule 99 – Health of Rowers

The health and safety of the participants in the sport of rowing is of utmost concern. FISA has adopted the Olympic Movement Medical Code, its principles and follows all general principles recognised in international codes of medical ethics.

Bye-Laws to Rule 99 – Health of Rowers

1. *Pre-competition Health Screening*

As of 1 January 2014, all athletes competing in World Rowing Championship regattas, qualification regattas for the Olympic, Paralympic or Youth Olympic Games or World Rowing Cup regattas, must undergo a pre-competition health screening which includes a questionnaire, an annual physical examination and ECG following the IOC's recommended procedure. It is the responsibility of the national federation to ensure and certify that these Pre-competition Health Screening procedures have been performed.

1.1. For World Rowing Coastal Championships and World Rowing Masters Regattas, it is a personal responsibility of rowers entering these events to ensure that these Pre-competition Health Screenings have been performed and be prepared to present a written confirmation that the screening has been carried out, signed by a doctor.

2. *Member Federation Medical Officer –*

Each member federation competing at World Rowing Championship regattas, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic Games and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas must provide the name and contact details of a Medical Officer with whom FISA may communicate on medical issues.

3. *Intravenous re-hydration –*

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

4. *Injections (No-Needle Policy) –*

During International Regattas (from 24 hours before the start of the first race of the Regatta through to 24 hours after the end of the last race at such Regatta), any injection to any site of an athlete's body of any substance:

4.1 must be medically justified.

(i) Justification includes physical examination by a certified medical doctor (M.D.), diagnosis, medication, route of administration and appropriate documentation;

4.2 must respect the approved indication of the medication = no off-label;

4.3 must be administered by a certified medical professional unless authorised by the FISA Doctor or the Regatta Doctor; and

4.4 must be reported immediately and in writing not later than 24 hours afterwards to the FISA Doctor or the Regatta Doctor (except athletes with a valid TUE for this competition). The report must include the diagnosis, medication and route of administration.

The disposal of used needles, syringes and other biomedical material which may affect the security and safety of others, including blood sampling (e.g. lactates) and other diagnostic equipment shall conform to recognised safety standards.

Any violation of one of these principles may constitute a violation of the FISA Rules and may lead to penalties including exclusion of the crew concerned or, where appropriate, disqualification of the whole team from the regatta. The Executive Committee is the judicial body which shall determine the process to be followed. The costs of any investigations related to this rule may be charged to the member federation concerned.

5. *Determinations of eligibility from Rule 20 –*

In cases requiring determination of eligibility in respect of Rule 20, including sex re-assignment and hyperandrogenism, the FISA Executive Committee will refer to International Olympic Committee guidelines.

PART VIII – Anti-Doping Rules

Rule 100 – Anti doping

Doping is strictly prohibited.

The fight against doping is regulated by the World Anti-Doping Code, which 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 100 – Anti-Doping

These Bye-Laws are found in Appendix 8 to the Rules of Racing.

PART IV – Concluding Provisions

Rule 101 – Concluding Provisions

These Rules of Racing were approved effective immediately by the FISA Extraordinary Congress from 15th to 16th February 2013 in Copenhagen, Denmark

Denis Oswald
President

Matt Smith
Executive Director