

News reviews

Inside the life of 2018 Filippi Spirit Award winner



What does it take to be a Filippi Spirit Award winner? This award, that recognises how big rowing is at universities around the world, highlights student rowers who embody the values of rowing.



Indoor rowing machines are a-spinning for British and Dutch

Last weekend was a big day for indoor rowing. Across Europe ergometers roared to life at major indoor rowing championships to mark the unofficial beginning of rowing's "indoor season" in the northern hemisphere.



Benefits of water sports recognised in London programme

The benefits of rowing are often acknowledged in terms of fitness, lifelong health and teamwork. The founders and operators of The AHOY Centre in Deptford, London, United Kingdom have taken it a step further.



Coastal and indoor rowing combine in actual and virtual

What do you get when you cross rough water coastal rowing with calm, consistent rowing on the indoor rowing machine? The ATIR Global Erg Challenge and the Around the Island Race.



Hungary celebrates 125 years of rowing federation

The political landscape of Europe in 1893 was a very different place from today. Hungary was part of the expansive Austro-Hungarian Empire. Very few national rowing federations existed and the World Rowing Federation, FISA, had only just been formed a year earlier.

Athletes



Rising Star

Jordan PARRY

NZL



Athlete of the month

Ondrej SYNEK

CZE

Videos



2018 Season Review



Highlights of the 2018 World Rowing Awards

Events

2019 European Rowing Indoor Championships

26 - 26 Jan 2019 / Copenhagen

2019 World Rowing Indoor Championships

24 - 24 Feb 2019 / Long Beach

News reviews

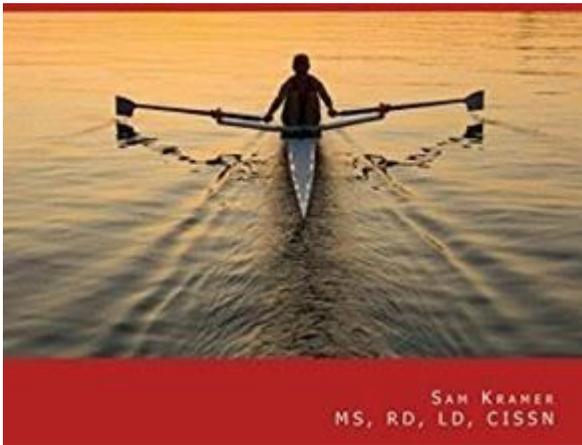


Celebration marks 2018 World Rowing Awards



Creating a better rowing environment. The 2018 Sustainability Awards

Safeguarding the environment has become increasingly critical. World Rowing's new Sustainability Award recognises this and on Friday 23 November the first ever winner will be announced.



SAM KRAMER
MS, RD, LD, CISSN

Eating for performance; the 'what' rather than the 'how'

Along with hard work and long training hours, rowers have a reputation for knowing *how* to eat, not necessarily *what* to eat. The struggle with nutrition for many in the sport is not so much one of quantity, but quality.



World Rowing and WSNet unite to empower teenage girls through rowing



Defying age at the Pan Pacific Masters Games

Stealing the show among the thousands of competitors at the 2018 Pan Pacific Masters Games was the remarkable figure of indoor rowing competitor, 93-year-old Vince Home of Australia.

Athletes



Rising Star

Marie-Sophie ZEIDLER

GER



Athlete of the month

Sanita PUSPURE

IRL

Videos



**Amidu Silva winning the 2018
Filippi Spirit Award**



Coastal Rowing

Events

2019 European Rowing Indoor Championships

26 - 26 Jan 2019 / Copenhagen

2019 World Rowing Indoor Championships

24 - 24 Feb 2019 / Long Beach

MEDIA RELEASE – 23 NOVEMBER 2018

CELEBRATION MARKS 2018 WORLD ROWING AWARDS



For immediate release - Berlin, 23 November 2018

In one extravaganza showcase, the World Rowing Award winners for 2018 were revealed.

Australia's winning streak in the men's four secured them the top award for the Men's Crew of the Year. A continuing surge in Polish women's rowing resulted in the women's quadruple sculls winning Women's Crew of the Year. New boat classes helped the Dutch PR2 mixed double sculls earn Para Crew of the Year. And Sri Lanka's first ever international rowing award will go to university student Amidu Silva who is the winner the 2018 Filippi Spirit Award.

2018 World Rowing Men's Crew of the Year

*Joshua Hicks, Spencer Turrin, Jack Hargreaves, Alexander Hill, Men's four, **Australia***
Since forming in 2017, this crew has gone unbeaten in the very competitive men's four. The 2018 World Championship title came after a tight battle with Italy and Australia won by just a quarter of a second.

2018 World Rowing Women's Crew of the Year

*Agnieszka Kobus-Zawajska, Marta Wieliczko, Maria Springwald, Katarzyna Zillmann, Women's quadruple sculls, **Poland***

The Polish crew may not have been at the top of the podium early in the season but they never faltered from finding a spot. By the European Championships the crew was in top form and took away the gold. They followed this up by winning the 2018 World Rowing Championships in a time just two seconds outside of the World Best Time. To achieve this, they had to beat the Olympic Champions, Germany.

2018 World Rowing Para Crew of the Year

Annika van der Meer, Corne de Koning, PR2 mixed double sculls, **the Netherlands**

What a year it has been for van der Meer and de Koning. They raced at every opportunity and despite the 2000m distance being in just its second year, both scullers regularly doubled up to compete also in the PR2 single sculls. By the end of the season they had won the double and set a new World Best Time. De Koning had also won World Championship gold in the single and earlier in the season set the World Best Time in this boat.

2018 World Rowing Coach of the Year

Dominic Casey, **Ireland**

Dominic Casey has helped put the small Irish town of Skibbereen on the map through rowing. He is the coach of the 2018 World Champion lightweight men's double sculls of Paul and Gary O'Donovan. He coaches the 2017 lightweight men's pair which in 2018 rowed successfully in the open men's pair, Mark O'Donovan and Shane O'Driscoll. Casey is also the coach of the lightweight men's quadruple sculls and lightweight women's double sculls.

2018 Filippi Spirit Award

Amidu Silva, University of Moratuwa, **Sri Lanka**

A top chemical engineering student, Silva proved to encapsulate World Rowing's core values. Captain at his rowing club, Silva is a mentor to many club rowers. He most recently competed at the 2018 World University Championships and this award makes him the first Asian to win a major international rowing award.

2018 World Rowing Sustainability Award

Love Where you Row, Alan Robinson, Schuylkill Navy, Head of the Schuylkill, **United States**

New for 2018, this award recognises projects that are helping to safeguard the environment. Love Where you Row is in its fourth year and has helped clean up Philadelphia's Schuylkill River. This ongoing venture included two major regattas that implemented a zero waste and zero litter initiative.

2018 Distinguished Service to International Rowing

Borge Kaas Andersen, **Denmark**

Former Olympian for Denmark Kaas Andersen has remained committed to the sport of rowing. He has been a FISA Executive Committee member, a long-time chair of the FISA Umpiring Commission and an honorary member of the FISA Council. He has also coached, been an international umpired and served as the Chair of the Danish Rowing Federation.

The winners were announced at the World Rowing Awards dinner during the 2018 World Rowing Coaches Conference. This is being held in Berlin, Germany until 25 November. Coverage of the Awards dinner can be seen on World Rowing's Facebook page [here](#).

MEDIA RELEASE – 15 NOVEMBER 2018

WORLD ROWING ANNOUNCES THE 2018 FILIPPI SPIRIT AWARD FINALISTS



For immediate release - Lausanne, 15 November 2018

The World Rowing Federation (FISA) and Filippi Boats are pleased to announce the finalists for the 2018 Filippi Spirit Award. The award honours university student rowers recognising their commitment to World Rowing's core values.

Nominations came from around the world and have been narrowed down to a shortlist of four with four regions of the world being represented and four areas of study – psychology, engineering, medicine and business.

The 2018 Filippi Spirit Award finalists are (in alphabetical order):

- - **James Francis (United States)**
- - **Wilson Mure (Australia)**
- - **Nikola Potparevic (Serbia)**
- - **Amidu Silva (Sri Lanka)**

Now in its sixth year the Filippi Spirit Award is the only international award that recognises university student rowers. It is open to university rowers worldwide and honours those who have demonstrated the core values of rowing in his/her social, academic and sporting life. It shows that the student, through these values, has enabled or inspired success in other people's lives.

James Francis goes to Oklahoma City University and represented the United States this year at the World Rowing Under 23 Championships where he won bronze in the

lightweight men's quadruple sculls. He fits his rowing training around study in psychology where he is one of the top students.

Wilson Mure is a business student majoring in management at the University of Tasmania in Australia. Mure won bronze at the 2015 World Rowing Under 23 Championships and since then has focused on university rowing representing Australia at the 2018 World University Championships. He uses his rowing experience to help younger athletes and all club members.

Nikola Potparevic goes to the University of Belgrade in Serbia where he is studying medicine. An academically gifted student, Potparevic has been awarded for his academic excellence. When not training Potparevic helps coach and was an integral part of establishing the medical rowing section of the Belgrade University Rowing Club. He recently competed at the European University Games in Portugal.

Amidu Silva is a chemical engineering student at the University of Moratuwa in Sri Lanka. He has won both academic awards and rowing awards and most recently competed in the 2018 World University Championships. Silva is a mentor to other rowers and is captain of the rowing crew.

The winner's university rowing club will receive a custom-built, top-of-the-range Filippi eight racing shell. The boat recognises the winner's involvement in the club and helps the club to develop more young rowers in the future.

The winner will be announced at the World Rowing Awards ceremony which takes place on 23 November in Berlin as part of the 2018 World Rowing Coaches Conference. As well as the announcement of the Filippi Spirit Award winner, the ceremony will also announce the winners of World Rowing's men's, women's and para crew of the year, coach of the year and World Rowing's new sustainability award.

About Filippi Boats: Filippi Lido S.R.L. (also known as Filippi Boats) is a rowing racing boat manufacturer based in Donorotico, Italy. Since 1980 Filippi has produced top Olympic-class rowing boats. They are renowned for design, top-quality materials and state-of-the-art technology combined with passion and core values that underpin their work.

About World Rowing: The World Rowing Federation (FISA) is the international governing body for the sport of rowing. FISA sets the rules and regulations for the practice of the sport, in all its forms including elite, para-rowing, coastal, masters and aspects of indoor rowing. FISA oversees sanctioned World Rowing events and provides advice and expertise for the organisation of rowing regattas. The Federation also works on coaching education and other matters relating to the sport and its development.

News reviews



2018 World Rowing Award finalists announced



Clashing oars and tight turns; finals at the World Rowing Coastal Championships

Racing at the 2018 World Rowing Coastal Championships in Victoria, Canada went through heats to finals with many races decided at the buoy turn as boats often clashed oars and gambled on their course.



Racing in the eights help pick the Top 10 rowers for 2018

The thrilling 2018 season has come to a close and the scores have been tallied. World Rowing reveals the 2018 Top 10 rowers.



Remaining Youth Olympic Games medals handed out in rowing

Rowing at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina closed with semifinals and finals raced over the fast and furious 500m distance. With a small time gap between the semis and finals, rowers had to prepare for racing in quick succession.



How the 2018 World Rowing Masters Regatta played out

The 2018 World Rowing Masters Regatta, hosted in sunny Sarasota-Bradenton, United States wrapped up after four days of racing.

Athletes



Rising Star

Cristina-Georgiana POPESCU

ROU



Athlete of the month

Spencer TURRIN

AUS

Videos



Opening Views of the 2018 World Rowing Coastal Championships



What the YOG means to the Abraham Sisters

Events

2018 World Rowing Youth Coaches Conference

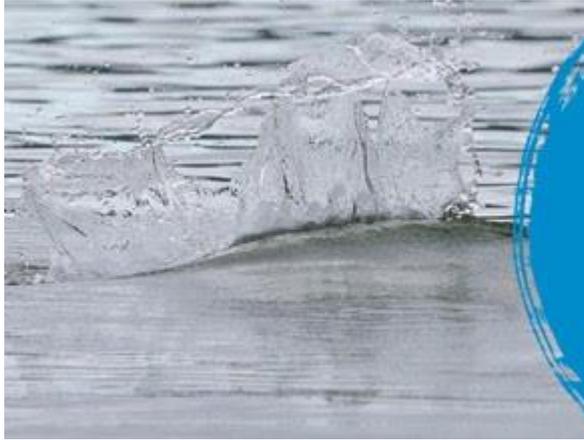
1 - 4 Nov 2018 / Bucharest

2018 World Rowing Coaches Conference

21 - 23 Nov 2018 / Berlin

MEDIA RELEASE – 29 OCTOBER 2018

2018 WORLD ROWING AWARD FINALISTS **ANNOUNCED**



For immediate release - Lausanne, 29 October 2018

The 2018 World Rowing Award finalists have been decided.

Public nomination drew over 1000 submissions for this year's awards. The public nominations then went to World Rowing's expert nominations panel and individual judging panels before the finalists were decided by the FISA Executive Committee.

Joining the World Rowing Awards for 2018 is the Sustainability Award. This award acknowledges those who endeavour to safeguard the environment in which rowing takes place and help their local environment.

Finalists for the 2018 World Rowing Awards

Women's Crew of the Year

- Caileigh Filmer, Hillary Janssens, **Canada**, *Women's pair*
- Sanita Puspure, **Ireland**, *Women's single sculls*
- Agnieszka Kobus-Zawojcka, Marta Wieliczko, Maria Springwald, Katarzyna Zillmann, **Poland**, *Women's quadruple sculls*

Men's Crew of the Year

- Joshua Hicks, Spencer Turrin, Jack Hargreaves, Alexander Hill, **Australia**, *Men's four*
- Jason Osborne, **Germany**, *Lightweight men's single sculls*
- Johannes Weissenfeld, Felix Wimberger, Maximilian Planer, Torben Johannesen, Jakob Schneider, Malte Jakschik, Richard Schmidt, Hannes Ocik, Martin Sauer (coxswain), **Germany**, *Men's eight*
- Paul O'Donovan, Gary O'Donovan, **Ireland**, *Lightweight men's double sculls*

Para-rowing Crew of the Year

- Perle Bouge, **France**, *Para PR2 women's single sculls*
- Ellen Buttrick, Grace Clough, Oliver Stanhope, Daniel Brown, Erin Wysocki-Jones (coxswain), **Great Britain**, *Para PR3 mixed coxed four*
- Annika van der Meer, Corne de Koning, **Netherlands**, *Para PR2 mixed double sculls*

Coach of the Year

- Uwe Bender, **Germany**, *Men's eight*
- Dominic Casey, **Ireland**, *Men's pair, lightweight men's and women's double sculls, lightweight men's quadruple sculls*
- Jan Klerks, **Netherlands**, *Para-rowing team*
- Laurel Korholz, **United States**, *Women's four, women's single sculls*

2018 Sustainability Award

- "Pushing for a Clean Sweep", National Schools Regatta, **Great Britain**
- "Partnership with Waikato Water Authority", Rowing NZ, **New Zealand**
- "Love Where you Row", Alan Robinson/Schuylkill Navy, **United States**

The winners will be announced on Friday 23 November 2018 at the World Rowing Awards dinner in Berlin, Germany. This will be held during the 2018 World Rowing Sports Medicine, Science and Coaches Conference, and 2018 FISA National Federations Conference.

News reviews



Join the rowing discussion – do the survey

World Rowing is conducting a survey to find out what you are thinking about the world of rowing. We want to hear from as many of you as possible – it'll take just ten minutes.



Nominations are open for the best in rowing

Nominations are now open for the 2018 combined World Rowing Awards.



New World Champions in rowing crowned in Plovdiv



Borch and Puspure impress in finals at World Rowing Championships

The final day of racing at the 2018 World Rowing Championships in Plovdiv, Bulgaria proved to be one of the best with the World Best Time standards being rewritten in the para singles and Borch and Puspure showing the way in the singles.

A freshness was in the air as tail wind headed down the Plovdiv regatta course with rowers dealing with bumpy water and some gusts. This meant the racing lanes changed so that the best crews raced closer to the grandstands. Temperatures moved into the mid to high 20s Celsius on this late summer day.



Second World Rowing Indoor Championships Heads to California

Athletes



Rising Star

Uncas BATISTA

BRA



Athlete of the month

Kaspar TAIMSOO

EST

Videos



2018 World Rowing Championships - Walkthrough



Interview with Mahe Drysdale

Events



2018 World Rowing Masters Regatta

27 - 30 Sep 2018 / Sarasota-Bradenton

2018 Youth Olympic Games

6 - 18 Oct 2018 / Buenos Aires

MEDIA RELEASE – 18 SEPTEMBER 2018

SECOND WORLD ROWING INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS HEADS TO CALIFORNIA



For immediate release - Lausanne, 18 September 2018

The World Rowing Federation (FISA) in partnership with Concept2, USRowing and the Long Beach Sprints are pleased to announce the location of the second World Rowing Indoor Championships.

To be staged in Long Beach, California, United States on 24 February 2019, the event will combine with the Long Beach Sprints and also will serve as the inaugural USRowing Indoor National Championships.

The indoor championships is in its second year and follows on from the successful staging of the first World Rowing Indoor Championships in Alexandria, VA, USA in February 2018. The inaugural event also was a collaboration between World Rowing, Concept 2 and the existing Alexandria indoor rowing event, the Erg Sprints. It saw three new World Records including indoor rowing star Olena Buryak of Ukraine setting a record in the 30-39-year-old women's race and Christine Cavallo of the United States setting the women's lightweight record.

The inaugural championships attracted over 2,500 participants from 33 countries competing for World Championship medals in open, junior, under-23, para and masters in both openweight and lightweight categories.

“Indoor rowing is now a legitimate international sporting discipline and a championship-rated format is necessary,” says Jean-Christophe Rolland, FISA President. “We are pleased to be again partnering with Concept2 and USRowing, and the success of the first

event shows that the demand for the championships is justified. We are making plans for future events to take place in different parts of the world.”

”LBRA is tremendously honoured to be selected for this premier event. Long Beach has a proud legacy in American rowing, beginning with the 1932 Olympic Games, and we have been an incubator for Olympic and National Team talent through the intervening 85+ years. We can’t wait to welcome the world to our doorstep in 2019,” says Rob Glidden, President of the Long Beach Rowing Association.

“We have run indoor rowing competitions from their inception over 35 years ago, as well as host several on-water competitions throughout the year, plus have been the site for regional and national regattas as recently as 2008, but being part of the World Rowing Indoor Championships, and helping the event to grow and thrive, is a unique privilege.”

Indoor rowing continues to grow as a rowing discipline in its own right. It has become more than a training tool for on-water rowers. Indoor rowing machines can now be found in fitness gyms, rehabilitation clinics, schools, universities and CrossFit facilities all around the world.

“Over the last 35 plus years, Erg Racing has spread due to the rowing community’s’ love of fair competition, with thanks to the enthusiasm and energy of race organizers worldwide,” says Peter Dreissigacker, Founder, Concept2. “The involvement of FISA and national federations raises the bar.”

“We are excited to be partnering with FISA, Concept2 and the Long Beach Sprints to bring the World Rowing Indoor Championships back to the United States in 2019,” says Patrick McNerney, Chief Executive Officer of USRowing. “We also are thrilled to be launching our inaugural USRowing Indoor National Championships as part of this event. Indoor rowing continues to grow in popularity and provides us with the opportunity to attract a whole different set of athletes to our sport. By establishing a national indoor championship, we have the chance to take the sport of indoor rowing to the next level.”

For more information: <https://www.longbeachrowing.org/events/beachsprints/>

MEDIA RELEASE – 17 SEPTEMBER 2018

NEW FISA COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED **AT 2018 FISA CONGRESS**



For immediate release
Plovdiv, 17 September 2018

The World Rowing Federation, FISA, held its 2018 Ordinary Congress today, following the successful conclusion of the 2018 World Rowing Championships in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

FISA President Jean-Christophe Rolland opened the Congress and presented his report to the delegates, referencing the visit of IOC President Thomas Bach to the World Rowing Championships in Plovdiv and the important process ahead for FISA regarding decisions to be taken on the 2024 Olympic programme. This was followed by reports from the Executive Committee Members, Chairs of the specialist Commissions and Continental Representatives.

The Congress delegates' voting cards were focussed then on the election of seven office-bearers of the federation. Four Commission chairs were re-elected to their positions:

- Kim Fai Ho (HKG), Para Rowing Commission Chair
- Patricia Lambert (BEL), Event Promotion Commission Chair
- Rosie Mayglothling (GBR), Competitive Commission Chair

- Patrick Rombaut (BEL), Umpire Commission Chair

New chairs were elected to the Events and Masters Rowing Commissions as the incumbents, Mike Tanner and Tone Pahle did not stand for re-election. Tanner reached the age limit under the FISA Statutes and Pahle chose to pass the baton to a new chair after a very successful run as chair. In a vote contested by four candidates, Eva Szanto of

Hungary was elected the Chair of the Events Commission, and Ronald Chen (USA) was elected unopposed as Chair of the Masters Rowing Commission.

After 25 years in the role of FISA Treasurer, Mike Williams (GBR), stepped down and is replaced by Dutch Olympian Gerritjan Eggenkamp with unanimous support by the Congress. Tributes were paid to Pahle, Williams and Tanner for their respective and considerable contributions to FISA. Williams and Tanner were appointed Honorary Council Members by the Congress.

The FISA Council then convened to vote on their nominee for the Commissions Chair to serve on the Executive Committee to replace Tanner. The Congress delegates approved through vote the Council's nominee Rosie Mayglotling.

The Council announced the re-appointed co-opted member Masakuni Hosobuchi (JPN), as well as the following Continental Representatives for a two-year term:

Africa: Khaled Zain El Din (EGY)

Asia: Liu Aijie (CHN)

Europe: Ryszard Stadniuk (POL)

Oceania: Lee Spear (NZL)

The Americas position will remain vacant and FISA invited suggestions from member federations in the Americas for suitable candidates.

FISA Executive Director Matt Smith updated the Congress on the status of the recently-launched Strategic Events Attribution Process that will see all World Rowing events for the 2021 to 2024 period as well as the 2025 and 2026 World Rowing Championships attributed at the 2019 Congress. Smith praised the hard work that national federations have put in during the initial phase of confidential expressions of interest, consulting with their government and local partners to secure support for a long-term events strategy. The response from national federations has been very positive and FISA now finds itself in the fortunate position of having to distribute event hosting opportunities between a large number of willing event hosts.

With two years to go to the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and less than a year to the first Olympic and Paralympic qualification at the 2019 World Rowing Championships in Linz-Ottensheim, Austria, the Council announced the attribution the following qualification regattas:

- Africa: Tunis (TUN), 3-6 October 2019
- Asia and Oceania: Chungju (KOR), April 2020
- Americas: Rio de Janeiro (BRA), 2-5 April 2020

The European Olympic and Paralympic qualification had already been attributed to Varese (ITA) from 27-29 April 2020, and the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta will take place in Lucerne (SUI) from 17-20 May 2020. The Final Paralympic Qualification Regatta will be held in Gavirate (ITA) from 8-10 May 2020.

FISA also announced that the 2019 World Rowing Indoor Championships will take place in Long Beach, California on 24 February 2019, following on from the successful 2018

World Rowing Indoor Championships that was held in Alexandria, VA, USA earlier this year.

Two new national members were welcomed into FISA:

- Kiribati
- Lesotho

The total number of member national rowing federations is now 155.

At the conclusion of the Congress, FISA staged a National Federations Conference at which the delegates discussed the updates on the lightweight and para-rowing review projects and an update on FISA's Olympic Programme strategy. Rolland expressed the view of the FISA Council that it was appropriate now to develop different alternatives to the lightweight categories on future Olympic programmes, and indicated that FISA is currently investigating the option of coastal rowing as a possible alternative for inclusion in the Olympic programme. The FISA proposal for the 2024 Olympic programme will be decided by the member federation delegates at the 2020 FISA Extraordinary Congress to take place in London from 14 to 17 October 2020 and forwarded to the IOC Executive Board for its decision on December 2020.

The 2019 FISA Ordinary Congress will be held on Monday 2 September 2019 in Linz-Ottensheim, Austria. The 2020

MEDIA RELEASE – 16 SEPTEMBER 2018

NEW WORLD CHAMPIONS IN ROWING **CROWNED IN PLOVDIV**



*For immediate release
Plovdiv, 16 September 2018*

The 2018 World Rowing Championships in Plovdiv, Bulgaria saw new World Champions crowned from across the continents with 28 countries overall taking home medals.

In a week of late summer warm weather and fast rowing conditions, the United States won the most number of medals with a total of ten, three of them gold. This is the best medal count for the United States in 16 years.

Part of the US medal haul was gold medal success in the women's eight. After a ten-year World Championship winning streak, the United States lost the title in 2017. These World Championships saw the US return the eight to the top spot. This came after a tight race where Canada took silver and Australia bronze. The United States showed women's sweep rowing dominance by also winning the women's four. The four is a new Olympic boat class and already the competition is fierce as countries build their crews ready for its debut in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

At the top of the overall ranking was Italy with three gold medals. This included gold in the men's quadruple sculls which is the first World Championship title in the quad for Italy since 1998. The race saw the World Champions, Lithuania relegated out of medal contention with Australia and Ukraine taking silver and bronze respectively.

Ireland had its most successful World Championships ever when they picked up two gold medals and their first golds in Olympic boat classes. This happened first in the lightweight

men's double sculls when the O'Donovan brothers won the race. Then the second gold came in the blue ribband event, the women's single sculls with Sanita Puspure beating the reigning World Champion, Jeannine Gmelin of Switzerland to the line. Gmelin took silver and bronze went to Austria's Magdalena Lobnig.

In the highly anticipated men's single sculls the reigning European Champion, Kjetil Borch of Norway rowed a fantastic race leading from start to finish to take his first ever World Championship title in the single. Borch pushed the World Champion, Ondrej Synek of the Czech Republic into second with Lithuania's Mindaugas Griskonis sprinting through to a bronze in the close of the race.

In the para-rowing boat classes new World Best Times were set with the most impressive being in the para PR1 men's and women's single sculls. In successfully defending his World Championship title, Erik Horrie of Australia set a new World Best Time. The defending World Champion in the women's single, Birgit Skarstein of Norway did the same and not only set a World Best Time, but also completely dominated the final.

At the start of the week Jason Osborne of Germany set a World Best Time in the lightweight men's single sculls during the heats. Osborne went on to win the final of the lightweight single ahead of Michael Schmid of Switzerland.

The German men's eight closed the Championships by successfully defending their World Championship title. In a tightly fought final, the Germans held off challenges from the United States, Great Britain and Australia to win the gold. Australia finished just ahead of Great Britain to claim the silver.

For results, full race reports, photos, live blog and quick quotes go to www.worldrowing.com.

News reviews

Fast, furious and very new; Commonwealth Beach Sprints



Eight nations competed at the first-ever Commonwealth Beach Sprints held from 18-19 August in Sandbanks Beach, Poole, United Kingdom. This was a first for rowing in the Commonwealth Games and it was the first Commonwealth gold medal for Vanuatu in any sport.



Junior rowers record fast times at 2018 World Rowing Junior Championships



Rowing wraps up at Glasgow's European Championships



World University Rowing Championships race for the medals

The 2018 FISU World University Rowing Championships at the Shanghai Water Sports Center, located in the Qingpu District, China completed racing with finals day.



World Rowing to award sustainability practices

In our ongoing commitment to promoting environmental sustainability, the World Rowing Federation, FISA, has established a new award – the World Rowing Sustainability Award.

Athletes



Rising Star

Dovydas NEMERAVICIUS

LTU



Athlete of the month

Weronika DERESZ

POL

Videos



2018 WRJCH Racice, CZ - Venue Walkthrough



2018 European Rowing Championships - On water

Events



2018 European Rowing Under 23 Championships

1 - 2 Sep 2018 / Brest



2018 World Rowing Championships

9 - 16 Sep 2018 / Plovdiv

MEDIA RELEASE – 29 AUGUST 2018

PLOVDIV READY TO WELCOME ROWERS TO THE 2018 WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS



*For immediate release
Lausanne, 29 August 2018*

The entries are in for rowing's most important event of the rowing year, the 2018 World Rowing Championships to be hosted in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. The World Rowing Federation, FISA, is pleased to announce that over 900 athletes from 62 nations will be competing.

The regatta will take place in Plovdiv's Maritza River Water Sports Centre from 9 to 16 September 2018 with rowers vying for the coveted title of World Champion in 14 Olympic, six international and nine para-rowing boat classes.

These Championships will see the culmination of a tumultuous season in the men's single sculls which saw two-time Olympic Champion Mahe Drysdale (New Zealand) concede his spot when he was beaten by fellow-countryman Robbie Manson. Manson now comes to Plovdiv as the favourite but will be up against the ever-improving Oliver Zeidler of Germany. Newcomer Zeidler ousted top sculler Tim Ole Naske in the battle to represent Germany at these World Championships.

Meanwhile, in the women's single sculls, Jeannine Gmelin of Switzerland looks to be untouchable having dominated the event this season. But both Sanita Puspure of Ireland and Austria's Magdalena Lobnig will be aiming to close the gap on Gmelin.

The men's pair has entries from 25 countries and the season, so far, indicates an open book for the medals podium. Gold medals have been won this season by the popular Sinkovic brothers from Croatia, New Zealand's Tom Murray and Michael Brake, Jakob Podrazil and Lukas Helesic of the Czech Republic. The Onfroy brothers from France are also knocking on the door for the gold medal position.

Leading the way in the women's pair this season has been Kerri Gowler and Grace Prendergast of New Zealand. They will be challenged by Canada's Caileigh Filmer and Hillary Janssens, the United States' Victoria Opitz and Gia Doonan as well as European Champions, Denisa Tilvescu and Madalina Beres of Romania.

The 1996 and 2000 Olympic Champion Ekaterina Karsten will be racing in the Belarus women's quadruple sculls, while reigning Olympic Champion in the men's single, Mahe Drysdale will compete in the men's quadruple sculls.

The biggest team is coming from the United States with 27 entries and includes seven entries in the para-rowing boat classes. This is the second year of para-rowers racing the new standard 2000m distance. It is also the first year for four new boat classes: the PR2 men's and women's single sculls and the PR3 men's and women's pair.

Keep track of results, race information, photographs and live blog on www.worldrowing.com

Regatta information [here](#).

Entries [here](#).

The World Rowing media guide will be online (from 31/8/18): <http://www.worldrowing.com/mediacenter/>

MEDIA RELEASE – 12 AUGUST 2018

JUNIOR ROWERS RECORD FAST TIMES AT 2018 WORLD ROWING JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS



*For immediate release
Racice, 12 August 2018*

The 2018 World Rowing Junior Championships in Racice, Czech Republic came to a close with junior champions being crowned in 14 events and 11 new junior World Best Times set over the course of the Championships.

The World Best Times were spread over two of the five days of racing and included the men's single sculls time falling twice in the same day. The final time went to Clarke Dean of the United States whose winning time of 6:45 in the semi-finals yesterday brought him to within one second of the under-23 World Best Time.

Dean took gold in the final today ahead of Australia's Cormac Kennedy-Leverett and Tristan Vandenbussche of Belgium who won silver and bronze respectively. Dean's medal also helped the United States to finish at the top of the overall medals table. The US won a total of seven medals. This included two gold medals with the women's four also winning gold. The United States held off the fast-finishing Italians to win the gold with New Zealand coming through in third.

Italy was second on the medals table with five medals, two of them gold. The golds were a double-header in the coxed four with both the men and women winning. This is the first year that the women's coxed four is included the junior championships, giving Italy the inaugural win. Australia was second and the United States finished third. The bronze

medal US crew also set a new junior World Best Time earlier in the week in this boat class.

Great Britain finished in third on the medals table, while the Czech Republic and Romania came in at fourth equal. This is a drop for Romania who topped the medals table in 2017 in Trakai, Lithuania. An outstanding performance by Romania's women's single sculler, Tabita Maftei secured one of her country's two gold medals. Maftei's win saw her stay ahead of the reigning junior champion, Esther Briz Zamorano of Spain as well as Argentina's Maria Sol Ordas who had set a new junior World Best Time the day before. Ordas claimed silver while a closing sprint by Italy's Greta Martinelli earned her the bronze.

Romania took a surprise win in the men's pair when Florin Arteni-Fintinariu and Alexandru-Laurentiu Danciu finished first ahead of the reigning junior champions, Patrik and Anton Loncaric of Croatia. The Loncaric twins had set a new junior World Best Time the day before and then won the bronze medal in the final, while Germany's Elias Kun and Jasper Angl took silver after finishing third in 2017.

The women's eight and men's quadruple sculls races stole the hearts of the crowd and earned two gold medals for the host country. The Czech Republic win in the women's eight saw them defend their 2017 title with the men's quad holding off Germany and Great Britain to take the win in that event.

The men's eight brought the regatta to a close with Great Britain dominating throughout the race. The United States held on to second with the reigning junior champions, Germany finishing in third.

In 2019 the World Rowing Junior Championships will go to Tokyo, Japan where it will double as a test event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

The 2018 World Rowing season now moves on to the World Rowing Championships from 9-16 September in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

For live streaming, results, race reports and live blog go to www.worldrowing.com

News reviews

Who to watch in rowing at the European Championships



The 2018 European Championships in Glasgow will see rowing being raced at the Strathclyde venue with top rowers like the Sinkovic brothers from Croatia and Jeannine Gmelin from Switzerland lining up to race for the title of European Champion. Here's who to watch.



Quick times at 2018 World Rowing Under 23 Championships



New Zealand shines at third World Rowing Cup



What motivates a rowing coach?

While the reasons that inspire rowers to start and even keep going in the sport can be deeply personal, at least one motivation all rowers have in common is the search for the perfect stroke.

When it comes to coaches is there a similar unifying motivation? What is it that inspires someone to help rowers reach their goals? World Rowing asked a United States, a Chinese, a South African and a British coach their reasons why.



On the comeback, Drysdale scores sixth Henley title

Olympic Champion single sculler, Mahe Drysdale of New Zealand continued his comeback efforts last weekend, winning his sixth Diamond Challenge Sculls title at the Henley Royal Regatta in Great Britain.

Athletes



Rising Star

Allegra FRANCALACCI

ITA



Athlete of the month

Victoria THORNLEY

GBR

Videos

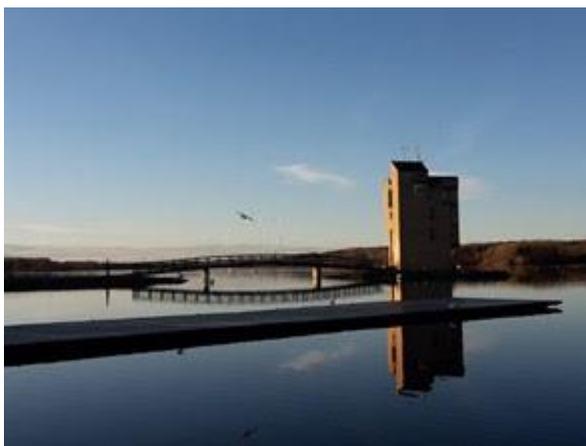


**2018 World Rowing U23
Championships - Poznan,
Poland**



WRC III - Lucerne, Switzerland Timelapse

Events



2018 European Rowing Championships

2 - 5 Aug 2018 / Glasgow



2018 World Rowing Junior Championships

8 - 12 Aug 2018 / Racice

MEDIA RELEASE – 18 JULY 2018

WORLD ROWING UNDER 23 CHAMPIONSHIPS ATTRACT LARGE INTERNATIONAL FIELD



For immediate release - Lausanne, 18 July 2018

Popularity in under-23 rowing continues to grow with the 2018 World Rowing Under 23 Championships attracting nearly 900 rowers from 55 nations.

The championship is being hosted by Poznan, Poland at the well-known Malta regatta course in the heart of the city. Racing will start on 25 July and run through to 29 July 2018.

This year sees a small change in the boat classes as World Rowing has moved to gender equality for all championship events. The change means that the number of boat classes moves from 21 to 22. The best represented women's boat class is the women's double sculls with entries coming from 21 nations. The Greek double of Sofia Asoumanaki and Anneta Kyrdou raced in the final at the senior World Rowing Cup II in June and they look to be the crew to beat. France's Margot Bailleul and Anne-Sophie Marzin will also be a crew to watch.

The men's single sculls has a large field with rowers from 28 nations participating. The defending under-23 champion, Trevor Jones of Canada is racing and he will be up against Olympian Boris Yotov of Bulgaria and Benjamin Davison of the United States.

The United States is coming with a full team of 22 entries. Racing for the US in the women's single sculls is Emily Kallfelz who already has medals from the junior and under-23 level. Kallfelz will face a field of scullers from 19 nations including Thea Helseth of Norway who raced in the final of the single at last year's under-23 championships. Germany has the next largest team. They have 21 boats entered. Italy came out on top of the medals table in 2017 and they have entered 20 boats this year.

The lightweight men's single sculls sees the return of 2017 under-23 champion, Uncas Batista of Brazil. He will be up against rowers from 27 other nations in a bid to defend his title. Batista has been racing the World Rowing Cup series this season. Norway's Ask Jari Tjoem has also begun his 2018 season at the senior level. Tjoem finished fourth at World Rowing Cup I.

The World Rowing Under 23 Championships is raced in 22 boat classes and is open to all World Rowing Federation (FISA) member nations for rowers under the age of 23. The under-23s began in 1976 as the 'Seniors Match' and then the name was changed to the 'Nations Cup' before becoming the World Rowing Under 23 Championships in 2005.

For entries, timetable, full reports, live audio streaming, live results, live blogging as well as video streaming go to www.worldrowing.com

For the complete entry list click [here](#).

MEDIA RELEASE – 15 JULY 2018

NEW ZEALAND SHINES AT THIRD WORLD ROWING CUP



For immediate release - Lucerne, 15 July 2018

The 2018 World Rowing Cup season concluded in Lucerne, Switzerland with New Zealand topping the medals table and Germany the overall World Cup points table in a show of rowing competence.

This was the final World Cup in the three-regatta series and for many countries, the last chance to test their crews internationally before the World Rowing Championships in September. New Zealand's medals came in six races with five of them gold medals. This included the women's pair of Grace Prendergast and Kerri Gowler who remain unbeaten since 2017. Prendergast and Gowler raced from the front ahead of Caileigh Filmer and Hillary Janssens of Canada.

The New Zealand women's double sculls and women's eight finished first and in both cases, Canada was in second. Olivia Loe and Brooke Donoghue held off Gabrielle Smith and Andrea Proske of Canada in the double with Canada chasing New Zealand to the line in the women's eight. The United States finished third.

But perhaps the most anticipated race was the men's single sculls with two New Zealand scullers taking on two German scullers. Olympic Champion Mahe Drysdale and Robbie Manson of New Zealand were racing each other to be the top sculler for their country; Tim Ole Naske and Oliver Zeidler were doing the same for Germany. Manson dominated the second half of the race to finish first and take the mantle for his nation with Zeidler getting silver. Third place went to reigning World Champion Ondrej Synek of the Czech Republic.

Gold also went New Zealand's way in the men's pair. The duo of Tom Murray and Michael Brake managed to hold off France's Onfroy brothers as well as Lukas Helesic and Jakub Podrazil of the Czech Republic. These two boats took silver and bronze respectively.

Germany had a successful regatta earning eight medals, four of them gold. Their win in the men's eight came after a close battle with Australia for the full 2000m race. The Netherlands came through in third. Germany finished second overall on the points table for the Lucerne leg of the World Rowing Cup but it was enough to win the overall 2018 World Cup series. Germany finished the series with 130 points just ahead of the Netherlands on 127 points and Great Britain on 104 points.

Host nation Switzerland had saw gold medal success in both the women's single sculls and lightweight men's single sculls. World Champion Jeannine Gmelin rounded out the World Cup season as the top women's single sculler with this regatta seeing her battle against Sanita Purspure of Ireland who took silver and Carling Zeeman of Canada who took bronze.

The next major event will be the 2018 European Championships to be held in Glasgow, Great Britain from the 2-5 August. This will be followed by the 2018 World Rowing Championships in Plovdiv, Bulgaria from the 9-16 September.

The World Rowing Cup series was launched in 1997 and consists of a series of three events. The overall World Rowing Cup winners are determined after the third event. This year, the three stages of the series were Belgrade, SRB (1-3 June), Linz-Ottensheim, AUT (22-24 June) and Lucerne, SUI (13-15 July).

Results, race reports, photos and videos are available on www.worldrowing.com.
For free photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/worldrowingofficial>

MEDIA RELEASE – 4 JULY 2018

ENTRIES ANNOUNCED FOR WORLD ROWING CUP III IN LUCERNE



For immediate release - Lausanne, 4 July 2018

The 2018 World Rowing Cup concludes in Lucerne, Switzerland next weekend with the third regatta in the series. This will be the last major opportunity for racing before the all-important World Rowing Championships in September.

Over 600 rowers from 37 nations will be competing across 18 boat classes. Australia comes to their second World Cup of the season with the largest team of 74 athletes. At World Rowing Cup II, Australia won gold in both the men's and women's fours.

China is also sending a large team as part of the ongoing growth of rowing in their country which saw the recent hiring of five-time Olympic Champion Sir Steve Redgrave of Great Britain as Technical Director. China had medal success in the women's four and women's quadruple sculls at World Rowing Cup II with these boats racing again in Lucerne.

A showdown in the women's single sculls is expected between World Champion Jeannine Gmelin of Switzerland and Austria's Magdalena Lobnig. These two had an incredibly close race at last month's World Rowing Cup II with Gmelin winning. Now Lobnig will have to race Gmelin in front of Gmelin's home crowd.

The men's single sculls has huge depth with winner of World Cup II Robert Manson of New Zealand up against his fellow New Zealander and Olympic Champion Mahe Drysdale. World Champion and winner of World Cup I Ondrej Synek of the Czech Republic is also racing along with Olympic silver medallist Damir Martin of Croatia. There is also World Cup II silver medallist Tim Ole Naske of Germany facing fellow German and medallist from both World Cups this season Oliver Zeidler.

The United States has entered a men's and women's eight in their first international outing for the 2018 season. There are high expectations on both crews with the women's eight

having held an 11-year unbeaten winning streak at the World Championships and Olympics that lasted until 2017. The women will face strong crews from Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The men will be up against the reigning World Champions Germany as well as Canada and the Netherlands.

World Champions Grace Prendergast and Kerri Gowler of New Zealand have been dominating the women's pair and will face Canada's Cailleigh Filmer and Hillary Janssens for the first time this season. Filmer and Janssens took gold at World Rowing Cup I. The Czech men's pair, winners in Linz, are up against the Sinkovics of Croatia again in the men's pair.

Racing begins on Friday 13 July at 9:30 CET with International followed by Olympic boat classes. Racing then progresses through repechages and semifinals to the finals which will be raced over two days – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 July 2018.

There will be live video streaming of the A-finals on www.worldrowing.com.

Regatta information can be found [here](#).

The World Rowing media guide will be online (from 6/7/18) [here](#).

The World Rowing Cup series was launched in 1997 and consists of a series of three events. The overall World Rowing Cup winners are determined after the third event. This year, the three stages of the series are Belgrade, SRB (1-3 June), Linz-Ottensheim, AUT (22-24 June) and Lucerne, SUI (13-15 July).

MEDIA RELEASE – 15 JUNE 2018

FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR THE BEST IN ROWING, THE 2018 THOMAS KELLER MEDAL



For immediate release - Lausanne, 15 June 2018

The most prestigious medal awarded in rowing, the Thomas Keller Medal, has been narrowed down to six finalists by the World Rowing Federation, FISA.

Following public nominations, the finalists for the 2018 Thomas Keller Medal are (in alphabetical order):

- Jeremie Azou (France)
- Hamish Bond & Eric Murray (New Zealand)
- Kim Brennan (Australia)
- Caryn Davies (United States)
- Heather Stanning (Great Britain)
- Andrew Triggs-Hodge (Great Britain)

Created in 1990, the Thomas Keller Medal celebrates athletes who have had an outstanding career in rowing. It honours those who have shown exemplary sportsmanship and technical mastery of the sport as well as having shown a legendary aspect both in and outside of their rowing career.

Finalists Bios

Jeremie Azou – France

In Jeremie Azou France found a new hero. The two-time World Champion and 2016 Olympic Champion started rowing at a young age and made the French national team as a junior. Already as a 19-year-old he made the senior team and was winning medals right from the beginning. In 2012 at the London Olympics Azou finished fourth in the lightweight men's double sculls. He must have used this as inspiration as from 2013 to 2017 Azou was part of the lightweight men's double sculls that dominated this boat class. Azou set two World Best Times during his career and was four-time European Champion.

Hamish Bond & Eric Murray – New Zealand

It is hard to get to the top. It's even harder to stay there. Bond and Murray achieved what seemed impossible. These two very different athletes became tied together when they united in the men's pair in 2009. They then began an unprecedented 69-race winning streak. This streak included two Olympic Gold medals (2012 and 2016) and eight World Championships titles. They also claimed World Best Times in two boat classes, the men's pair and men's coxed pair. These times still stand today. The duo raced together at the 2008 Olympics in the men's four and a seventh-place finish left them disappointed but brought them back on the road to pairs success.

Kim Brennan – Australia

This three-time Olympian finished her rowing career at the top by winning the women's single sculls at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Prior to this Brennan (nee Crow) had seen success in both the women's eight and women's pair. But it is the London 2012 Olympic Games that really set Brennan apart. She was the only rower to medal in two boat classes – bronze in the women's single and silver in the double sculls.

Caryn Davies – United States

Davies can be described as a self-made athlete. At the age of 16 she decided that she wanted to row on the US national team and began her journey to get there. Not only did Davies make the team, but she made the legendary US women's eight. While working towards several university degrees including a Doctor of Law from Columbia University, Davies became an Olympic Champion twice and a four-time World Champion between 2002 and 2012. She has stroked the USA women's eight repeatedly since its winning streak began in 2006 and helped the boat set two World Best Times. Davies then went on to do an MBA at Oxford University, Great Britain and during that time she stroked the women's Oxford boat to victory in the 2015 Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race.

Heather Stanning – Great Britain

Stanning began rowing when she was identified by the GB Rowing Team Start Programme. Her international rowing career got off to a great start when she won gold at the 2007 World Rowing Under 23 Championships. This began a desire to push for more success. And the success came.

Now a two-time Olympic gold medallist, Stanning dominated the women's pair with partner Helen Glover from 2011 to 2016. During that time Stanning recorded an unbeaten run of 39 races in the pair which included two World Championship titles and Olympic gold in 2012 and 2016. The duo also set a World Best Time in 2014.

Andrew Triggs-Hodge – Great Britain

A three-time Olympic Champion, Andrew Triggs-Hodge was a mainstay among Great Britain's elite squad for 15 years. This was despite a bout of illness in 2015 that saw Triggs-Hodge having to fight to get back into his country's top boats. He managed to swap successfully between the men's eight, four and pair during his career winning Olympic gold in the four in 2008 and 2012 and ending with gold in the men's eight at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

The winner will be announced on 29 June 2018 and awarded at the 2018 World Rowing Cup III in Lucerne, Switzerland on 14 July 2018. During the award ceremony, an 18-carat gold medal will be bestowed by Dominik Keller, the son of FISA's former president Thomas Keller, to the winner.

For a full list of winners, please click here. <http://www.worldrowing.com/athletes/thomas-keller-medal>



MEDIA RELEASE – 13 JUNE 2018

WORLD ROWING CUP II TESTS LINZ-OTTENSHEIM



For immediate release - Lausanne, 13 June 2018

The 2018 World Rowing season moves on to World Rowing Cup II which is being hosted by Linz-Ottensheim in Austria. This World Cup also acts as test event for the 2019 World Rowing Championships that will be hosted at that venue.

Entries for the regatta show an increase in the number of competitors to just under 700, a rise on World Rowing Cup I which took place in Belgrade earlier this month. This partially reflects the interest in competitors wanting to get to know the venue ahead of next year's World Rowing Championships which also acts as the main qualification event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

As well as racing in the 14 Olympic boat classes, there will also be racing in four international boat classes and eight para-rowing boat classes. The para PR1 men's single sculls looks to be hotly contested as the field of 12 includes the Paralympic Champion and gold medallist from World Rowing Cup I, Roman Polianskyi of Ukraine.

A large men's single sculls field sees the return of 2012 and 2016 Olympic Champion Mahe Drysdale (NZL) to the international scene after a year off from competition. Drysdale will face competition from his fellow team mate and World Best Time holder Robert Manson and from Olympic silver medallist Damir Martin of Croatia.

In the women's single sculls, World Champion and winner of World Rowing Cup I, Jeannine Gmelin of Switzerland is racing against home favourite and regular medallist

Magdalena Lobnig of Austria. There is also Victoria Thornley of Great Britain who took silver at the 2017 World Rowing Championships.

World Champions Grace Prendergast and Kerri Gowler of New Zealand will be the crew to beat in the women's pair as will their team mates, John Storey and Christopher Harris who are the World Champions in the men's double sculls. For both of these crews it is their first international race for the 2018 season and they will be accompanied by a 43-member New Zealand team. It is also the first international race of the season for Australia who has brought a team of 45 athletes which includes the World Champion men's four of Joshua Hicks, Spencer Turrin, Jack Hargreaves and Alexander Hill.

Great Britain is sending the biggest team to the regatta with 65 rowers including winners of World Rowing Cup I, the men's quadruple sculls. The next biggest team comes from Italy and includes World Champion from the men's pair, Matteo Lodo with a new crew mate, Vincenzo Abbagnale who has replaced an injured Giuseppe Vicino.

Racing begins on Friday 22 June 2018 at 9:00 CET with heats for the para-rowing boat classes followed by International and Olympic boat classes. In a departure from the normal format, the first round of all events will be raced as time trials. This is to allow athletes and officials a chance to test one of the possible contingency scenarios at the Olympic regatta in 2020.

Racing then progresses through repechages and semifinals to the finals which will be raced over two days – Saturday 23 June in the afternoon and Sunday 24 June starting at 9:35 CET.

There will be live video streaming of the A-finals on both Saturday and Sunday on www.worldrowing.com.

Regatta information can be found at: <http://www.worldrowing.com/events/2018-world-rowing-cup-ii/>

The World Rowing media guide will be online (from 15/6/18): <http://www.worldrowing.com/mediacenter/>

The World Rowing Cup series was launched in 1997 and consists of a series of three events. The overall World Rowing Cup winners are determined after the third event. This year, the three stages of the series are Belgrade, SRB (1-3 June), Linz-Ottensheim, AUT (22-24 June) and Lucerne, SUI (13-15 July).

Dutch dominance at first World Rowing Cup of the season



Women's Eight, 2018 World Rowing Cup I, Belgrade, Serbia

© Detlev Seyb/MyRowingPhoto.com

For immediate release

Belgrade, 3 June 2018

The 2018 World Rowing season promises to be an exciting one following a large medal spread at World Rowing Cup I in Belgrade, Serbia. Three days of racing concluded with 21 countries earning medals on the Ada Ciganlija regatta course on Sava Lake.

But it was the dominant performance of the team from the Netherlands that really turned heads. Topping the medals table was the Netherlands with seven golds, two silvers and one bronze medal. The Dutch were particularly strong in the women's sweep races as they took first and second in the women's four and then the same athletes doubled up to race in the women's eight where they won gold. The Dutch also won gold in the men's four, lightweight women's double sculls, women's double sculls, women's quadruple sculls and para PR2 mixed double sculls.

Germany took home two gold medals: one in the men's eight, the boat class that they hold the current World Championship title in, and the second in the lightweight men's single sculls with Jason Osborne dominating the race.

The two reigning World Champions in the men's and women's single sculls showed that they mean to continue from where they left off at the end of the 2017 season by clinching wins here. The Czech Republic's Ondrej Synek took his first World Cup gold for the season ahead of Switzerland's Roman Roeoesli and sculling newcomer Oliver Zeidler of Germany. Jeannine Gmelin of Switzerland topped the podium in the women's single sculls. She was raced to the line by Sanita Puspure of Ireland and Magdalena Lobnig from Austria.

The weekend's racing opened with Norway's Birgit Skarstein setting a new World Best Time in the para PR1 women's single sculls. Skarstein is a dual-sport athlete. She competed earlier this year in the PyeongChang Paralympics in cross-country skiing. In Belgrade, Skarstein took gold in her para-rowing event.

Norway won a second medal, a bronze in the men's quadruple sculls. Their boat was stroked by the legendary Olaf Tufte who at 42-years-old is a veteran of six Olympic Games and is currently working towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Ahead of Norway in the men's quad were Great Britain in gold and Germany in silver.

The strong performance of the Netherlands earned them 60 points and the top spot on the World Rowing Cup leader board, with Great Britain in second place with 46 points, just ahead of Germany with 43 points. These three nations will be looking to add to those points at the second regatta in Linz-Ottensheim in three weeks' time, from 21-24 June.

The World Rowing Cup series was launched in 1997 and consists of a series of three events. The overall World Rowing Cup winners are determined after the third event. This year, the three stages of the series are Belgrade, SRB (1-3 June), Linz-Ottensheim, AUT (21-24 June) and Lucerne, SUI (13-15 July).

Results, race reports, photos and videos are available on www.worldrowing.com.

For free photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/worldrowingofficial>

MEDIA RELEASE – 23 MAY 2018

WORLD ROWING CUP OPENS THE 2018 SEASON IN BELGRADE



For immediate release - Lausanne, 23 May 2018

The World Rowing 2018 season is about to start with the first World Rowing Cup taking place next week in Belgrade, Serbia.

The regatta has attracted athletes from 42 countries and the events being raced include the 14 Olympic boat classes, three international boat classes and four para-rowing boat classes.

The men's single sculls is well represented with 37 entries. Leading the way in this race is likely to be multiple Olympic medallist Ondrej Synek of the Czech Republic. Synek is the reigning World Champion and he will face regular medallist Angel Fournier Rodriguez of Cuba as well as Croatia's Olympic medallist Damir Martin.

Among the women single scullers, the 2017 World Champion, Jeannine Gmelin of Switzerland is back for another season. She will be the hot favourite with challenges likely to come from Annekatrien Thiele of Germany and Austria's Magdalena Lobnig.

After taking a year's break from rowing Olympic Champion Ilse Paulis of the Netherlands returns in the lightweight women's double sculls. Paulis is teamed up with Marieke Keijser, silver medallist at the 2017 World Rowing Championships and twice under-23 World Champion in the lightweight women's single sculls. They will face strong crews from Poland and the United States.

The biggest team is the Netherlands with 22 crews competing. This includes two para-rowing crews and four crews entered in the men's four. Winners of the 2017 World Cup series, Great Britain has entered 21 crews and both Germany and China have 20 crews coming to Belgrade. This large Chinese turnout includes three entries in the women's pair and three also in the lightweight women's single sculls.

Racing begins on Friday 1 June 2018 at 9:00 CET with heats for the para-rowing boat classes followed by International and Olympic boat classes. Racing then progresses through repechages and semifinals to the finals which will be raced over two days – Saturday 2 June in the afternoon and Sunday 3 June in the morning finishing at 2pm CET.

There will be live video streaming of the A-finals on www.worldrowing.com.

Regatta information can be found [here](#).

The World Rowing media guide will be online (from 25/05/18) [here](#).

The World Rowing Cup series was launched in 1997 and consists of a series of three events. The overall World Rowing Cup winners are determined after the third event. This year, the three stages of the series are Belgrade, SRB (1-3 June), Linz-Ottensheim, AUT (21-24 June) and Lucerne, SUI (13-15 July).

News reviews



World Rowing's virtual indoor sprints a world-wide success

More than 5300 participated in the 2018 World Rowing Virtual Indoor Sprints with the largest-ever country spread. More than 65 countries joined in to go as fast as they could for 1000m on the indoor rowing machine.



They're the fastest women in the world

Today is International Women's Day. While a solitary special day is hardly the only time to celebrate the contributions and achievements of so many incredible women in the sport of rowing, World Rowing is taking this opportunity to talk about the speed of women and shine light on one of the fastest partnerships in the world at present.

Meet Grace Prendergast and Kerri Gowler of New Zealand.



Low back pain care pathway to be designed

Around one third of rowers experience an episode of back pain in a 12-month period. While it is usual to expect a full recovery, for a small percentage the pain can be enough to cause them ongoing problems or even lead to an early retirement.



Plans for the Kafue River & Rowing Centre forge ahead

World Rowing's commitment to Clean Water continues to be recognised as the next stage of the Kafue River & Rowing Centre are put into place.



Czech Republic to host 2022 World Rowing Championships

Athletes



Rising Star

Rowena MEREDITH

AUS

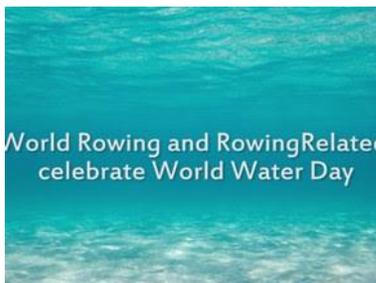


Athlete of the month

Emily REGAN

USA

Videos



Happy World Water Day 2018



2018 Season Opener

Events

2018 World Erg Challenge

15 Mar - 15 Apr 2018 / Any Concept2 Indoor Rower

2018 Americas YOG Qualification Regatta

17 - 19 Apr 2018 / Curauma

MEDIA RELEASE – 28 MARCH 2018

CZECH REPUBLIC TO HOST 2022 WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS



For immediate release Lausanne, 28 March 2018

The World Rowing Federation, FISA, is pleased to announce that the 2022 World Rowing Championships has been attributed to the Czech Rowing Association for the Racice International Rowing and Canoeing Course.

This will mark the second time that the Czech Republic has hosted the World Rowing Championships and it comes after a 29-year gap. In the intervening years the Racice regatta venue, in northern Bohemia, has been the host for a number of rowing events including last year's European Rowing Championships.

It was during these European Championships that the Czech Rowing Association decided it was time to bid to host a World Championships again and sought the support of its government authorities which it received in January of this year. Racice will also host the 2021 World Rowing Under 23 Championships as a test event for the 2022 event.

"Racice is a proven regatta venue that has made a number of significant infrastructure improvements over recent years," says FISA President Jean-Christophe Rolland. "We already know that the Czech Rowing Federation has the capability of putting on a world class event and we are looking forward to working with the organising committee to make the event truly memorable."

In 2018 Racice welcomes international rowing again as it is the venue for the World Rowing Junior Championships.

The bid attribution was made directly by the FISA Council in accordance with FISA Rule 6 that states "Where no bid has been received or when no bid meets the minimum requirements for consideration of Congress, the Council may identify a suitable candidate and may directly attribute the event provided the Council is satisfied that the bid meets the minimum standards for the regatta."

The 2022 World Rowing Championships will take place in late August of that year.

News reviews



2018 International Women's Day - Update on women's rowing

For women's rowing the 2017 year has been historic. The World Rowing Federation (FISA) proposal for a complete gender equal Olympic programme got approved by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in July, followed by the decision at FISA's ordinary congress in October for equal programmes at all World Rowing Championships. This is an important achievement and gives our female athletes the same opportunities as their male colleagues.



Women's rowing - event participation statistics



Women's rowing sustainable development guidelines



They're the fastest women in the world

Today is International Women's Day. While a solitary special day is hardly the only time to celebrate the contributions and achievements of so many incredible women in the sport of rowing, World Rowing is taking this opportunity to talk about the speed of women and shine light on one of the fastest partnerships in the world at present.

Meet Grace Prendergast and Kerri Gowler of New Zealand.



Victoria Aguirregomezcorta leading women rowers

International women's day is coming up on 8 March 2018. For this World Rowing is highlighting topics on women and rowing. Today we look at one of rowing's leaders.

Athletes



Rising Star

Rowena MEREDITH

AUS

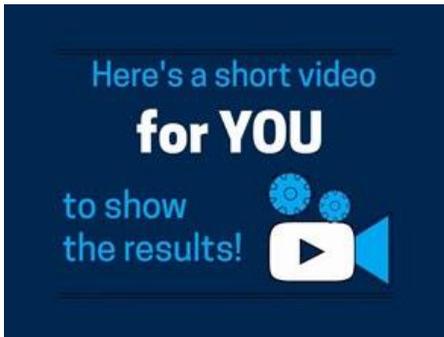


Athlete of the month

Emily REGAN

USA

Videos



The Rowing Coach - Coaching Female Athletes



Celebrate Women in Rowing

Events

2018 World Rowing Virtual Indoor Sprints

7 - 11 Mar 2018 / Any Concept2 Indoor Rower

2018 Americas YOG Qualification Regatta

17 - 19 Apr 2018 / Curauma

MEDIA RELEASE – 12 FEBRUARY 2018

ZIMBABWEAN OLYMPIC ROWER WINS THE 2017 FILIPPI SPIRIT AWARD



For immediate release - Lausanne, 12 February 2018

The World Rowing Federation (FISA) and Filippi Lido S.R.L. are pleased to announce that Micheen Thornycroft from Zimbabwe is the winner of the 2017 Filippi Spirit Award.

Thornycroft is a two-time Olympic rower for Zimbabwe and is currently studying at Rhodes University in South Africa. She plans to graduate in 2019 with a masters degree in human kinetics and ergonomics, focusing on elite athlete performance centres specific to Africa. This degree will allow her to continue in a career related to sport in Africa. She hopes to develop competitive structures within African nations and see the standards of rowing increase throughout the continent.

At Rhodes University Rowing Club, Thornycroft coaches, mentors and inspires younger women. Despite a demanding course and training schedule, Thornycroft manages to find time to give back to a new generation of rowers. She runs a junior programme at St. Andrew's college and has been heavily involved in getting the local girls high school to take part as well.

Thornycroft also donates time to a community engagement project to develop sport in underprivileged areas. She also recognises the importance and connection with nature and is part of the RowZambezi project which will raise money for clean water conservation in Africa.

"In the fifth year of this Award, I never cease to be amazed by the caliber of the nominations. There are so many inspiring university student rowers who deserve to be recognised. This year's winner, Micheen, is no exception. She has balanced Olympic-level training with university studies and still found time to give back to the rowing community," says FISA President Jean-Christophe Rolland.

“It is incredible to win such an awesome award, as there are so many amazing people nominated for it every year. I have always wanted to be able to give back to my University rowing club, as they gave me so much over the years, and so it is so exciting to be able to give them a brand new Filippi eight. It is more than I ever dreamed I’d be able to give,” says Thornycroft.

This is the fifth year of the Award and the second edition with title sponsor, Filippi. Previous winners include James Cook (GBR) in 2013, Franz Gravenhorst (GER) in 2014, Kirsten van Fossen (USA) in 2015, and Nils Jakob Hoff (NOR) in 2016.

The winner’s university rowing club will receive a custom-built, top-of-the-range Filippi eight racing shell. The boat recognises the winner’s involvement in the club and helps the club to develop more young rowers in the future.

Filippi Lido S.R.L. (also known as “Filippi Boats”) is a rowing racing boat manufacturer based in Donoratico, Italy. Since 1980, Filippi has produced top Olympic-class rowing boats. They are renowned for design, top-quality materials and state-of-the-art technology combined with passion and core values that underpin their work.

MEDIA RELEASE – 9 FEBRUARY 2018

2018 WORLD ROWING INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRIES ANNOUNCED



For immediate release - Lausanne, 9 February 2018

Indoor Rowing takes another step forward on the international scene. After the successful Indoor Rowing event at the 2017 World Games last August, next weekend will be the first fully-recognised World Rowing Indoor Championships in Alexandria, Virginia, United States from 17-18 February 2018.

Over 2'500 competitors will take part from 33 countries including Great Britain, France, Poland, China, New Zealand and Denmark. There will also be participants from 27 US States, representing 270 clubs and organisations.

The blue ribband events include the open and lightweight men's and women's races. In the open women's race the reigning World Record holder Olena Buryak of Ukraine is the favourite. Buryak used a recent Estonian indoor rowing competition to prepare herself for these indoor championships. Buryak showed that she was on track for a new World Record attempt by setting a new World Record over 1000m at the Estonian competition.

In the open men's category Bela Simon of Hungary will be competing. Simon became a World Champion in 2017 when he raced at the World Rowing Championships in the men's coxed pair. He will be up against Jakub Prdrazil of the Czech Republic. Podrazil is a two-time Olympian in rowing.

All championship events will be over the 2'000m distance and include a range of age categories. The competitors will use Concept2 rowing machines and the founders of Concept2, brothers Peter and Dick Dreissigacker, have shown their endorsement of the event by both competing themselves - Dick in the 70-year-old category and Peter is 66.

The oldest competitor is Dean Smith, 91, of the Rocky Mountain Rowing Club, USA. Smith will be up against William Brownlee, 90, also from the United States.

The two days of racing also includes non-championship events of different distances including a marathon and a 30 minute race.

There will be a range of para-rowing events with a total of 85 para-rowers entered in the championship and non-championship races. The biggest number of entries is for junior racing with 1020 competitors.

Full entries are available

here: https://www.regattacentral.com/regatta/entries/?job_id=5300&org_id=0

Total Entries for WRIC = 1536

Total Entries for Non WRIC = 906

Total Para Entries = 85

For more information: <http://www.worldrowing.com/events/2018-world-rowing-indoor-championships/event-information>

During the event this page will include results, photos, stories and videos.

Information will also be available on Facebook: World Rowing Indoor and World Rowing.

MEDIA RELEASE – 25 JANUARY 2018

WORLD ROWING COMMITS TO UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES

For immediate release
Lausanne, 26 January 2018

The World Rowing Federation, FISA, is the first global sports body to pledge to protect UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

This commitment has developed out of World Rowing's Clean Water partnership with WWF and responds to concerns raised by UNESCO of past negative impacts by sports on World Heritage sites.

World Rowing recognises that large sporting events can have a negative impact on a location and the federation has put into action a policy on natural and mixed World Heritage sites to enforce a commitment to protect these areas. While the rowing venues currently used for World Rowing events do not impact directly on World Heritage sites, World Rowing has established policy to assess the potential effect of its events on such sites and their buffer zones and aim to reduce any impact. The policy is reflected in World Rowing's latest bidding and operational guidelines.

World Rowing also intends to raise awareness across the wider sport of rowing so that its member federations, governing bodies, clubs and regatta organisers understand how to avoid negative impacts on natural World Heritage sites and their buffer zones.

"As rowing is a sport that is intimately connected to nature, we recognise the importance of protecting natural sites," said World Rowing's President Jean-Christophe Rolland.

"World Rowing hopes that other international sporting organisations will follow in committing to preserve these areas of the world," said Rolland.

Marco Lambertini, Director General of WWF International, said: "UNESCO World Heritage sites are some of our planet's most special places. Unfortunately, many are under threat, including from sports events and sports-related infrastructure. In pledging to respect them, the World Rowing Federation is showing real leadership. Our favourite sports must not risk these irreplaceable areas and their outstanding universal value to people and nature."

UNESCO World Heritage sites represent some of the most unique places in the world – from Doñana National Park in Spain to Sundarbans in Bangladesh. Currently, over half of natural World Heritage sites are under threat from industrial scale activities¹. World Rowing's commitment adds to the growing number of voices that are making a commitment to preserving these unique natural sites.

"This commitment must be the start of a broader transition in sport. With the eyes of the world on the upcoming Winter Olympics, other sports must follow World Rowing in adopting policies that manage the

risk of sports events and associated infrastructure developments on the environment. WWF calls on all sports to commit to protecting UNESCO World Heritage sites,” added Lambertini.

About WWF:

WWF is one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with over 5 million supporters and a global network active in over 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

See panda.org/news for latest news and media resources

¹ WWF report: Protecting People through Nature. 2016.

Link http://awsassets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_dalberg_protecting_people_through_nature_lr_singles.pdf

MEDIA RELEASE – 23 JANUARY 2018

2017 FILIPPI SPIRIT AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

For immediate release
Lausanne, 23 January 2018

World Rowing and Filippi Boats are on their way to pick the 2017 Filippi Spirit Award winner with the announcement of the top five finalists

Featuring three Africans, a Serbian and one from Great Britain, the finalists were narrowed down from more than 20 applicants from 12 nations, including Olympic rowers, national team members and PhD students who had all demonstrated the core values of rowing.

The 2017 Filippi Spirit Award finalists are (in alphabetical order):

- Rain de Jager (South Africa)
- Vladimir Gluhovic (Serbia)
- Seun Olusanya (Great Britain)
- Mzwandile Sotsaka (South Africa)
- Micheen Thornycroft (Zimbabwe)

Now in its fifth year the Filippi Spirit Award is the only international award that recognises university rowers. It is open to university rowers worldwide and honours those who have demonstrated the core values of rowing in his/her social, academic and sporting life. It shows that the student, through these values, has enabled or inspired success in other people's lives.

The next stage is to decide the winner. A select panel of judges which includes FISA President Jean-Christophe Rolland, an Olympic Champion and former university rower, New Zealander Mahe Drysdale who is an Olympic Champion and began rowing at university, Lenka Dienstbach-Wech a German Olympic and World Champion rower and medical doctor, and CEO of Filippi Lido S.R.L. David Filippi.

Rain de Jager attends the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg and is studying occupational therapy and chemistry. As captain of the Wits University Boat Club,

de Jager has inspired many to start rowing through ensuring that students could train at no cost. She has excelled in her studies, works as a coach and continues to row.

At the University of Belgrade, Vladimir Gluhovic is a medical student with a long list of academic awards. He joined the Belgrade University Rowing Club and brought with him persistence and dedication to training as well as the ability to inspire others with his positive spirit. Gluhovic has initiated promotional events for rowing which helped grow the rowing club.

Seun Olusanya studies at the University of Exeter in Great Britain. A top medical student, Olusanya volunteers at the local hospital. She is the former women's rowing captain of the Exeter University Boat Club and current president. She has organised a club fundraiser following Haiti's hurricane in 2016 and is training for the British national rowing team.

From South Africa, Mzwandile Sotsaka studies mathematics at the University of Johannesburg. Coming from an impoverished background, Sotsaka worked as a rowing coach to pay his living expenses while studying. He is training to make the South African national team while following his academic goals. Sotsaka is the men's captain for the University of Johannesburg rowing team and uses a high level of discipline to achieve his demanding schedule.

Two-time Olympic rower for Zimbabwe, Micheen Thornycroft is currently studying at Rhodes University in South Africa. She hopes to graduate in 2019 with a masters degree in human kinetics and ergonomics. At the Rhodes University Rowing Club, Thornycroft coaches, mentors and inspires younger women. She has been involved in a number outreach projects including the RowZambezi project.

The winner's university rowing club will receive a custom-built, top-of-the-range Filippi eight racing shell. The boat recognises the winner's involvement in the club and helps the club to develop more young rowers in the future.

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