

17 April 2019
Lausanne, Switzerland

To: Affiliated Member Federations
Council and Commission Members
Organisers of World Rowing Events
Partners

Circular No. 3 of 2019



Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Circular covers the following items:

1. 2019 FISA Annual Ordinary Congress
2. 2019 Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes
3. 2019 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals – Shenzhen CHN
4. 2019 World Rowing University Regatta – X'ian CHN
5. 2019 World Rowing Events Information Bulletins
6. 2019 Member Federation Meetings and Conferences
7. Para Rowing Athlete Classification
8. Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games updates
9. World Rowing Athlete Network
10. FISA Strategic Events Attribution Process
11. 2019 and 2020 World Rowing Mega-Conferences Schedule
12. Safeguarding
13. Member Federation Details

1. 2019 FISA Annual Ordinary Congress

Notice is given that the 2019 FISA Ordinary Congress will be held from 08:30 to 13:30 hrs on Monday, 2 September 2019 in Linz, Austria. Registration will begin at 07:30 hrs.

Neues Rathaus
Hauptstrasse 1-5,
4041 Linz,
Austria

Please note:

- a) The provisional agenda can be found at this link:
<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/congress>

Any member federation wishing to submit an additional agenda item or a specific proposal for inclusion in the Agenda must do so in written form in English and/or French, along with the reasons for the proposal, to be received at FISA Headquarters in Lausanne no later than 2 June 2019.

- b) The following positions on the Council are due for election at the Congress and nominations are called for those positions:
- i. Chair of the Athletes Commission
 - ii. Chair of the Equipment and Technology Commission
 - iii. Chair of the Rowing for All Commission
 - iv. Chair of the Sports Medicine Commission
 - v. Chair of the Women's Rowing Commission
 - vi. Chair of the Youth Rowing Commission

Member federations (MFs) interested in nominating a candidate or candidates for these Council positions are asked to contact Lucy Trochet, Governance Manager (lucy.trochet@fisa.org) to receive the candidacy nomination documentation package. For the nomination(s) to be accepted and validated, the documents of this package need to be completed and returned to FISA by 2 June 2019.

We would like to announce that the Chair of the Athletes Commission Lenka Dienstbach-Wech has reached the term limit for Chair of the Athletes Commission and may not seek re-election. As Lenka is a member of the FISA Executive Committee, this position on this body will need to be replaced and will be subject to an election. The Council, in accordance with Article 50, will propose a candidate from among the Chairs of the Commissions to replace Lenka and complete her term on the Executive Committee until 31 December 2021.

- c) MFs are requested to advise FISA of the names of their delegates attending the Congress by using the "Congress Attendance Form". Forms are to be received at FISA headquarters no later than 2 July 2019. Please note that the 2019 attendance form is an electronic form and can be found at this link: <https://worldrowingforms.wufoo.com/forms/mlj3ynk14gbqwu/>

2. 2019 Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes

Following the feedback period for Member federations, the 2019 Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes are now confirmed. The heat, repêchage and semi-final schedules are all subject to entries whereas the times of the finals are confirmed for the following events:

1. World Rowing Cup I, Plovdiv BUL
2. World Rowing Cup 2, Poznan POL
3. World Rowing Cup 3, Rotterdam NED
4. World Rowing Under 23 Championships, Sarasota-Bradenton USA
5. World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo JPN
6. World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim AUT

These regatta programmes can be found at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/fisa-circulars>

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Bye-law to Rule 67 concerning the World Championships progression system has been updated. Under the updated Bye-law, in the case of 41 to 48 entries, there is no longer a time trial as the first round, but rather 8 heats followed by 8 repêchages. See Appendix 12 of the FISA Rule Book at this link for the full progression system and well as the document at the following link showing the changes to the Bye-Laws in effect for the 2019 season:

http://www.worldrowing.com/mm//Document/General/General/13/54/74/2019Bye-LawtoRulesandEventRegulationsChangesThree-columnformat200219_Neutral.pdf.

3. 2019 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals – Shenzhen CHN

The inaugural World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals will take place in Shenzhen, China from 25-27 October 2019, the weekend before the World Rowing Coastal Championships in Hong Kong. Shenzhen is a 1.5 hour drive from Hong Kong making it feasible for athletes to participate in both the events.

Four events are offered: men's solo (CM1x), women's solo (CW1x), mixed double sculls (CMix2x) and mixed coxed quadruple sculls (CMix4x+). Different from the World Rowing Coastal Championships, crews will represent the FISA Member Federation rather than a club, and only one boat per federation is permitted per event. Entries must be submitted by Member Federations through the World Rowing entry system by 11 October 2019.

The Shenzhen organising committee will provide support in the form of accommodation and local transport for a limited number of athletes. The criteria for this support will be announced shortly in the OC Bulletin; Federations with crews eligible for this support will also be contacted directly.

For more information see: <http://www.worldrowing.com/events/2019-world-rowing-beach-sprint-finals/event-information> and <http://www.worldrowing.com/news/part-the-inaugural-world-rowing-beach-sprint-finals>

4. 2019 World Rowing University Regatta – X'ian CHN

The Chinese Rowing Association, an association with FISA, will stage the inaugural World Rowing University Regatta in Xi'an, China from 13 to 19 August 2019. A several well-known university crews have been invited to compete in both men's eight (M8+) and women's eight (W8+) events. Crews will compete representing their university club, as either current student athletes or recent graduates, over an 800m course on the Kunming Lake, Xi'an. More information will follow.

5. 2019 World Rowing Events Information Bulletins

The 2019 Event Bulletins are now online and available at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/2019-event-bulletins>

Please refer to the Bulletins for all information on entries, accommodation, accreditation, scheduling and FISA Family Grandstand tickets. Please check carefully the accommodation booking deadlines.

6. 2019 Member Federation Meetings and Conferences

Member Federation meetings will be held to discuss and exchange thoughts on proposals for the 2020 FISA Extraordinary Congress and on-going strategic decisions. Information for the meetings can be found at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/conference>

These meetings will take place at the following events this season on the dates specified below:

Event	Location	Date	Time (* estimated based on current schedule)
International Para Rowing Regatta	Gavirate, ITA	Thurs 16 May	14:00 hrs (after Classification)
European Rowing Championships	Lucerne, SUI	Sat 1 June	After the European Rowing General Assembly (17h30*)
World Rowing Cup 2	Poznan, POL	Sat 22 June	During the lunchbreak (13h45*)
World Rowing Cup 3	Rotterdam, NED	Sat 13 July	During the lunchbreak (13h30*)
World Rowing Under 23 Championships	Sarasota-Bradenton, USA	Sat 27 July	After the team managers meeting (16h00*)
World Rowing Junior Championships	Tokyo, JPN	Sat 10 August	After the team managers meeting (14h00*)
World Rowing Championships	Linz-Ottensheim, AUT	Mon 2 Sept	Immediately after the FISA Congress (to finish no later than 13h30)
World Rowing Coastal Championships	Hong Kong, CHN	Friday 1 November	To be confirmed

7. Para Rowing Athlete Classification

Classification for athletes with physical impairments will take place at World Rowing Cup 2 and the World Rowing Championships. Classification for athletes with visual impairments will only be offered at the World Rowing Championships. Please note that there will be no classification at World Rowing Cup 3.

Deadlines to upload medical documentation to the FISA Pre Classification are now **45 days** prior to classification. Exact dates can be found in the respective event bulletins.

8. Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games updates

FISA Family Grandstand Tickets

We are currently discussing the FISA Family Grandstand ticket allocation with Tokyo 2020 and the IOC. A final decision is expected during the month of May, after which we will communicate the allocation and payment principles to Member Federations. This facility is something that requires hard negotiation with the OCOG and the IOC for every Games, but we believe that it is a valuable service for our member federations and the families of our athletes, so will endeavour to secure the best outcome possible.

Pre-Games training period at the Olympic and Paralympic venue

Tokyo 2020 has announced via its NOC Relations department that the Tokyo Metropolitan Government is planning to make Sea Forest Waterway available to canoe sprint and rowing teams for training. The venue is expected to be open for training for a two-week period between September and October 2019. The detailed schedule and application process is currently being finalised but will be posted on Tokyo 2020 Connect once it has been confirmed.

9. World Rowing Athlete Network

The FISA Athletes Commission is establishing an "Athlete Network", the objective of which is to create a platform for the FISA Athletes Commission to share relevant and useful information with the Athletes Commissions of FISA's member federations via email and regular conference calls.

Member Federations are requested to send the contact details of their Athlete Representative, whether the Chair of the Athletes Commission or, in the absence of an Athletes Commission, an athlete who is willing to represent the athletes on the FISA Athlete Network. Contact details should be sent to Sjoerd Hamburger at mail@sjoerdhamburger.nl.

10. FISA Strategic Events Attribution Process

A large number of regatta venues have benefited from significant investment from local, regional and national governments to bring them to a standard suitable for hosting international competitions. To support a long-term return on investment in these facilities as well as long term support for our sport, the World Rowing Federation, FISA, has adopted a new approach to the manner in which its events are attributed. This approach will allow interested parties to indicate all of the FISA-owned events that they believe would support their long-term events strategy for the period 2021 to 2024 plus WCHs 2025 and 2026.

A detailed description of the procedure and timeline is found at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/events/events-bidding>

The process is entering its final stages with preliminary bids having been received on 15 April 2019 then the final bid submission on 30 June 2019. Delegates at the FISA Congress in Linz will be asked to vote on the World Championship bids, the Council will then attribute the World Cups and Masters regattas followed by the European Rowing general assembly in November for the European regattas.

11. 2019 and 2020 World Rowing Mega-Conferences Schedule

Please note the dates for the above-mentioned meetings taking place in November 2019:

- 2019 World Rowing Coaches Conference from 20 to 22 November
- 2019 Member Federations Conference on 22 November
- 2019 FISA Joint Commissions Meeting from 23 to 24 November
- 2019 World Rowing Awards Dinner on 22 November

Please also note the following dates for 2020:

- 2020 FISA Extraordinary Congress from 15 to 16 October
- 2020 World Rowing Awards Dinner on 16 October
- 2020 FISA Joint Commissions Meeting from 17 to 18 October

The 2020 World Rowing Coaches Conference will take place in January 2021, following the post-Olympic tradition, at a site and on a date to be determined.

All these events will take place at the Park Inn Heathrow Hotel, London, Great Britain. More information will follow but please mark your calendars.

12. Safeguarding

The FISA Policy for Safeguarding Participants in Rowing from Harassment and Abuse has been approved by the Council and is now integral to the FISA Code of Ethics. The policy is effective immediately.

Information relating to this policy, including a list of useful resources, can be found at the following link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/safeguarding-135508>

Member Federations are requested to implement their own policies and procedures to protect their athletes, staff and volunteers from harassment and abuse, adapted to their own national legal framework and consistent with the FISA Policy.

13. Member Federation Details

We kindly ask that each Member Federation check their details presented on the website and inform us of any incorrect information. Please refer to this section of the website: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/national-federations/>

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Christophe Rolland
President



Matt Smith
Executive Director

Attachments

20 February 2019
Lausanne, Switzerland

To: Affiliated Member Federations
Council and Commission Members

**Circular No 2 of 2019
Anti-Doping Programme Information**



Ladies and Gentlemen,

Anti-Doping Obligations for Rowers and National Federations

This circular is entirely dedicated to the Anti-Doping obligations for rowers and national federations and contains the following information:

1. 2019 Prohibited Substances and Methods List
2. Training Camp Forms - National Federations and the Team Whereabouts Programme - Forms Attached
3. Retirement Policy – Form Attached
4. Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs) and ADAMS.
5. 2019 FISA Registered Testing Pool (RTP)

1. 2019 Prohibited Substances and Methods List

You will always find the very latest list of substances and methods which are prohibited by WADA, the IOC and FISA at the WADA website:

https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/wada_2019_english_prohibited_list.pdf

You are reminded that this list is automatically incorporated into the FISA Anti-Doping Bye-Laws. The 2019 Prohibited substances list came into effect on 1 January 2019. Please distribute it widely to rowers, clubs, team doctors and coaches.

The summary of modifications from the 2018 list are explained at the WADA website:

https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/wada_2019_english_summary_of_modifications.pdf

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2. National Federations and the Team Whereabouts Programme

This information can be submitted by fax or email using the attached forms.

We would like to draw your attention to Article 5.9.1 of the Anti-Doping Bye-Laws in the FISA Rule Book:

“5.9.1 Before 31 December of each year, each member National Federation must provide to FISA Headquarters quarterly training camp and main training location whereabouts for the following year. The completed Summary Training Camp form, Main Training Location form and if possible, the Individual Training Camp forms for its national teams, as well as any other information requested by FISA should be submitted to FISA Headquarters quarterly by 31 December, 31 March, 30 June and 30 September (These forms set out the dates and venues of the camps and main training locations). The individual training camp forms must be completed and received by FISA Headquarters no later than two weeks before the start of any above reported training camp. It is the responsibility of the national federation to update this information so that the information received by FISA is timely, accurate and complete at all times. Any changes to the list of training camps, or training camp contacts must be immediately communicated to FISA Headquarters.

Failure to submit complete timely quarterly whereabouts may result in sanctions being imposed on the national federation...”

Please note that all responses must be in English or French and as complete as possible.

Summary Training Camp and Main Training Location forms –
Due Now

then the updates are

due 30 June 2019

due 30 September 2019

Individual Training Camp Forms – **due at the latest, 2 weeks
before the start of each
training camp.**

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3. Retirement Policy – Form Attached

Please note Articles 5.6.3 and 5.7.1 of the Anti-Doping Bye-Laws in the FISA Rule Book.

Retirement and Return to Competition

5.6.3 A Rower in FISA's Registered Testing Pool for that year shall continue to be subject to the obligation to comply with the whereabouts requirements of Annex 1 to the International Standard for Testing and Investigations until 31 December of that year, unless the Rower gives written notice to FISA that he has retired.

5.7.1 A Rower in the FISA Registered Testing Pool who has given notice of retirement to FISA may not resume competing at national and international rowing Competitions until he has given FISA written notice of his intent to resume competing and has made himself available for Testing for a period of at least six (6) months before returning to Competition, including (if requested) complying with the whereabouts requirements of Annex 1 to the International Standard for Testing and Investigations. WADA, in consultation with FISA and the Athlete's National Anti-Doping Organisation, may grant an exemption to the six-month written notice rule where the strict application of that rule would be manifestly unfair to an Athlete. This decision may be appealed under Article 13. Any competitive results obtained in violation of this Article 5.7.1 shall be Disqualified.

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4. Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs)

To be submitted using ADAMS - international level rowers

Any international level rower using a Prohibited Substance or Prohibited Method for therapeutic reasons must have a valid FISA TUE. In addition to all rowers included in FISA's Registered Testing Pool, all Rowers who intend to compete in the following international competitions shall be considered international level for TUE purposes (reference paragraph 4.4.2 of the 2017 Anti-Doping Rules):

- World Rowing Championships for Senior, Under 23 and Junior
- Continental Rowing Championships, Regional Games and Olympic, Youth Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regattas
- World Rowing Cup Regattas
- World and Continental Championships in rowing ergometer competitions
- Olympic, Youth Olympic and Paralympic Rowing Regattas

All TUEs submitted to FISA must be submitted in ADAMS. All relevant medical evidence must be attached. If an athlete does not have an account in ADAMS, please contact Natalie at FISA (natalie.schmutz@fisa.org) for an account to be set up.

Rowers are advised that a FISA approved TUE may only be valid for national competitions 21 days after approval by FISA, therefore rowers are informed that they should apply for a TUE from their national anti-doping organisation as well as from FISA. Please refer to Article 4.4.2.2 of the FISA Anti-Doping Bye-Laws.

Glucocorticosteroids

1. The use of glucocorticosteroids when administered by oral, intravenous, intramuscular or rectal routes is prohibited and requires a TUE.
2. Glucocorticosteroids administered by intraarticular, periarticular, peritendinous, epidural, intradermal and inhalation routes do not require a TUE or a declaration of use. However the athlete should declare the use of these substances on the doping control form if required to undergo an anti-doping test.

Asthma

3.

4. Inhaled formoterol, salbutamol and salmeterol are not included in the WADA Prohibited list. A declaration of use is not required however the use of these substances must be declared on the doping control form by the athlete if tested.
5. The inhalation of terbutaline still requires the submission of a TUE application in ADAMS.

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5. 2019 FISA Registered Testing Pool

National Federations with rowers included in the FISA Registered Testing Pool will receive a separate communication with information on the FISA RTP for 2019.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Matt Smith
Executive Director

Attachments

22 February 2019
Lausanne, Switzerland

To: Affiliated Federations
Council and Commission Members
Organisers of World Championships
National Rowing Magazines
Partners



Circular No. 1 of 2019

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Circular covers the following items:

1. Decisions from the February 2019 FISA Council Meeting
2. 2019 World, European and Key International Rowing Event Juries
3. 2019 Provisional World and European Rowing Event Programmes
4. 2019 World and European Rowing Event Information Bulletins
5. 2019 Seminars and Exams for International Umpires
6. FISA Strategic Event Attribution Process
7. FISA Long-Term Planning Calendars
8. FISA Para Rowing On-Line Classification Portal
9. FISA Member Federation Details

1. Decisions from the February 2019 FISA Council Meeting

The FISA Council gathered in Lausanne at FISA Headquarters from 9 to 11 February for its annual three-day meeting to prepare for the year ahead and discuss several long term, strategic issues. The meeting included a visit from IOC president Thomas Bach and IOC Sport Director Kit McConnell. As well, a reception was held in the FISA offices for sports leaders present in Lausanne.

The Council reviewed the achievements in 2018 and the objectives for 2019 of the specialist commissions (at this link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/joint-commissions-meeting>) and continental representatives, reviewed the goals and objectives of the current Strategic Framework document (at this link: [http://www.worldrowing.com/mm//Document/General/General/13/08/49/2018WR-Strategicframeworkv3\(002\)_English.pdf](http://www.worldrowing.com/mm//Document/General/General/13/08/49/2018WR-Strategicframeworkv3(002)_English.pdf)), had a presentation on the Key Performance Indicators for 2018 (at this link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/fisa-circulars>).

Key decisions were the following:

- a. **Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games** – The Council accepted the Tokyo 2020 proposal for a maximum spectator capacity at the Olympic regatta of 16'000 and the Paralympic regatta of 12'800. As well, it adopted the proposal of Tokyo 2020 to slightly change the Olympic finals programme to avoid a clash in scheduling between finals in Swimming and Rowing (link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/events/2020-olympic-games-regatta/event-information>). The 2020 Paralympic Games schedule has also been confirmed (link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/events/2020-paralympic-games-regatta/event-information>). The third point discussed was the testing of the wave attenuation system forecast for the coming months leading to the 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships and Test Event this August in Tokyo.
- b. **Joint Korean Team to attempt qualification for Tokyo 2020** – The Executive Committee, after consultation with the IOC, has agreed to allow joint crews from PRK Korea and the Republic of Korea to compete and seek qualification at FISA qualification events during 2019 and 2020 only in six boat classes: the Men's and Women's Fours, Quadruple Sculls and Eights (link: <https://www.olympic.org/news/ioc-considers-request-for-unified-korean-teams-to-enter-qualification-for-olympic-games-tokyo-2020>). If they qualify as unified COR crews, they would also compete in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic competition as a unified crew.
- c. **Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games** – The Council was presented with a proposal to study an alternative venue for the LA2028 Olympic Games. The bid proposal was to stage this regatta at Lake Perris, a reservoir on the east of Los Angeles which would require a satellite Olympic Village. LA2028 proposed that an existing venue in Long Beach, California be considered. The Long Beach Marine Stadium was the Rowing venue for the 1932 Olympic Games and hosting the Olympic regatta there would allow the athletes to stay in the main Olympic Village at UCLA. The Council agreed to proceed with more detailed studies on the impact of the tides on fairness and the possible reduction of the race distance.
- d. **Youth Olympic Games 2022** – Following the IOC's decision to stage the 2022 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal (<https://www.olympic.org/news/it-s-time-for-africa-see-you-in-senegal>), FISA has considered the options for rowing. The Council was presented with the results of a recent site visit to Senegal by FISA's Development and Events Team. After hearing the information from the site visits, the Council agreed to propose Coastal Rowing to IOC as the official rowing discipline for these Games in 2022, as no suitable traditional "Olympic" rowing venue was identified in or near Dakar.

- e. **2021 World Rowing Championships in Shanghai CHN** – The Council was presented with an update on the progress in preparation of the 2021 World Rowing Championships in Shanghai, China. It decided on provisional dates for the event as 3 to 10 October 2021 but awaits confirmation of the dates of the 2021 Chinese National Games to avoid a clash and create an acceptable interval between the two. A final decision on the date will be taken in July.
- f. **FISA Continental Representative for the Americas** – After consultation with national federations and an internal search process, a number of very qualified candidates were identified. Following interviews with the shortlisted candidates by the Executive Committee, the Council voted to appoint Victoria Aguirregomezcorta from Argentina to serve as the FISA's Americas Continental Representative, effective immediately, for a two-year term ending in December 2020.
- g. **2019 FISA Statute and Rules Bye-Law changes** – The Council approved a number of changes in the Statutes, Rules and Event Regulations to take effect immediately. These changes can be found in a three-column format at this link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/rule-book>
- h. **Initial Proposed 2020 Statute and Rule changes** – The Council reviewed the proposals for 2020 changes received by the Governance Working Group and the Rules Working Group. These ideas will be studied over 2019, discussed at NF Meetings held at World Rowing events and detailed wordings will be presented to the NF Conference this November in London. These proposed changes will be the basis of discussion and voting at the 2020 FISA Extraordinary Congress in October 2020. A presentation of the initial proposed changes can be found at this link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/rule-book>
- i. **Safeguarding policy and procedures** – The Council approved a new Safeguarding policy that applies to all FISA activities along with the procedures for reporting and investigating alleged incidents. These documents will be posted shortly.
- j. **IOC Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration** – The Council was presented with the IOC Athletes Declaration by FISA Athletes Commission Chair Lenka Dienstbach-Wech, a member of the working group tasked with authoring the Declaration. This is a document created through extensive consultation with athletes and stakeholders from all sports and over 180 countries around the world. The FISA Council acknowledged it and has placed it in the FISA Rule Book as a Bye-Law to Article 59. A working group will now study how it can be integrated into the FISA Statutes and Rules for the 2020 Extraordinary Congress. This Declaration can be found at this link: <https://www.olympic.org/athlete365/athletesdeclaration/>

k. Water Quality Guidelines – The Council reviewed and approved the new FISA Water Quality Testing Guidelines, which have been drafted with the intention of protecting the health and safety of rowers at FISA competition venues while taking a pragmatic approach to assessing, monitoring and addressing water quality issues at these venues. The Guidelines define the procedures for assessing water quality from the bid stage through to the competition period, and can be found at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/environment/fisa-environmental-policy/>

l. Anti-Doping / Russian Rowing Federation – The Council reviewed the situation with Russia and its anti-doping agency (“RUSADA”), and noted that WADA has now determined that RUSADA is compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code. Following the course of action taken by FISA regarding rowers of the Russian Rowing Federation (RRF) in 2016, 2017 (example: <http://www.worldrowing.com/news/stage-two-2017-russian-rowing-participation>) and 2018, whereby eligibility was carefully assessed, fees were charged for additional anti-doping controls, anti-doping education was mandatory and the RRF was required to declare all rowers who may compete in FISA event of the year by February of 2017 and 2018, the Executive Committee decided that no further exceptional requirements would be imposed on the RRF in 2019. However, this does not exclude the prosecution of any possible cases exposed by the McLaren report of 2016 and 2017, for which the data received in January 2019 might indicate Anti-Doping code offenses.

m. Para Rowing – The Council has made a preliminary decision, after reviewing the Para Rowing standard boat research study conducted by the Wolfson Institute of Southampton, Great Britain, to continue for the next four-year period (2021 to 2024) with the FISA standard Para hulls for the PR1 single and the PR2 double. The full report of the Wolfson research study has been published on www.worldrowing.com/para-rowing/ along with an executive summary.

The Council will make a final decision on the status of the standard Para hulls at its meeting in Rotterdam in July 2019. Additional considerations are the possible lowering of the minimum weight of these boats, and reviewing the shape and volume of the pontoons; decisions will be taken on these aspects at the July meeting as well. A consultation period will start now and carry through until the FISA Council meeting on 15 July 2019. Meetings will be held for rowers, coaches, federation leaders, and equipment manufacturers at FISA events during this period to obtain their feedback. These events include the Gavirate International Para Rowing Regatta, World Rowing Cup II in Poznan, POL, and World Rowing Cup III in Rotterdam, NED.

n. Lightweight Rowing – The Council has made a preliminary decision to continue to study the future and position of lightweight rowing in World Rowing, studying the entries at the international level and the national level, leading to discussion and proposals at the 2020 Extraordinary Congress in October 2020 in London, Great Britain.

It was also decided that two options for the Olympic programme of Paris 2024 need to be developed concurrently, one being the status quo of Tokyo and the other substituting Coastal Rowing for the two lightweight events. Discussion during 2019 and 2020 will centre on the IOC's position on rowing's events and competition categories, the quota reductions announced for 2024 and its decisions impacting the Olympic Games related to Olympic Agenda 2020 and the IOC's "New Norm".

2. 2019 World, European and Key International Rowing Event Juries

The Event Juries for the above-mentioned events are available on the website in the circular section. Logistical details related to the participation of these international umpires at these events will follow and be sent directly to the selected umpires. No flight bookings should be made until the jury member is contacted by FISA. The names of the selected jury members can be found here:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/umpiring>

3. 2019 Provisional World and European Rowing Event Programmes

Following consultations with organising committees and television broadcasters, the 2019 Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes are now available for comments or suggestions until 5 March 2019. The heats, repêchage and semi-final schedules are all, of course, subject to entries whereas the times of the finals are confirmed for the following events:

1. World Rowing Cup I, Plovdiv (BUL)
2. World Rowing Cup 2, Poznan (POL)
3. World Rowing Cup 3, Rotterdam (NED)
4. World Rowing Under 23 Championships, Sarasota (USA)
5. World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo (JPN)
6. World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT)

These regatta programmes and the European programmes can be found at this link: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/fisa-circulars>

4. 2019 World and European Rowing Event Information Bulletins

The 2019 Event Bulletins are nearly completed and will soon be available at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/2019-event-bulletins>

Please refer to the Bulletins for all information on entries and scheduling.

5. 2019 Seminars and Exams for International Umpires

The FISA Umpiring Commission will be conducting a number of seminars and examinations during the year 2019. This listing is available on the Umpiring Noticeboard at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/umpiring>

Any Member Federation wishing to submit candidates for the examinations or the names of umpires who wish to attend a seminar are invited to advise FISA Headquarters (info@fisa.org) no later than **one month before the date of the seminar or exam**. The exact location of the meetings will be available at the regatta venues.

6. FISA Strategic Event Attribution Process

FISA's Strategic Event Attribution Process for the period 2021 to 2024 (plus the 2025 and 2026 World Rowing Championships) has entered phase three – Preparation of Preliminary Bids.

A large number of regatta venues have benefited from significant investment from local, regional and national governments to bring them to a standard suitable for hosting international competitions. To support a long-term return on investment in these facilities as well as long term support for our sport, the World Rowing Federation, FISA, adopted this new approach to the manner in which its events are attributed. This approach allows interested parties to strategically bid for the FISA-owned events that they believe would support their long-term events strategy.

A detailed description of the procedure and timeline is found at this link:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/events/events-bidding>

Any questions or comments should be directed to Liz.soutter@fisa.org

7. Long Term Planning Calendars

These FISA Long Term Planning Calendars – Updated 2017 to 2020 and Provisional 2021 to 2024 - are now online at

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/>

8. 2019 World Rowing Conferences Schedule

Please note the dates for the following conferences taking place in 2019:

In Hangzhou, CHN

- 2019 World Rowing Youth Coaches Conference, from 17 to 21 October

In London GBR:

- 2019 World Rowing Coaches Conference from 20 to 22 November
- 2019 National Federations Conference on 22 November
- 2019 World Rowing Awards Dinner on 22 November
- 2019 FISA Joint Commissions Meeting from 23 to 24 November

Registration details will follow in the next FISA Circular.

9. FISA Para Rowing On-line Classification Portal

a. Online pre-classification document submission system

Athletes seeking an international classification must first be pre-classified in order to determine eligibility and the sport class. Athletes that need to be pre-classified are required to submit FISA medical diagnostic forms and additional medical documents to FISA for evaluation. Previously this had been done via email, but as of the 2018 season, the documents must be directly uploaded to the new FISA Online Classification Portal. The Online Portal indicates the required documents that must be provided to be pre-classified for an impairment. Note that the Chief Classifier will only be notified to perform the pre-classification once all the required forms have been uploaded. The Portal also serves as a secure environment to store the athletes' medical data.

Access to the Portal is restricted to the FISA member federations. Instructions have been sent to the federations on how to use this new system. If these have not reached the federation yet, please contact FISA: databases@fisa.org

b. Classification Eligibility Guide

FISA has created an online tool to help potential para athletes determine their eligibility for para rowing and to give an indication of what sport class they may be eligible for. The online tool is available here: [Classification Eligibility Guide](#)

Please be advised that the tool provides an indication only. The actual sport class can only be determined after pre-classification and consequently international classification by a FISA panel before an event.

For any questions regarding classification please contact: classification@fisa.org

10. FISA Member Federation Details

We kindly ask that each Member Federation check their details presented on the website and inform us of any incorrect information. Please refer to this section of the website: <http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/national-federations/>

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Christophe Rolland
President



Matt Smith
Executive Director

Attachments