



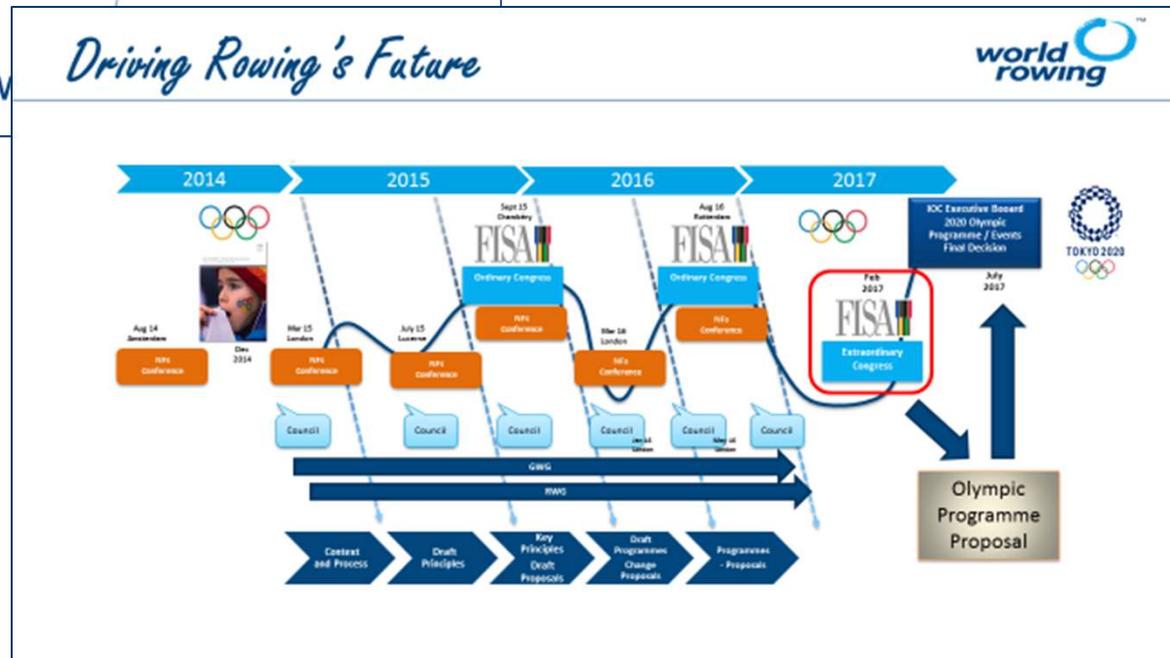
**2017 World Rowing  
Review Projects**

*National Federations Meeting*

*Belgrade, 5 May 2017*

# OVERVIEW

# Driving Rowing's Future





## **Rule 37: Olympic boat classes now determined by the IOC**

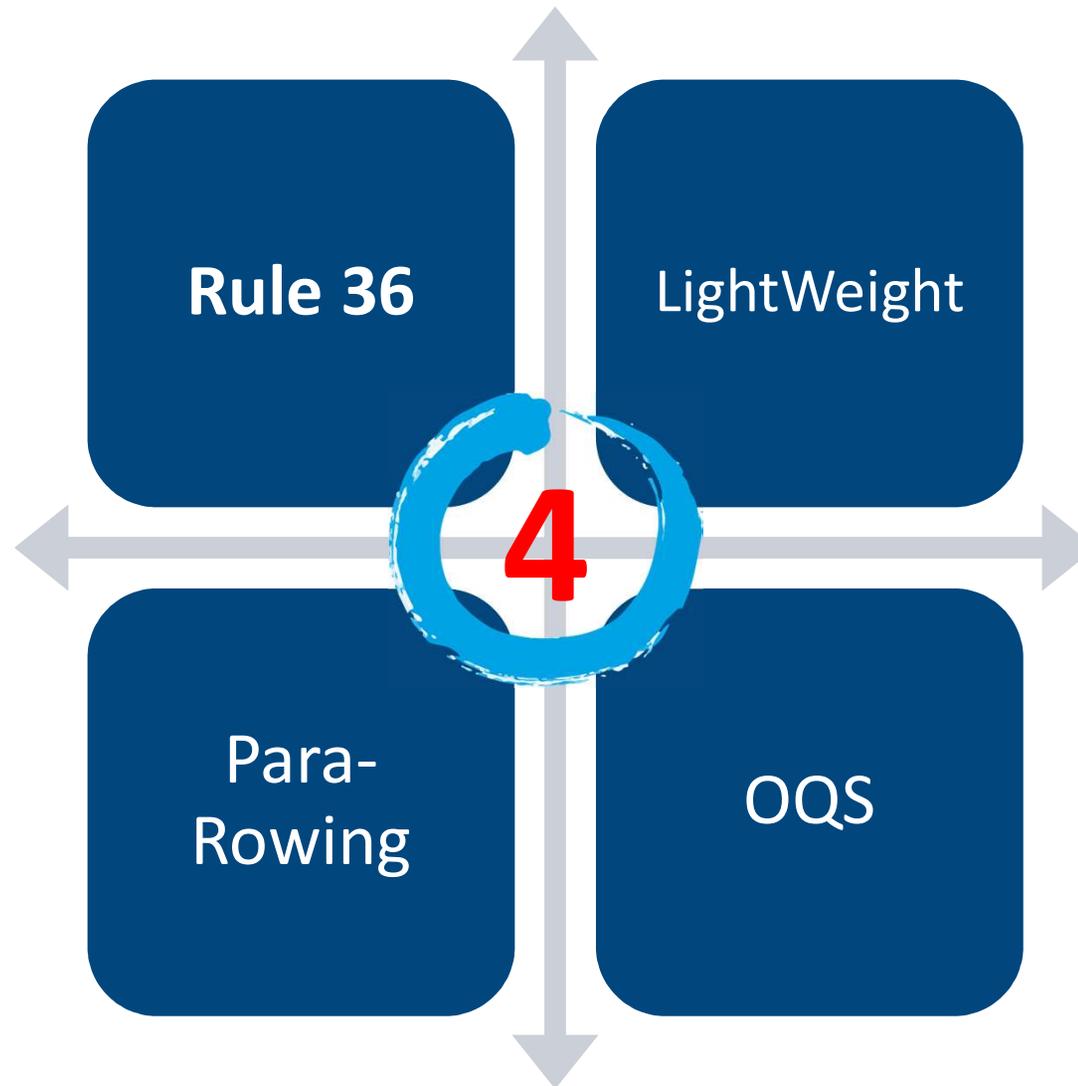
- Impact on the World Championship boat classes?
- Proposal for the 2020 Olympic Qualification System
- What is the future for lightweight rowing?



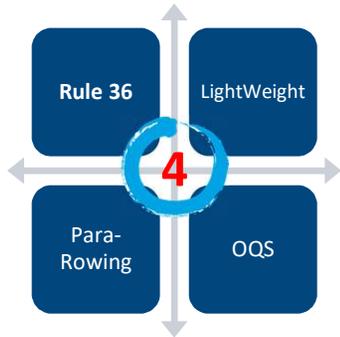
## **Rule 43: Para-rowing race distance changed from 1000m to 2000m**

- A new era for Para-Rowing?
- What is our long-term development strategy?

# 2017 Review projects



# Review process : principles

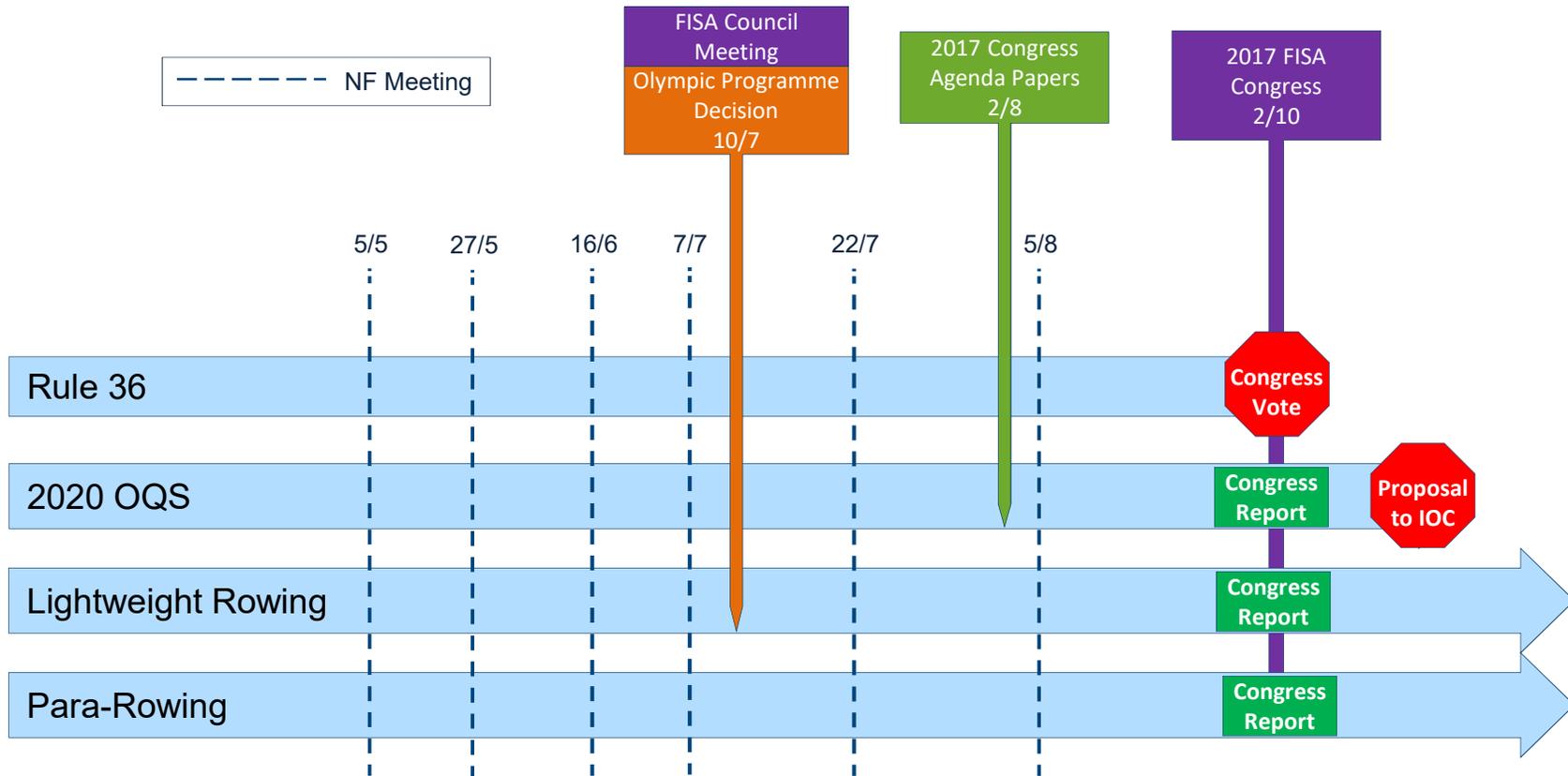


- Projects led by the Executive Committee
- Working Groups appointed by EC
- Each group has an EC member steering
- Facilitation by FISA staff member
- Interactive

# Review process : Working Groups



# Project timeline



# Key dates

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## **9-10 July 2017: IOC Executive Board meeting**

- Decision on Olympic Programme

## **10 July: FISA Council Meeting**

- Draft proposal on Rule 36 and 2020 Olympic Qualification System

## **2 August: Deadline for submissions for 2017 FISA Congress Agenda Papers**

- Proposal for Rule 36 – World Championship Programmes

## **2 October: 2017 FISA Congress**

- Vote on Rule 36

## National Federation meetings

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| World Rowing Cup I, Belgrade                | 5 May, 16h30      |
| Gavirate International Regatta (Para only!) | 13 May, 14h00     |
| European Rowing Championships, Racice       | 27 May, after AGM |
| World Rowing Cup II, Poznan                 | 16 June, 18h00    |
| World Rowing Cup III, Lucerne               | 7 July, 18h00     |
| World Rowing U23 Championships, Plovdiv     | 22 July, 14h00    |
| World Rowing Junior Championships, Trakai   | 5 August, 14h00   |

# National Federation input



## Online via [www.worldrowing.com](http://www.worldrowing.com)

A screenshot of a web browser showing the URL [www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/world-rowing-2017-review-projects](http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/world-rowing-2017-review-projects). The page features the World Rowing logo and a navigation menu with items: ROWING, EVENTS & RESULTS, ATHLETES, NEWS, and PHOTOS & VIDEOS. The main content area includes a paragraph about working groups, a section titled "2017 Review Projects Working Groups", and a section titled "INPUT FROM NATIONAL FEDERATIONS". In this section, the text says "The National Federations are invited to provide their comments and perspectives at the NF Meetings and/or by completing the comment form [here](#)." A red circle highlights the word "here" and a red arrow points to it from the right. Below this is another paragraph about updates and a section titled "TIMELINE" with a paragraph about the timeframe for review projects.

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/about-fisa/world-rowing-2017-review-projects>

# Reference documents



## Proposed Principles for Rowing Event Programmes [Draft 6 at 220216]

Context: In 2013, the Olympic Movement entered a new era with significant changes for the future. The 2012 Olympic Programme Commission Report and Agenda2020 have modified the general landscape and brought more flexibility, notably for the Olympic Programme. The IOC, from now on, will evaluate not only the sports at the Olympic Games but each of the events. The IOC Executive Board will ultimately make the decision on which events will be on the Programme.

The slide features the World Rowing logo in the top left and the FISA logo in the center. The background is a dark blue with a subtle rowing boat graphic. The text is white and lists five main goals.

### FISA's Strategic Plan

Five Main Goals

1. Development
2. Promotion
3. Events
4. Governance and Management
5. Environment

...e sport. There are no professional leagues and almost true to the traditions of de Coubertin and Olympism. It

...background explanations about why each of our boat and FISA event programmes should be reviewed amid of participation through FISA age groups correctly amme.

...ort now ideally are existing or temporary with minimal ce the costs of staging the games. It is important now principles and all elements that influence the size and attempts to identify and address the principles that a rowing event programme.

...ce distance for rowing should reflect that rowing is a nal endurance capacity but also strength in its athletes. uld not change the endurance profile of the sport. uld not go under the scientific definition of endurance

...istance could vary as long as the above principles are

...erent distances are possible as this can provide so allow use of non-standard courses, if necessary.

2.1 The number of racing lanes should allow fair and equal conditions to the crews... eight

# THE REVIEW PROJECTS

# **RULE 36: WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAMMES**

# Purpose of the Review

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- Provide input to the FISA Council proposal on the events to be included in the senior, Junior and Under 23 World Championships
- Consider how the three programmes relate to each other to create pathways for athlete development from junior to senior level and also serve to achieve FISA's strategic goals and objectives

## 1. Olympic Programme Decision

The IOC Executive Board will decide on the events that will be included in the Olympic programme on 10 July.

## 2. World Championship Programme

The World Rowing Championship programmes voted on in Sarasota/Bradenton **will apply for the next three years**. Changes can only be made at the next FISA Extraordinary Congress (or as a result of the natural death rule)

# Key Principles to Address

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1. Excellence
2. Participation
3. Gender equality
4. Attractive programme / spectator eExperience
5. Balance of the different boat classes, sculling and sweep rowing
6. The inclusion of open, lightweight and para-rowing events
7. Pathways from junior to senior

# Terms of Reference

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- Prepare a proposal or set of alternative proposals/ scenarios for the three World Championships programmes (Senior, Under 23 and Junior).
- A single proposal or a number of alternative proposals may be put forward for vote against the current events at the 2017 FISA Congress.
- Input to the FISA Council proposal:
  - NF comments by 16 June
  - Working group proposal by 9 July
  - Council proposal by 2 August
- Congress vote on 2 October 2017

# Current Rule 36



World Rowing Championships are currently held in the following events:

|                   | 1x     | 2x               | 2-    | 2+  | 4x    | 4-    | 4+     | 8+   |
|-------------------|--------|------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|--------|------|
| Men               | M1x    | M2x              | M2-   | M2+ | M4x   | M4-   |        | M8+  |
| Women             | W1x    | W2x              | W2-   |     | W4x   | W4-   |        | W8+  |
| Lightweight Men   | LM1x   | LM2x             | LM2-  |     | LM4x  | LM4-  |        |      |
| Lightweight Women | LW1x   | LW2x             |       |     | LW4x  |       |        |      |
| Para-Rowing Men   | PR1 1x |                  |       |     |       |       |        |      |
| Para-Rowing Women | PR1 1x |                  |       |     |       |       |        |      |
| Para-Rowing Mixed |        | PR2 2x<br>PR3 2x |       |     |       |       | PR3 4+ |      |
| Under 23 Men      | BM1x   | BM2x             | BM2-  |     | BM4x  | BM4-  | BM4+   | BM8+ |
| Under 23 Women    | BW1x   | BW2x             | BW2-  |     | BW4x  | BW4-  |        | BW8+ |
| Under 23 LM       | BLM1x  | BLM2x            | BLM2- |     | BLM4x | BLM4- |        |      |
| Under 23 LW       | BLW1x  | BLW2x            |       |     | BLW4x |       |        |      |
| Junior Men        | JM1x   | JM2x             | JM2-  |     | JM4x  | JM4-  | JM4+   | JM8+ |
| Junior Women      | JW1x   | JW2x             | JW2-  |     | JW4x  | JW4-  |        | JW8+ |

# Key Questions for Consideration

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- What is the **purpose** of the World Rowing Championships?
- What are the **criteria for including a boat class** in the World Rowing Championship programmes?
- Is full **gender equality an objective**? By when should we reach **full gender equality** in the WCH programmes?
- What is the minimum entry threshold to consider an event a true medal event of equal value? Should the **natural death rule** (less than 7 entries for three consecutive years) still apply?
- How are the programmes of the three Championships linked in terms of athlete pathways?

# 2020 OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

# Purpose of the Review

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Prepare a proposal (or proposals) for the 2020 Olympic Qualification System, bearing in mind :

- How qualification opportunities impact funding and development opportunities for national and continental federations
- How the distribution of athlete quota across events impacts the competition programme and presentation of the Rowing competition at the Olympics.

## 1. Olympic Programme Decision

The **IOC Executive Board** will decide on the Olympic programme proposed by FISA and assign the relevant quota for Rowing on 10 July.

## 2. 2020 Olympic Qualification System

The 2020 Olympic Qualification System will be developed after the IOC decision above as the events and athlete quota decisions are key factors for the system. We must be prepared for a possible reduction in the athlete quota at the Olympics.

# Key Principles to Address

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1. Excellence vs. “Participation” weighting
2. Gender equality
3. Attractive programme over eight days to ensure a good spectator / TV viewer experience
4. Maximising the number of NFs/NOCs participating in the Olympic regatta
5. Ensure a balance between sweep and sculling events

# Terms of Reference

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- The 2020 Olympic Qualification System proposal should:
  - Allocate qualification places between events (number of boats in each boat classes)
  - Allocate qualification opportunities between the World Championships, the Continental Qualification Regattas and the Final Qualification Regatta
- Final recommendations to the FISA Council by 9 July
- FISA Council proposal presented to the FISA Congress on 2 Oct
- FISA Council proposal to IOC in Oct/Nov 2017

# Key Questions for Consideration

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- What is the **purpose and mission** of the Olympic Qualification System?
- Should there always be **two chances to qualify**?
- Should we increase participation by placing **limits on qualification at continental qualification** regattas?
- Should we set limits on the **maximum number of crews** an NF can qualify?
- Should we add pairs to the continental qualification regattas to **stimulate sweep rowing**?

# THE FUTURE OF LIGHTWEIGHT ROWING

# Purpose of the Review

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What will be the future direction for lightweight rowing and how should it be positioned to support the future growth and development of our sport?

In the short term, to provide input to the Rule 36 and 2020 Olympic Qualification System Reviews regarding the inclusion of lightweight events.

## 1. Olympic Programme Decision

The **IOC Executive Board** will decide on the Olympic programme proposed by FISA and assign the relevant quota for Rowing on 10 July.

## 2. 2020 Olympic Qualification System

The 2020 Olympic Qualification System will be developed after the IOC decision above as the events and athlete quota decisions are key factors for the system.

# Key Principles to Address

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1. Gender equality
2. Balance of different boat classes
3. Balance of open and lightweight events
4. Inclusiveness
5. Spectator experiences/attractiveness

## **Phase 1: Considerations for 2018 up to 2020**

- Why lightweight rowing?
- Which lightweight events should be included in the World Championships Event Programme (Rule 36)
- How lightweight events should be treated within the 2020 Olympic Qualification system
- What research or further analysis is needed?
- Interim report to the FISA Congress on 2 Oct

## **Phase 2: Post-2020 - Long Term and Fundamental Considerations**

- The role of lightweight rowing within member federations - how does it contribute to sport development and funding
- Are the current FISA rules relating to lightweight rowing still appropriate?
- Is weight the most appropriate method of defining a category for smaller stature athletes and if so at what level? What are the alternatives?
- Identify any research projects that could contribute useful information to guide our strategy

# Current Rule 36



World Rowing Championships are currently held in the following events:

|                   | 1x     | 2x               | 2-    | 2+  | 4x    | 4-    | 4+     | 8+   |
|-------------------|--------|------------------|-------|-----|-------|-------|--------|------|
| Men               | M1x    | M2x              | M2-   | M2+ | M4x   | M4-   |        | M8+  |
| Women             | W1x    | W2x              | W2-   |     | W4x   | W4-   |        | W8+  |
| Lightweight Men   | LM1x   | LM2x             | LM2-  |     | LM4x  | LM4-  |        |      |
| Lightweight Women | LW1x   | LW2x             |       |     | LW4x  |       |        |      |
| Para-Rowing Men   | PR1 1x |                  |       |     |       |       |        |      |
| Para-Rowing Women | PR1 1x |                  |       |     |       |       |        |      |
| Para-Rowing Mixed |        | PR2 2x<br>PR3 2x |       |     |       |       | PR3 4+ |      |
| Under 23 Men      | BM1x   | BM2x             | BM2-  |     | BM4x  | BM4-  | BM4+   | BM8+ |
| Under 23 Women    | BW1x   | BW2x             | BW2-  |     | BW4x  | BW4-  |        | BW8+ |
| Under 23 LM       | BLM1x  | BLM2x            | BLM2- |     | BLM4x | BLM4- |        |      |
| Under 23 LW       | BLW1x  | BLW2x            |       |     | BLW4x |       |        |      |
| Junior Men        | JM1x   | JM2x             | JM2-  |     | JM4x  | JM4-  | JM4+   | JM8+ |
| Junior Women      | JW1x   | JW2x             | JW2-  |     | JW4x  | JW4-  |        | JW8+ |

# Key Questions for Consideration

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- What is the **purpose** of lightweight rowing?
- By when should we reach **full gender equality** in the lightweight WCH programmes? Is full **gender equality an objective**?
- Is it better to take pre-emptive action on an event in danger due to low entries rather than allow it to die naturally?
- How does the senior lightweight **WCH programme influence the U23** programme?

# THE FUTURE OF PARA-ROWING

# Purpose of the Review

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To prepare a strategic plan confirming the objectives for Para-Rowing in the medium to long-term, and to propose measures to take to achieve these objectives.

In the short term, to provide input to the Rule 36 and 2020 Paralympic Qualification System Reviews regarding the inclusion of para-rowing events, and start looking into what changes may be needed in view of the new race distance, e.g. equipment changes.

## 1. Paralympic Programme Decision

The **IPC Governing Board** will decide on the Paralympic programme in October 2017.

## 2. 2020 Paralympic Qualification System

The 2020 Paralympic Qualification System will be developed after the IPC decision above as the events and athlete quota decisions are key factors for the system.

# Key Principles to Address

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1. Excellence
2. Universality
3. Gender equality
4. Sustainable participation of the NFs
5. Safety and accessibility of equipment

## **Phase 1: Para-Rowing from 2018 - 2020**

- Make recommendations to the Rule 36 Review Project on para-rowing events for the World Championship Programme
- Proposal on the Paralympic Qualification process taking into consideration excellence, universality and maximum participation
- Prepare initial proposals on research projects or analysis needed related to the new race distance, specifically with regard to equipment, but also health, safety and attractiveness.

## **Phase 2: Post-2020 - Long Term and Fundamental Considerations**

- Mission, vision and long term objectives – how best to develop para-rowing
- Integration with mainstream rowing
- How to adjust to the change to 2000m, considering health, safety, attractiveness and equipment
- How to best showcase para-rowing
- Determine the most appropriate boat classes, eligibility rules and the classification system.
- What Rule changes are needed to implement the strategic plan?

# Key Questions for Consideration

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- What is the **key role** of para-rowing?
- What are the key **pathways** for para-rowers?
- What are the appropriate **World Championship events**?
- What is the appropriate **Paralympic Qualification Process** and how can it contribute to **development**?
- How to allow the **equipment** to evolve, simplify and cost less while maintaining a high threshold for safety?