



Summary of proposed changes to the FISA Rules of Racing, related Bye-Laws and Event Regulations (Appendices)

RULES AND RELATED BYE-LAWS		
	Part I - Scope	Rationale
Rule 6; page 3	Attribution of World Rowing Championships - If no bids by the deadline, Council to have the right to attribute the event.	Without this authority, the event could not be attributed until next Congress and such a delay will impact on the organising committee's ability to prepare the event.
	Part II – Rowers and Coxswains	
Rule 19; page 10	Eligibility and Nationality – (1) rowers allowed to change federation if they have held the passport of that country for at least 2 years, but only one federation in any one year. Dual nationals can compete for either country; (2) Junior rowers able to compete for their country of residence.	Clarify current rule for senior rowers. Junior rowers can live with their parents in a different country from their passport and compete for that country.
Rule 27; page 13	Coxswains – coxswains can be of either gender. Minimum weight standardised at 55kg with maximum deadweight of 15kg.	This allows the best coxswain to be selected for every crew without restriction on gender.
Rule 31; page 15	Lightweights – from 2021 eliminate averaging. Lightweight limits for Men 72.5kg and Women 59kg. Also provision for late replacement of lightweight rowers (less than 1 hour before their race).	Sports Medicine Commission recommendation on health grounds to make every athlete responsible for their own weight. Proposal for 2021 is to allow time for federations to prepare. Late replacement to put on even basis with Open rowers.
Rule 34; page 18	Para-Rowing – “Eligible Impairment” introduced for classification	To meet International Paralympic Committee terminology – there is no change in practical terms from this.
	Part III – Classes of Boat	
Rule 36; page 18	World Championship Boat Classes. No change proposed at this Congress.	Propose no change for 2017 pending IOC decision on Olympic boat classes. Proposal on future World Championship boat classes to be submitted to 2017 Ordinary Congress in Sarasota-Bradenton.
Rule 37; page 19	Olympic Games Boat Classes – remove actual boat classes as this is not under FISA control. Provide for Congress vote to select a programme to be negotiated with IOC Executive Board.	Current Rule is not enforceable because authority lies with IOC Executive Board. Amend the wording to reflect the actuality and give Congress authority to recommend to IOC.
	Part IV – Boats and Construction	
Bye-law to Rule 39;	Para 2.3 – Flotation – extend the requirement for all boats to meet	To meet FISA's responsibility to encourage safe rowing at all levels of our sport.

page 22	minimum flotation requirements to all international regattas from January 2019.	
	Para 2.4 – Bow balls	Research is currently underway on this subject and will be presented when completed.
	Part V – Courses	
Rule 42; page 29	Characteristics - Include Paralympic Games and Paralympic Qualification Regattas	Proposal for all para-events to be raced on a 2,000m course. Requested by the IPC for the Paralympic Games.
	Part VI – Organisation of Regattas	
	Section 2 – Advertising Provisions	
Rule 50; page 35	Identifications displayed on equipment and rowers – Commercial Publicity, Sponsorship and Advertising – update of the wording. Changes appear in the Bye-law at Appendix 11.	
Rule 51; page 36	Rowers’ Clothing and Blade Colours – provide for some non-uniformity within a crew on socks and hats. Requirement to register uniform with FISA extended to 3 months before it is used.	Meet the proposal to allow individual sponsors for rowers on socks and hats if agreed with their federation. Current time of 2 months is not sufficient for FISA action.
	Section 6 (NEW) – Penalties	
Rule 72; page 57	Penalties – Yellow Card and Red Card become the penalty.	Clarify the wording and the application, so that instead of a Warning indicated by a Yellow card, the penalty is simply a Yellow Card – there is no change to the intent or effect.
	Section 8 – During the Race	
Rule 77; page 64	Clarify that crews may be penalised without prior warning from the umpire if they leave their lane.	To provide clearer guidance for crews as to the umpire’s authority when zonal umpiring is in force.
Bye-law to Rule 78; page 64 & 65	Para 5 – clarify that it is the crew’s responsibility to stay in its lane.	To provide clearer guidance for crews as to the umpire’s authority when zonal umpiring is in force.
	Section 9 – The Finish	
Bye-law to Rule 80; page 66	Para 4 – Timing – detailed provision for timing where crews finish closer than 1/100 th sec apart.	No change to current provision. But explains better the actual situation.
Rule 81; page 67	Dead-Heats	Research is currently underway on this subject and will be presented when completed.

REGULATIONS (APPENDICES)		
Appendix 10 – Bye-law to Rules 42 to 44 Regatta Courses		
B/L to Rules 42 to 44; page 2	Para 2.4 - Depth of Water for standard course	Research is currently underway on this subject and will be presented when completed.
Appendix 11 – Bye-law to Rule 50 Advertising Bye-laws		
B/L to Rule 50; page 1 to 15	Various changes	Clarifying and simplifying the presentation of current Advertising Bye-laws;
Bye-law 1.1e, 2.4.d, 2.5d; page 2, 7, 8	Addition of spaces for individual rower sponsor on hat and socks (subject to NF approval)	Provide dedicated spaces for athlete sponsors
Bye-law 2.2e; page 6	Additional vertical space for sponsor on the side of rower's shirt;	Provide additional sponsor opportunities for club or federation sponsor.
Appendix 12 – Bye-law to Rule 67 FISA Progression System		
B/L to Rule 67; page 5	Case 12: 41 or more entries – Introduce time trial starting from 41 entries and more (previously time trial only started when entries were 49 or more). No repechage in this case, crews proceed direct to quarter-final on the basis of the time trial rankings.	First round to be time trial as this will produce a fairer progression than current system of 8 heats and 8 repechages.
Appendix 13 – Bye-law to Rule 97 International Umpire's Licence		
B/L to Rule 97; page 1	Proposal to raise the retirement age of international umpires to 70.	To provide standard retirement age across all FISA functions and to allow for longer service to take advantage of longer life expectancy.
Appendix 14 – Bye-laws to Rule 100 FISA Anti-Doping Bye-Laws		
B/Ls to Rule 100; pages 1 to 139	Various amendments to meet requirements of World Anti-Doping Code.	Updated to meet WADA requirements
Article 5.2.2.d	Elimination of the annual statistical survey required of national federations.	Replaced with the WADA annual survey of anti-doping testing.
Article 12.3.1, 12.3.1.1, 12.3.1.2; page 95 & 96	Strengthened sanctions in cases of multiple violations – lower threshold (number of anti-doping violations within a 12-month period) for penalties to be applied.	stronger sanctions for multiple offenses in view of current environment around anti-doping world wide.
Appendix 15 – Event Regulations – Olympic Games and Olympic Qualification Regattas		
Regulation 6; page 1	(NEW) – provide for consultation with national federations on the Qualification	No provision in current Bye-laws. IOC is authority to approve the qualification

	System for each Olympic Games	system, but FISA will consult with federations before submitting proposals to IOC.
Appendix 18 – Event Regulations World Rowing Masters Regatta		
Regulation 3; page 1	(NEW) – All crews at WRMR to enter and compete in the name of a club (or composite club), recognised by their member federation.	To reinforce club participation and support club membership in federations.
Various	Various Changes	To reflect actual current practice at WRMR.
Appendix 23 – Event Regulations Indoor Rowing		
pages 1 - 21	Regulations adopted by FISA Council in 2016	The World Games Indoor 2017 Rowing Competition. Minor amendments only
Appendix 24 – Event Regulations Beach Sprint Rowing		
pages 1 – 17	Regulations adopted by FISA Council in 2015	Beach Sprint events using coastal rowing boats were held successfully at 201=5 Mediterranean Beach Games and at 2016 Asian Beach Games. Various amendments reflect experience gained from these two events.
Appendix 25 – Para-Rowing Classification Regulations		
pages 1 - 44	Significant changes to meet the requirements of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Classification Code.	Majority of changes are clarification and updating of procedures required by IPC.
	Change of classification designation – AS – becomes PR1 TA – becomes PR2 LTA – becomes PR3	These designations fit better with IPC protocol.