

Rules Review Rules of Racing

Key changes to be proposed for the
2017 Extraordinary Congress
(at 22082016)

Eligibility (1 of 2)

Rule 19 - Eligibility and Nationality of rowers

Proposal 1:

Allow those with 2 passports to row for either country (but only one country in a season) BUT the passport must have been held for a minimum period of two years.

Eligibility (2 of 2)

Rule 19 - Eligibility and Nationality of rowers

Proposal 2 - Juniors:

Juniors may represent the country in which they are permanently resident. After , they cease to be a Junior, they may only represent a country of which they are a national.

Gender Balance

Rules 20 & 27 – Coxswains

Proposal:

1. The coxswain to be gender neutral. Men may cox women's crews and women may cox men's crews.
2. The coxswain minimum weight to be a universal weight, e.g. 55 kgs, with maximum 15kg deadweight.



Health of the Athletes

Rule 31– Lightweights

Proposal:

- 1. From 2021**, removal of averaging from lightweight rowing so that each athlete is responsible for his or her own weight, to help reduce sudden weight loss by a whole crew on the morning of weigh-ins.
- 2. From 2021**, set one maximum weight for LM and LW rowers (men 70 or 72.5 kgs, women 57 or 59 kgs).

Event Programmes

Rule 36 – World Championship Boat Classes

Proposal:

1. There will be no changes to the World Championship programme for 2017
2. The subsequent World Championship programme will be proposed following agreement of the Olympic programme.
3. Changes to the programme can be approved at the Ordinary Congress in 2017, after the Olympic programme is determined by the IOC EB.
4. 'Natural death' rule to be removed.

Rule 37 – Olympic Games Boat Classes

This rule will be discussed during the next session.

Boats and Equipment

Bye-law to Rule 39 – Safety

2.3 Flotation

Proposal – the current flotation requirement that boats must meet the flotation requirements specified in FISA’s “Minimum Guidelines for the Safe Practice of Rowing” to be extended to all international regattas (instead of just FISA events), applying to all boats, irrespective of their year of construction.

Rule 42 - Course Characteristics – Para-Rowing

Proposal: Change Para-Rowing race distance to 2,000m

Rationale

- Para-Rowing would have the same field of play
- Para-Rowers would have equal rowing status
- To enable rowing competitions to be inclusive
- Critical issue for OC costs (no second start bridge)
- Critical issue for timing of regattas (with no interruptions in competition) and training time

Other – Advertising Rules

Rule 50 (and Bye-laws) - Advertising Rules

The Council agrees to a proposal from the Athletes Commission to create Athlete (as opposed to National Federation) advertising opportunities, such as:

- Allowing the sponsor on headwear to be different as long as the *general colour and style* of headwear is uniform in the crew.
- Allowing the advertising on socks to be different as long as the colour and style of the socks is uniform in the crew.
- Allowing a moment just after the official victory ceremony, when the television production has moved to the next race, for athletes to wear the identification of their individual sponsors for the photographers.

Crew Changes

Rule 60 – Changes after the First Heat

Proposal:

For international regattas, changes only to be allowed for medical reasons for up to 25% of the crew for 4s and 8s and one person for 2s

The Executive Committee would still have the right to allow exceptions (such as in the case of multiple food poisoning).

Other – Progression System

Rule 67 - FISA Progression System

The goal of the progression system is to make sure the six best crews all reach the final. We have found that progression systems with 41 to 48 entries are difficult to ensure this is the case.

The proposal is to use a time trial to allocate crews to the eight heats with 3 crews progressing from each heat to quarterfinals, etc. (no repechages).

Over 48 entries, crews ranking 49 and higher would proceed to quarterfinals and/or semifinals leading to finals I, J, K etc.

The Draw

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

Proposal:

Alternate methods of lane selection can be considered.

This can be achieved by amending the existing Bye-Law.

The procedures, timing and implications for self-selection still need to be determined and approved by the Council.

Responsibility of the Rowers

Rule 76 – Responsibility of the Rowers

Proposal:

With the growing reliance on Zonal Umpiring, where the umpire is not following the crews, it is proposed to strengthen the responsibility of crews to stay in their own lanes.

In this Rule a crew is already subject to a penalty if it leaves its lane and interferes with another crew.

It is proposed to make it clear that a crew may be penalised “*without prior warning or other notification from the umpire*” if it leaves its lane.

Inclusion

Regulation 8 and 9 - Para-Rowing Boats and Weights

Consider the pros and cons of changing Para-Rowing boats to free construction...

To be studied further this autumn.

Safety, costs, complexity aspects of these proposals to be assessed.

Thank you