



WORLD ROWING ANNUAL BROCHURE

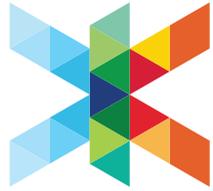
2016 FOCUS





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**Kafue
River & Rowing
Centre**

#onwaterforwater

Pollution, industry, agriculture, seasonal flooding, damming, hydropower, and drinking water scarcity. Our planet faces many critical and complex water challenges.

The Kafue River in Zambia faces them all.

Inspired by the confluence of so many pressures and problems on the Kafue River, World Rowing and the WWF are creating an extraordinary multi-purpose facility for world-class water management research and the sport of rowing: The Kafue River & Rowing Centre.

Freshwater researchers from around the world and local stakeholders from industry, agriculture and the local community will use the Centre to conduct research, study problems, find solutions, and share their results, and Zambia will have a high quality Centre to develop the sport of rowing.

We will all be able to visit the Centre "virtually" and interact with the researchers there via the Centre's website. Research will be shared openly, benefitting the world as a

whole. The Centre, through its website in effect becomes a delta, distributing the output and benefits of the project to the wider world and inspiring others to create change in their own communities.

The global rowing community will be at the forefront of support for the Centre, and a group of high-profile world-class rowers will be spokes persons to tell the wider world how we all will benefit.

Let's embark on a truly unique, landmark project. One that engages and empowers the local people, shares ground-breaking research and promotes the sport of rowing to people the world over.

Because to help the Kafue is to help the world.

Discover more at worldrowing.com/environment/kafue-river-rowing-centre



**world
rowing**



WORLD ROWING
AND WWF
PARTNERS FOR
CLEAN WATER

2016-17 World Rowing regatta season

2016 Calendar

March			
11-13	World-wide		World Rowing Indoor Sprints
15 Mar-15 Apr	World-wide		World-wide World Erg Challenge
April			
15-17	Varese	ITA	World Rowing Cup I
20-22	Gavirate	ITA	Final Paralympic Qualification Regatta
22-24	Chungju	KOR	Asian & Oceania Olympic Qualification Regatta
May			
6-8	Brandenburg	GER	European Rowing Championships
21-22	Trakai	LTU	European Rowing Junior Championships
22-24	Lucerne	SUI	Final Olympic Qualification Regatta
27-29	Lucerne	SUI	World Rowing Cup II
June			
16-19	Poznan	POL	World Rowing Cup III
25-3 July	Salzkammergut	AUT	World Rowing Tour
August			
6-14	Rio de Janeiro	BRA	Rio 2016 Olympic Games Rowing Regatta
21-28	Rotterdam	NED	World Rowing Senior, Under 23, Junior Championships
September			
9-11	Rio de Janeiro	BRA	Paralympic Games Para-rowing Regatta
9-11	Copenhagen	DEN	World Rowing Masters Regatta
October			
21-23	Monaco	MON	World Rowing Coastal Championships

2017 Calendar

March			
10-12	World-wide		World Rowing Indoor Sprints
15 Mar-15 Apr	World-wide		World-wide World Erg Challenge
May			
5-7	Belgrade	SRB	World Rowing Cup I
20-21	Krefeld	GER	European Junior Rowing Championships
26-28	Racice	CZE	European Rowing Championships
June			
16-18		TBA	World Rowing Cup II
July			
7-9	Lucerne	SUI	World Rowing Cup III
19-23	Plovdiv	BUL	World Rowing Under 23 Championships
September			
2-6		TBA	World Rowing Junior Championships
8-10	Bled	SLO	World Rowing Masters Regatta
24-1 Oct	Sarasota	USA	World Rowing Championships
October			
13-15	Thonon	FRA	World Rowing Coastal Championships

For more event information: <http://www.worldrowing.com/events/>

World Rowing Cup I Varese, Italy

15-17 April

Lake Varese lies at the foot of the Campo dei Fiori Mountain in Northern Italy. It is protected by Natura 2000, a network of protected areas set up by the European Union to safeguard rare or endangered species and habitats. For the past four years, World Rowing regattas have been organised each year in Varese, from the World Rowing Cup, to the World Rowing Under 23 Championships, the World Rowing Masters Regatta, and also the European Rowing Championships.

World Rowing Cup II Lucerne, Switzerland

27-29 May

The central Swiss city of Lucerne has hosted rowing regattas for over 150 years and was among the founding venues of the World Rowing Cup series in the 1990s. Surrounded by rolling green hills and part of a nature reserve, the regatta course on the naturally formed Rotsee, is known as the 'Lake of the Gods' and is considered to be one of the best regatta courses in the world. The World Cup always has one stage on the Rotsee. In the Olympic year it shifts from the typical third stage to the second stage, with the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta taking place the week before.

World Rowing Cup III Poznan, Poland

16-19 June

The Polish city of Poznan is central to many commercial and trade events and therefore used to welcoming international visitors. The picturesque market square full of bar and restaurant terraces is a great place to experience everyday Polish life. The Malta regatta course has hosted numerous international rowing events in the past ten years. Set in the midst of an active leisure centre, it is a favoured outdoor spot for locals year-round. This regatta will include para-rowing events, so racing goes over four, rather than three days.

**world
rowing cup** 

2016 World Rowing Cup series

European Rowing Championships

Brandenburg, Germany

6-8 May

The European Rowing Championships were staged almost annually from 1893 to 1973. Reintroduced into the international rowing calendar in 2007, they were originally held at the end of the rowing season. Now scheduled early May, the Championships have become an essential regatta in the calendar of European rowing nations. All European member national federations plus Israel are eligible to compete.

Last year the European Rowing Championships had 20 nations medal and seven new European Best Times were set. Great Britain finished at the top of the medals table with Germany second.

This year the European Rowing Championships will be held for the first time in Germany, in Brandenburg an der Havel. A city of around 70,000 inhabitants, it is located in the state of Brandenburg about 80km west of Berlin.

The regatta course is part of Lake Beetzsee, just outside the City. Comprised of four basins connected by narrow channels, the lake is 22km long. The course was constructed in the 1960s and ready for use in 1969. In 2008, it was further upgraded to meet FISA standards. In recent years, the course has hosted the World Rowing Junior Championships and the World Rowing Under 23 Championships. It also regularly stages the national rowing trials and other water sport championships.



World Rowing Senior, Under 23 and Junior Championships

Rotterdam, The Netherlands

21 – 28 August

The Netherlands' Willem Alexander Baan, the Olympic-standard international regatta course that opened in 2013, is located 15km from the centre of Rotterdam. The heart of the City has been rebuilt since World War II and its modern urban design includes famous architectural landmarks, not least including the Erasmus Bridge, completed in 1996.

The geographical location of the state-of-the-art rowing venue is one of the lowest in the Netherlands, more than 6m below sea level, allowing the area to be used for rainwater storage when necessary.

This year, the new venue will stage a World Rowing event for the very first time. Also for the first time in this Olympic year, the World Rowing Championships will combine three regattas into one: the senior World Rowing Championships featuring non-Olympic boat classes, the World Rowing Junior Championships as well as the World Rowing Under 23 Championships. The intense racing programme will be spread over eight days, with finals on the last four days of the regatta.

There are eight senior boat classes made up of lightweight races plus the women's four and men's coxed four. Under-23 racing showcases the up-and-coming rowers aged 23 and younger who are on the path to senior racing. The under-23 event started 40 years ago and in 2005 it was upgraded to a championship event. Racing covers 21 boat classes. The junior rowers must be 18 years of age or younger and for the majority of them it is their debut performance at the international level. Many talk about the thrill of wearing their national colours and meeting other rowers from around the globe. Tears of joy and pain flow readily and the excitement is undeniable.

Germany has regularly been successful at the under-23 and junior level, with strong performances also coming from Italy, Romania and the United States. For 2016 it is expected that the Netherlands will front a very strong team.





Olympic Games

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

6-14 August, 2016

Every four years there comes the pinnacle of rowing events, the Olympic Rowing Regatta. Its significance means that many top athletes and coaches work in a four-year cycle to be at their peak in time for the Olympics. For this reason, Olympic medals are often difficult to predict based on previous year results.

Rowing has been part of the Olympics since the start in 1894 with women's boat classes added in 1976 and lightweight boat classes in 1996. There is now a total of 550 rowers who compete in 14 events. These rowers must go through qualification regattas to be part of the Games. The qualification regattas take place in the year leading up to the Olympics with the final qualification taking place just three months out in May 2016.

Great Britain topped the medals table at the London 2012 Olympics. Their current strengths include the men's eight and the women's pair. New Zealand is close behind with domination in the men's pair and success in the women's double sculls and lightweight women's double sculls. The United States, Australia and Germany are also strong.

The Rio Olympic rowing venue is centrally located on the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, in the Copacabana district. It embraces a spectacular backdrop of mountains, the Tijuca Forest and Christ the Redeemer statue at Corcovado. The lagoon is the home for Rio's top rowing clubs and the venue has already hosted a number of international regattas. These include the 2007 Pan-American Games and the 2015 World Rowing Junior Championships, which acted as a test event for the Olympic Games.

Rio de Janeiro is located in the southeast region of Brazil and is the second largest city in Brazil. It is also the most visited city in South America. Approximately 6.4 million people live in Rio.

Paralympic Games

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

9-11 September, 2016

Para-rowing will feature as a Paralympic sport for the third time at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games. It first appeared on the World Rowing Championships programme in 2003 and since then it has seen an exponential increase in the number of athletes participating and the number of nations represented. At London 2012 the sport drew capacity crowds of over 10,000 spectators.

To get to compete at the Paralympics, the para-rowers go through qualification regattas that narrow down the athletes to a final 96 (48 women, 48 men). There are two mixed gender boat classes; the para mixed double sculls (TAMix2x) and the para mixed coxed four (LTAMix4+) which is the only sweep boat class. There are two gender-specific boat classes; the para women's single sculls (ASW1x) and the para men's single sculls (ASM1x). This breaks down to 12 boats in each of the four boat classes.

Before racing each para-rower goes through a classification process. Certified FISA Classifiers group athletes according to their physical impairments to ensure an equal level playing field within each boat class. The classification allocated to each athlete determines in which boat class he or she is eligible to compete.

In 2008, Great Britain led the medal tally at the Paralympic Games with two gold medals and one bronze. At the 2012 Paralympics China was on top with two gold medals. At the 2015 World Rowing Championships, Great Britain earned the most medals in para-rowing.

The regatta will take place on the Olympic Rowing Regatta course at the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, with racing held over 1,000m.



World Rowing Masters Regatta

Copenhagen, Denmark

8-11 September



The World Rowing Masters Regatta is a unique event. It sees former Olympic Champions racing with and against complete novices. It has rowers who have just discovered the sport taking on those with decades of experience. It regularly attracts around 3000 participants many of whom will compete in more than one boat class. To this extent the 2015 Masters Regatta had 11,000 seats being raced.

To make a regatta of this magnitude work, a new race starts every three minutes and there are no finals. Only heats, with the winning boat in each heat receiving a medal. Rowers are divided by age groups starting at A (minimum age 27) and going through to K (minimum age 85). The races are 1000m long. This fast-paced regatta goes over four days and the final day of racing

focuses on fun with competitors forming composite, mixed crews that bring together in one boat rowers from around the world.

This year's venue is the Danish National Regatta Course, Lake Bagsvaerd on the edge of Copenhagen. It is a preserved natural area with the regatta fitting around the layout of the site. Lake Bagsvaerd has staged a number of World Rowing regattas in the past and for this year's regatta, the course is being widened to include eight racing lanes instead of the usual six.

Denmark has a long rowing history and 2016 marks 150 years since the first rowing clubs were established in Denmark. The country has earned 22 Olympic medals in rowing and of those five were earned by the lightweight men's four between 1996 and 2012.

Copenhagen is known for its links to water sports from swimming to sailing to canoeing. In 2014 the City was ranked by the Global Green Economy Index as the world's greenest city for the second year running and it has been implementing a variety of measures to become carbon-neutral by 2025.

The masters regatta contributes to funding the development of junior rowing thanks to a donation of 1 Euro per boat entry fee.

World Rowing Coastal Championships

Monaco
21-23 October



What could be better than racing on the Mediterranean Sea along the coast of Monaco? This year's World Rowing Coastal Championships will do exactly that. Described as the mountain biking of rowing, the ride is often rough and the boats are designed to handle all sorts of conditions.

In this style of rowing, waves are considered fun and strong winds adventurous. The absence of lanes gives free reign to creative strategies and upfront duels with buoy turns adding to the excitement. Unpredictability is one of the features sought after by coastal rowers and its adaptation to rough water has opened rowing up to many more nations.

The race distance can vary with the distance regularly being more than 3000m around a triangular course including buoy turns. There are six boat classes for men and women: the single scull (or 'solo'), the double sculls and the coxed quadruple sculls.

The championships regularly attract competitors from around 20 nations with Italy and France often topping the medals. This year, the World Rowing Coastal Championships will take place on the French Riviera, in the Principality of Monaco. The second-smallest country in the world has a strong link to rowing as Monaco is currently governed by Prince of Monaco, Albert II, whose late grandfather John B. Kelly Sr. was a three-time Olympic Champion in rowing. Prince Albert is an active rower and every year the nation hosts the Prince Albert II Coastal Challenge.

2016 Rowers to watch



© Igor Meijer/FISA

SOFIA ASOUMANAKI

(GRE)

Women's double sculls



© French Rowing Federation

JEREMIE AZOU

(FRA)

Lightweight men's double sculls



© Thomas Frank

CARINA BAER

(GER)

Women's quadruple sculls



© Igor Meijer/FISA

HAMISH BOND

(NZL)

Men's pair



© Rowing Australia

KIM BRENNAN (NÉE CROW)

(AUS) Women's single sculls

Sofia Asoumanaki appeared as a 17-year-old junior on the world rowing stage in 2014. In 2015, she medalled twice: first winning silver at the World Rowing Junior Championships in the single, then claiming another silver at the senior World Rowing Championships in the double with partner Aikaterini Nikolaidou. Asoumanaki also holds the indoor rowing world record in the 17-18 age category (6:28.2).

“ I am new in the sport with a lack of experience but with strong will and motivation. My physical and psychological characteristics are helping me a lot both in training and racing.”

Jeremie Azou is one of France's top rowers. In 2015, he and partner Stany Delayre completed an unbeaten season to become World Champions. The duo also became European Champions three times and have two World Championship silver medals to their name. Azou is also a World Champion in the lightweight single. After a heart-breaking fourth place finish at the London 2012 Olympic Games, they are aiming for gold in Rio.

“ I am a solitary soul. I like to only be confronted with myself, to know my value and be alone on the water during morning training when the sun rises. It is both a moment of fulfilment and inner void.”

The 26-year-old sculler began competing internationally as a junior in 2007. A year later she was the Junior World Champion in the single. Then, as a 20-year-old, Baer broke into her nation's top female boat, the quadruple sculls, winning silver at the European Rowing Championships and bronze at the World Rowing Championships. Since then, the medical student has also claimed two World Championship golds, a silver and an Olympic silver.

“ I like the combination of the sport and the people around it. Also, I like travelling around the world and seeing how far I can push myself.”

With partner Eric Murray, Bond has remained unbeaten since 2009, notching up a record 61 international consecutive wins. This includes seven consecutive World Championship titles as well as Olympic gold. They also own the World Best Time of 06:08.5 set at the 2012 Olympic Games.

“ I think probably one of the biggest factors of our success in any year now is largely due to the work we've done over all of the previous years... the knowledge and experience that we've been able to gather in all of our time in the pair.”

Kim Brennan is one of the rare rowing athletes to have won medals in two different boat classes at a single Olympic Games. She did this in 2012, taking silver in the double with Brooke Pratley and bronze in the single. Since the London Games, Brennan became World Champion twice in the single and also took a silver medal. She is married to the 2008 Olympic Rowing Champion, Scott Brennan.

“ When you're out racing you are there by yourself and that's a huge challenge. I think that's what excites me about this boat class.”



© Intersport Images

HELEN GLOVER

(GBR)

Women's pair



© Igor Meijer/FISA

MARTIN & VALENT SINKOVIC

(CRO) Men's double sculls



© Jiri Kolis

ONDREJ SYNEK

(CZE)

Men's single sculls



© Igor Meijer/FISA

EMMA TWIGG

(NZL)

Women's single sculls



© Balint Czucz

GIUSEPPE VICINO

(ITA)

Men's four

Coming out of a talent identification programme, Helen Glover is a British Rowing success story. With partner Heather Stanning they were the first female rowers to win Olympic gold in rowing for their nation at London 2012. They did so just two years after coming onto the international scene. Since London, Glover has remained unbeaten in the pair, winning three consecutive World Championship gold medals. She and Stanning hold the World Best Time of 06:50.61.

“ We take nothing for granted and respect for our competitors keeps us striving for more. The future for me is to win gold in Rio 2016 and to defend my title.”

Before becoming the crew to beat in the men's double sculls, the Sinkovic brothers were part of their nation's men's quadruple sculls in which they won multiple international medals, including Olympic silver in 2012. Successfully moving to the double, they are now famed for being the first double in rowing history to do 2000m in less than six minutes. They move to Rio unbeaten having claimed the past three World Championship titles - one in the quad and two in the double.

“ We hang out a lot and spend a lot of time together outside of the boat and we are a big support to each other. We have some kind of a special synergy, sometimes all it takes is one look to know what the other one has on his mind.”

Two-time Olympic silver medallist, Ondrej Synek has accumulated an impressive collection of medals over his 11 years that he's devoted to the single. This includes nine World Championship medals, four of them gold. There has been an on-going rivalry between him and reigning Olympic Champion Mahe Drysdale of New Zealand since 2005. In this Olympiad, however, Synek has remained unbeaten at World Championship level.

“ Mainly I'm very single-minded and focused. I'm very hard on myself when I train and I don't let any doubt cross my mind.”

Emma Twigg is in her second decade of international rowing which began in 2003 as a junior. She has earned a junior and an under-23 World Champion title in the single. A steady progression in the single saw Twigg finally take the World Champion title in 2014. She then controversially took the pre-Olympic year off to study. Twigg managed to combine rowing and study and at the start of 2016 internal racing results showed that she was well on track to qualify and compete at the Rio Olympic Games.

“ It takes a special person to be in the single scull. People think we're crazy, but at the same time it's challenging to know that you're it and that if you have a bad day you're not going to be able to get down the track as fast as you'd like. So it's a matter of getting yourself to the start line in the best condition physically and mentally.”

Giuseppe Vicino started rowing at 13 years old and was soon medalling internationally as a junior and under-23 rower. As a 19-year-old he was already being groomed for the senior men's four. In 2014 Vicino was in stroke seat and his crew finished seventh overall. Just one year later they not only broke into the A-final, but they also won the World Championship title ahead of reigning Olympic and World Champions Great Britain.

“ Rowing gives me a feeling of peace and tranquillity that other sports can't give. Being immersed in nature, listening to the sound of water flowing around the hull with every stroke, makes you feel light, almost like you are flying like angels.”

Filippi Spirit Award 2016

The Filippi Spirit Award encapsulates rowing's core values – teamwork, fairness, natural, inclusive and enduring – and recognises the achievements of our next generation of rowers. It is open to university rowers worldwide and will be awarded to the rower that best demonstrates the core values of rowing in his/her social, academic and sporting life.

Formerly known as the Parmigiani Spirit Award, Filippi Boats became the main sponsor in 2016, marking the fourth year of the award.

Filippi has been involved in the award since its inception with the winner receiving a custom-built, top-of-the-range Filippi eight racing shell, so it was a natural progression for the boatbuilding company to step up to become the main sponsor.

A call for nominations for the 2016 Filippi Spirit Award will be in September 2016. To qualify, applicants must have attended university in the 2016 year. Nominations will close in November with the winner being announced in early 2017.

Previous winners:

2013 James Cook
British student-athlete studying mechanical engineering at the University College of London.

2014 Franz Gravenhourst
German national team rower and PhD student at Swiss Institute of Technology in Zurich, SUI.

2015 Kirsten Van Fossen
American PhD student studying engineering at the University of Cambridge, GBR.

For more information go to
www.worldrowing.com/athletes



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