

Replacement for page 88 of the 2019 FISA Ordinary Congress Agenda Papers

AGENDA ITEM 14

Attribution of future World Rowing Championships in accordance with Rule 6

1. 2023 World Rowing Championships

Candidates are:

- a. Belgrade, Serbia – Serbian Rowing Federation
- b. Poznan, Poland – Polish Rowing Federation
- c. Trakai, Lithuania – Lithuanian Rowing Federation

Please see the Council's analysis and decision explanation on page 4 of this document entitled "The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress for the Attribution of the 2023 World Rowing Championships".

In accordance with Rule 6, the Council proposes Belgrade (SRB) as the candidate for the vote of the Congress.

2. 2025 World Rowing Championships

Candidate is:

- a. Sydney, Australia – Australian Rowing Federation

Please see the Council's analysis and decision explanation on page 7 of this document entitled "The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress for the Attribution of the 2025 World Rowing Championships".

In accordance with Rule 6, the Council proposes Sydney (AUS) as the candidate for the vote of the Congress.

3. 2024 World Rowing Senior, Under 23 and Junior Championships

Candidates are:

- a. Linz-Ottensheim, Austria – Austrian Rowing Federation
- b. St. Catharines, Canada – Canadian Rowing Federation

Please see the Council's analysis and decision explanation on page 9 of this document entitled "The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress for the Attribution of the 2024 World Rowing Senior, Under 23, and Junior Championships".

In accordance with Rule 6, the Council proposes St. Catharines (CAN) as the candidate for the vote of the Congress.

4. 2021, 2022 World Rowing Junior Championships*; 2022, 2023 World Rowing Under 23 Championships**

- a. *2021 World Rowing Junior Championships*

Candidates are: Varese***(ITA), Plovdiv (BUL)

- b. *2022 World Rowing Junior Championships and/or 2022 World Rowing Under 23 Championships*

Candidates are: Varese (ITA), Plovdiv (BUL)

The Council has received several suggestions to combine these two championships when candidate venues could support it. Both candidates are prepared and fully equipped to stage a combined Under 23 and Junior Championships in case the 2022 season should be modified

c. 2023 World Rowing Under 23 Championships
Candidate is: Plovdiv (BUL)

*Discussions have started with the French Rowing Federation and the appropriate French government authorities regarding a bid to stage the 2023 World Rowing Junior Championships as a test event for the 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games so this event is not presented as a bid.

**Racice (CZE) is staging the 2021 World Rowing Under 23 Championships as a test event for the 2022 World Rowing Championships.

***Varese (ITA) is also a candidate for the 2021 European Rowing Championships which will be selected by the European Rowing Confederation at its assembly on 1 September 2019 and, if selected, would withdraw from candidacy for this event.

Proposal for the Under 23 and Junior Championships from the FISA Council:

The FISA Council asks the Congress to delegate to the Council its authority to attribute the World Rowing Junior Championships 2021 and 2022 and the World Rowing Under 23 Championships 2022 and 2023, this in a similar manner to the World Cups and the Masters Regatta bids.

The purpose of this proposal is to allow the goals established for the Strategic Event Attribution Process to be more closely achieved, that is, a maximum number of regatta venues around the world are selected to stage World-level events over the four-year period to allow more venues to achieve their strategic goals, justify infrastructure investment and more areas of the world can be implicated, among others. There would be no change for the senior Championships and the combined Championships (in the Olympic year).

5. 2021 to 2024 World Rowing Cup regattas and 2021 to 2024 World Rowing Masters regattas

The Council will present its attribution decisions for World Rowing Cups and the World Rowing Masters regattas following the results of the World Rowing Championship attribution votes by the Congress, or soon after (depending on time constraints).

Candidates are:

2021 World Rowing Cups

Stage 1 – Zagreb

Stage 2 – Varese, Zagreb

Stage 3 – Lucerne

2022 World Rowing Cups

Stage 1 – Belgrade, Sabaudia, Zagreb

Stage 2 – Poznan, Trakai, Varese, Zagreb, Linz-Ottensheim (if attributed 2024 WRSU23JCH)

Stage 3 – Lucerne, Trakai

2023 World Rowing Cups

Stage 1 – Zagreb

Stage 2 – Munich, Plovdiv, Varese, Zagreb, Linz-Ottensheim (if attributed 2024 WRSU23JCH)

Stage 3 – Lucerne, Plovdiv, Linz-Ottensheim (if attributed 2024 WRSU23JCH)

2024 World Rowing Cups

Stage 1 – Zagreb

Stage 2 – Munich, Zagreb

Stage 3 – Lucerne

2021 World Rowing Masters Regatta (Corrected 050819)

~~Brive, Munich, Sabaudia~~ Banyoles, Libourne, Varese

2022 World Rowing Masters Regatta

Libourne, Munich, Varese

2023 World Rowing Masters Regatta

Brandenburg, Montreal, Pretoria, Racice, Varese, Villach

2024 World Rowing Masters Regatta

Banyoles, Belgrade, Brandenburg, Libourne, Racice, Villach

The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress for the Attribution of the 2023 World Rowing Championships

The 2023 World Rowing Championships bid process was included in the Strategic Event Attribution Process (SEAP), which was launched in 2017. On 15 April 2019, at the preliminary bid deadline of the SEAP, three bids were received, from:

- Belgrade (Serbian Rowing Federation),
- Poznan (Polish Rowing Federation), and
- Trakai (Lithuanian Rowing Federation).

Each of these federations received an explanation of the bidding process, the bidding code of conduct, a detailed bid questionnaire, technical requirements for the World Rowing Championships, and additional bid documents. The technical requirements and possibilities for differentiation of the bids were explained further at a bid seminar hosted at the FISA Headquarters in May 2019, where bidders had an opportunity to present their preliminary bids and ask questions. During the subsequent months, each candidate was required to submit all necessary information and guarantees needed to enable FISA to examine and analyse their bid in detail.

Final bids were received from all three bidders on 30 June 2019. On Sunday 14 July, the three candidates formally presented their final bids to the FISA Council at their meeting in Rotterdam, NED. The standards of preparation and presentation by all candidates were very high and enabled the Council to form clear and informed opinions.

Major factors in the Council's assessment

The major factors in the Council's assessment of the bids are as follows:

1. Racing conditions and fairness:

All three bids presented regatta courses that fully comply with FISA requirements for this regatta and are well-known to the FISA Council and the member federations. The Council went into details and considered a number of factors that may impact the conditions in the racing lanes. Of the three venues, Belgrade has the lowest average wind velocity, and the risk of adverse weather conditions is relatively less than in Poznan and Trakai. All three venues have a warm up area outside of the course, and Poznan and Trakai have a cool down area outside of the course while Belgrade could arrange a cool-down area outside of the course but it currently is using the racing lanes.

All three venues require that the television side camera is mounted on a catamaran as there is no usable road along the side of the course, and all three venues pose a similar problem in terms of the space available for the catamaran lane at certain points. The width of the lake in Trakai, at its narrowest point, is 110 metres wide which is six metres narrower than the minimum recommended width of the course for regattas for all World Rowing events. The Lithuanian Rowing Federation and bidding committee of Trakai confirmed that there are already plans in place to widen the course by six metres to comply with the minimum recommended width prior to 2023. Belgrade and Poznan have both staged televised World Rowing regattas which allowed all to see the possible impact of the television catamaran on racing conditions; Trakai has not yet staged a televised event. All three have some narrow points along the 2'000 metre competition course but reasonably priced, more modern technology, such as cable cameras like the one used in Strathclyde in 2018, could overcome possible difficulties.

2. Course installations:

All three venues offer high quality installations and facilities which all meet the minimum requirements needed to host a World Rowing Championships. Both Poznan and Belgrade have hosted World Rowing Cups and European Championships in recent years, and Trakai hosted the World Rowing Junior Championships in 2017. All three venues have proposed various upgrades and updates to their respective facilities.

3. Costs for Member Federations

All three bids offer adequate numbers of rooms for this large event for accommodation with transport and meals at prices that correspond with similar events in recent years. One person in a twin room (with transport and meals) in a category 2 hotel in Belgrade is quoted at between Euros 83-89, in Poznan is between Euros 140-150 and in Trakai at between Euros 115-125. The same for a category 3 hotel in Belgrade is at Euros 65, in Poznan at between Euros 100-140 and in Trakai between Euros 95-100. The main hotels in Belgrade and Poznan are said to be within 20 minutes' drive of the venue while in Trakai the main hotels are in Vilnius which can be up to 35 minutes' drive.

4. Financial support for the OC

All three bids have solid backing from their government authorities (local, regional and national) with a high proportion of the budget revenue guaranteed, and relatively low proportions dependent on ticketing and sponsor income. Belgrade has the highest percentage of the operating budget guaranteed by government.

5. Organisational experience

All three bidders have well known organising committees that have successfully organised World Rowing events previously and retain many of the skills and resources from those events. Both Poznan and Belgrade have hosted World Rowing events at the senior level with internationally television host broadcasts, whereas this would be the first senior, televised World Rowing event for Trakai.

The Council's Proposal to Congress

The FISA Council would like to express its sincere appreciation to the bidding national federations and the support they have received from their government authorities for their tremendous efforts to prepare these outstanding bids.

The three bids received all present courses and venues capable of hosting excellent World Rowing Championships. The 2023 World Rowing Championships will serve as the first and primary qualification event for the 2024 Olympic Games, and as such the Council considers that the conditions on the water, although always important, assume an even greater significance for this "Olympic qualification" World Championships.

Having examined the detailed aspects of the bids submitted, and taking all relevant factors into account, the FISA Council has selected Belgrade, SRB as the most suitable candidate and proposes for vote to the Congress that the right and responsibility of hosting of the 2023 World Rowing Championships be attributed to the Serbian Rowing Federation in Belgrade, Serbia.

The Council strongly encourages Trakai to bid for World Cups or the European Rowing Championships as stepping stones to test staging televised events leading to potential World Rowing Championships bids in the future. The Council also wishes to acknowledge the strong partnership of the City of Poznan and the Poznan Organising Committee, and hopes that this partnership can continue with a World Cup in the 2021 to 2024 period leading to more events in the future. This decision is always difficult and in no way should be interpreted as meaning that either Trakai or Poznan lack any quality as strong World Rowing event locations.

The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress for the Attribution of the 2025 World Rowing Championships

The 2025 World Rowing Championships bid process was included in the Strategic Event Attribution Process (SEAP), which was launched in 2017. All interested federations received an explanation of the bidding process, the bidding code of conduct, a detailed bid questionnaire, technical requirements for the World Rowing Championships, and additional bid documents. The technical requirements and possibilities for differentiation of the bids were explained further at a bid seminar carried out in May 2019 where bidders had an opportunity to present their preliminary bids and ask questions. During the subsequent months, each candidate was required to submit all necessary information and guarantees needed to enable FISA to examine and analyse their bid in detail.

A Final bid was received from Sydney (AUS) with the Sydney International Regatta Centre, host of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

On Sunday 14 July, the representatives of the Australian Rowing Federation formally presented their final bid to the FISA Council at their meeting in Rotterdam, NED. The standards of preparation and presentation were very high and enabled the Council to form a clear and informed opinion.

Major factors in the Council's assessment

The major factors in the Council's assessment of the bids are as follows:

1. Racing conditions and fairness:

The Penrith regatta course fully complies with FISA requirements for this regatta and is well-known to the FISA Council and the member federations. The Council went into details and considered a number of factors that may impact the conditions in the racing lanes, including average wind velocity, and the risk of adverse weather conditions. Penrith Lakes has a warm up area outside of the course, and a cool down area outside of the course.

The television side camera images can be filmed using a car because of the purpose-built road along the side of the course. The Sydney International Regatta Centre has staged televised Olympic and World Rowing regattas.

2. Course installations:

Sydney International Regatta Centre offers high quality installations and facilities which meet the minimum requirements needed to host a World Rowing Championships. Several parts of the venue have received upgrades and updates to the facilities in recent years due to the national championships.

3. Costs for Member Federations

The Sydney bid offers adequate numbers of rooms for this large event with transport and meals at prices that correspond with similar events in recent years. One person in a twin room (with transport and meals) in a category 2 hotel is quoted at between Euros 187-203. The main hotels in Penrith / Western Sydney are within 20 to 40 minutes' drive from the venue.

4. Financial support for the OC

The Sydney bid is predicated on solid backing from their government authorities (local, regional and national) with a high proportion of the budget revenue guaranteed, and relatively low proportions dependent on ticketing and sponsor income.

5. Organisational experience

The Penrith course has a well-known organising committee that has successfully organised many national and a few World Rowing events previously and retain many of the skills and resources from those events. It recently staged World Rowing Cups in 2013 and 2014 with internationally televised host broadcasts.

The Council's Proposal to Congress

The FISA Council would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Australian Rowing Federations and acknowledge the support it has received from its government authorities. As well, for the tremendous effort to prepare this outstanding bid.

The Sydney International Regatta Centre is fully capable of hosting an excellent World Rowing Championships.

Having examined the detailed aspects of the bid submitted, and taking all relevant factors into account, the FISA Council considers that the Sydney bid surpasses all minimum requirements and is a most suitable candidate, and proposes it for vote to the Congress for the right and responsibility of hosting of the 2025 World Rowing Championships.

**The FISA Council's Proposal to the Congress
for the Attribution of the 2024 World Rowing Senior,
Under 23, and Junior Championships**

The 2024 World Rowing Senior, Under 23, and Junior Championships bid process was included in the Strategic Event Attribution Process (SEAP), which was launched in 2017. On 15 April 2019, at the preliminary bid deadline of the SEAP, four bids were received from Linz-Ottensheim (AUT), Perth/Sydney (AUS), St Catharines (CAN), and Varese (ITA). Each of these federations received an explanation of the bidding process, the bidding code of conduct, a detailed bid questionnaire, technical requirements for the World Rowing Senior, Under 23, and Junior Championships, and additional bid documents. The technical requirements and possibilities for differentiation of the bids were explained, and bidders had an opportunity to ask questions throughout the bid process. During the subsequent months, each candidate was required to submit all necessary information and guarantees needed to enable FISA to examine and analyse their bid in detail.

Unfortunately, the government authorities of the Varese (ITA) bid were not able to make commitments now for 2024 and the Australian bid was focused on 2025. Final bids were received from:

- Linz-Ottensheim (AUT) and
- St Catharines (CAN)

on 30 June 2019. The quality of bid documents prepared by all candidates was very high and enabled the Council to form clear and informed opinions.

Major factors in the Council's assessment

The major factors in the Council's assessment of the bids are as follows:

6. Racing conditions and fairness:

Both bids presented regatta courses that fully comply with FISA requirements for this regatta and are well-known to the FISA Council and the member federations. Both venues are expected to offer good racing conditions. Of the two venues, Linz-Ottensheim has the lower average wind velocity. Both venues have sufficient space on the water for the warm up and cooling down areas to be outside of the course. All of these factors were considered as it relates to their impact on the racing lanes.

7. Course installations:

Both venues offer high quality installations and facilities which all meet the minimum requirements needed to host a World Rowing Championships. Linz-Ottensheim is preparing to host the 2019 World Rowing Championships, and St. Catharines hosted the 2015 Pan American Games rowing regatta and the 1999 World Rowing Championships. Linz-Ottensheim would utilise the farmers' fields on the other side of the dike for additional boat storage as they will do for the Masters in 2020. St. Catharines has adequate space to accommodate all crews in the existing boat park and has indicated plans to update their finish tower and other facilities for the 2021 Canada Summer Games, including a permanent athlete training centre on the venue.

8. Costs for Member Federations

Both bids offer adequate numbers of rooms for this large event for accommodation with transport and meals at prices that correspond with similar events in recent years. One person in a twin room (with transport and meals) in a category 2 hotel in Linz-Ottensheim is quoted at Euros 140 while all rowers would be accommodated at local colleges and universities in single rooms at CAN\$ 150 (Euros 102) per person. For a category 3 hotel in Linz-Ottensheim, the price quoted is Euros 130. The main hotels in Linz-Ottensheim are said to be within 30 minutes' drive of the venue while in St. Catharines, the universities are said to be up to 15 minutes' drive of the venue.

9. Financial support:

Both bids have solid financial support projected with a high proportion of the budget revenue foreseen from government or national sport institutions, with relatively low proportion of the budget dependant on sources like ticketing and sponsor income. The St. Catharines bid does not include a government guarantee as five years is too far for one in their environment. However, the Canadian Rowing Federation has signed the bid undertaking letter which confirming its acceptance of all hosting conditions, including costs. Linz-Ottensheim has projected a higher percentage of their operating budget to be guaranteed by the government.

10. Organisational experience:

Both bidders have well-known organising committees and have successfully organised World Rowing events previously and retain many of the skills and resources from those events.

The Council's Proposal to Congress

The FISA Council would like to express its sincere appreciation to the bidding member federations and the support they have received from their government authorities for their tremendous efforts to prepare these outstanding bids. The Council believes that both Linz-Ottensheim and St. Catharines are very capable of hosting an excellent World Rowing Senior, Under 23, and Junior Championships.

The Council believes that it is its duty to consider the whole spectrum of world-level events through this Strategic Event Attribution process and one of the main objectives of the SEAP, and a main strategic objective of FISA, is to showcase the sport of rowing through rowing events on all continents. St. Catharines was the only venue from outside of Europe to bid on a World Rowing Junior or Under 23 Championships event in this round of bidding.

For this reason, and having examined the detailed aspects of the bids submitted, and taking all the above factors into account, the FISA Council finds the only point of differentiation to be the global distribution factor and, therefore, selects St. Catharines, CAN as the most suitable candidate and proposes to the Congress for vote that the right and responsibility of hosting of the 2024 World Rowing Senior, Under 23, and Junior Championships be attributed to the Canadian Rowing Federation in St. Catharines, Canada.

The Council would like to acknowledge the tremendous support from the Austrian governmental authorities in the complete transformation of the Linz-Ottensheim venue and the strong partnership with the Linz-Ottensheim organising committee with the Austrian Rowing Federation. This decision is in no way meant to create the impression that something is negative about the Ottensheim venue or this bid. We look forward to an outstanding World Rowing Championships at the end of this month and a great World Rowing Masters Regatta in 2020.