

European Rowing Board 2018 Annual Report

Membership of the ERB

Ryszard Stadniuk (POL), Chair
Nebojsa Jevremovic (SRB)
Annamarie Phelps (GBR)
Algirdas Raslanas (LTU)
Patrick Rombaut (BEL)
Eva Szanto (HUN)
Roland Weill (FRA)

Meetings of the ERB

European Rowing Junior Championships, 26-27 May, Gravelines (FRA)
European Rowing Championships and European Rowing Federations General Assembly, 2-5 August, Strathclyde (GBR)
European Rowing U23 Championships, 1-2 September, Brest (BLR)
European Rowing Federations Ex. General Assembly 22 November and Joint Commission Meeting 24-25 November, Berlin (GER)

Report on Activities

European Rowing Events organised in 2018:

European Rowing Indoor Championships 9 December 2017

This event was held in Amsterdam (NED) combined with the National Federation's Indoor Rowing Championships.

European Rowing Junior Championships, 26-27 May, Gravelines (FRA)

This was only the second time this course had been used for an international event and the good weather conditions helped to promote the new course. It was the European qualification regatta for the Youth Olympic Games and attracted a number of NFs that had not participated previously in the ER Junior Championship events. The Championships were successfully organised by the City of Gravelines and the Gravelines RC with great support from the Mayor.

European Rowing Championships 2-5 August, Strathclyde (GBR)

This was the first time that the ER Championships were held as part of a multi-sport event, the European Championships. This included seven sports and was covered widely by media across Europe and further afield including close to 200 hours of live TV broadcast (the nearest previous Championships was Poznan 2015 at 59 hours). Competition was of a high sporting level with a good spread of success with 17 nations sharing the medals. The organisation was of an exceptionally high standard and the event was very well-received by the athletes. It was a fantastic promotion of our sport.

European Rowing U23 Championships 1-2 September, Brest (BLR)

The Championships were organised by an experienced committee at this excellent venue. Despite the challenges with transport the event attracted more competitors than

the previous year, from across 25 nations. The championships programme included all boat classes from the World Rowing U23 Championships including the new women's coxed four and lightweight pair event. In a few events the number of entries were below expectation.

General Assembly

The annual General Assembly of the European Rowing National Federations was held in Glasgow on 4 August 2018. The hosting rights of the 2020 ERCH were attributed to Poznan (POL), the 2020 ERU23CH will be held in Duisburg (GER) and 2020 ERJCH in Belgrade (SRB). The attribution for the ERIC was delayed until November pending decisions on a possible World Rowing Indoor Championships. Further consultation took place regarding the establishment of a new Continental Confederation.

Nebosja Jevremovic was re-elected as a member of the European Rowing Management Board.

Extraordinary General Assembly, 22 November, Berlin (GER)

The National Federations approved the establishment of a new continental confederation for European rowing: the European Rowing Confederation and approved Statutes and the transitional arrangements for the new European Rowing Board. The 2018-19 ERICH were attributed to Prague (CZE). The FISA nomination of Dušan Macháček as a Board Member of the ERB was formally ratified.

Joint Commissions Meeting, 25-26 November, Berlin (GER)

The ERB meet with four organising committees to review progress on future Championships events, meet with the FISA Executive Committee to discuss collaboration with European Championships and future events and the continued working with FISA as a new Confederation. The ERB reviewed the rules for ER Indoor Championships, and made plans for meetings during the next year.

Accomplishments

1. Delivery of four successful European Rowing Championships events
2. Inclusion in the inaugural European Championships, multi-sport event with fantastic TV and media broadcast figures
3. Establishment of independent continental confederation: ERC, approval of Statutes, revised rules of racing, and ongoing negotiations on a cooperation agreement with FISA

Goals and Challenges for the Future

1. Delivery of 4 well-attended, high standard European Championship events and contribute to increasing media profile of the sport in and outside Europe.
2. Strengthening the position of rowing in, and co-operation with, other European multi-sport events, e.g. European Championships, EUSA, European Games,
3. Establish Strategic priorities for the ERC including consideration of possible future events, Coastal, Masters, etc. and other development priorities and consider funding models for these.
4. Development of ERC website as the key place for all European rowing news and information

5. Formal recognition by FISA Congress of ERC as the continental confederation for European NFs and completion of ERC-FISA cooperation agreement discussion
6. Work with OCs to try and reduce environmental impact of ER Championships

Conclusion

This was a very important year for European rowing with the establishment of the confederation after a period of extensive consultation with all our stakeholders. The resulting Statutes were unanimously approved at the General Assembly creating the European Rowing Confederation and transitioning the ERMB into the European Rowing Board.

There is much to do in the next year or two to further establish rowing's position in the European sports calendar, and our European Federations continue to be willing to lead change and increase diversity across the sport.

Ryszard Stadniuk