

2011

MEDIA GUIDE

1

SAMSUNG WORLD ROWING CUP I

Munich, Germany
27-29 May



world
rowing cup

SAMSUNG

WORLD ROWING CUP



Munich, Germany

27 - 29 May 2011

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Ondrej Synek (CZE), 2010 World Rowing Male Crew of the Year
Cover photograph © 2010 John Gichigi/Getty Images

Tom Aggar (GBR), 2010 World Rowing Adaptive Crew of the Year
Cover photograph © Detlev Seyb/MyRowingPhoto.com

Katherine Grainger & Anna Watkins (GBR), 2010 World Rowing Adaptive Crew of the Year
Photo de couverture © 2010 John Gichigi/Getty Images



1. General

1.1 2011 Samsung World Rowing Cup I New season, new look!

The 2011 World Rowing season is underway and brings with it its share of novelties and surprises. 2011 is under the sign of change and renewal for World Rowing: a new brand, a new website and an exciting new season ahead.

It has taken our team several months to develop the new brand of World Rowing. This is far more than just a new logo because in its every manifestation, it embodies the philosophy, character and values both of our sport and of the people who row. You will find more explanation on our brand on our new website www.worldrowing.com.

The World Rowing Cup series is proud to be sponsored by Samsung Electronics. Samsung is an established leader in innovative digital technologies that offer new and exciting experiences for everyone, and aspires to use the power of sport to emotionally bond with consumers around the world.

As always, the first regatta of the season on the international rowing calendar carries an air of expectation. This is a chance to see how crews have progressed through the months of winter training and also an opportunity for the world to see the new line-ups coaches have created. This media guide contains a detailed "Who to Watch" which will give you a comprehensive summary of the teams to look out for and any new line-ups for this introductory regatta.

The format of the World Rowing Cup series remains unchanged. As has been custom since the start of the series in 1997, an event leader shall be determined in each boat class at each regatta. The leader will be awarded the yellow leader bib and will carry the leader status forward to the next stage of the series. The 2011 overall series winner will be awarded at the end of the final stage of the Samsung World Rowing Cup in Lucerne, Switzerland, from 8 to 10 July.

In this Media Guide Supplement you will find all the info you need about the 2011 Samsung World Rowing Cup. A wide range of data is also available in the Annual Media Guide which can be consulted online. Do not forget to also consult the online athlete and results database on www.worldrowing.com for detailed information on all current and past rowers who have raced at World Rowing events.

We would hereby like to say a special thank you to you, the media, for your support and enthusiasm throughout this Olympic cycle. We hope that we can continue to count on you to help us promote our sport and our athletes in a positive way throughout the world. If there is anything we can do to help you in your work, or any improvements in our services to you, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Have a great start to the season!

Your World Rowing Communications Team

Marion Gallimore Rongere, FISA Communications Manager – Marketing & TV

Debora Meier-Feutren, FISA Communications Manager – Publications & Digital Media

Melissa Bray, World Rowing Journalist

Laura Fell, FISA Communications Assistant

Pat Lambert, Chair of FISA's Media & Promotions Commission



1.2 The Samsung World Rowing Cup - Scoring System, Titles & Prizes

The World Rowing Cup in its current format was created in 1997 as a partnership between successful existing regattas and FISA in order to create top competition opportunities for the athletes and in order to better promote the sport of rowing.

It is a series of three regattas that include the 14 Olympic boat classes seeking points based on finish order. At each regatta, the national rowing federation with the most points at that particular regatta will be declared winner of that World Rowing Cup event and will receive the leading nation cup.

The title of 2011 Samsung World Rowing Cup champion in each Olympic boat class shall be conferred on the federation with the most points earned from racing in that boat class in all three regattas.

The National Federation with the most points overall from all Olympic boat classes will be declared overall winner of the 2011 Samsung World Rowing Cup. This will take place following the final race at the final stage of the series on the Rotsee in Lucerne, Switzerland on 10 July.

At each regatta, in each event, the highest placing boat from a National Federation will be awarded the following points:

Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1 st	8	4 th	4	7 th	1
2 nd	6	5 th	3		
3 rd	5	6 th	2		

Points will not be awarded to the second crew of a federation placing a crew in one of the first 7 places.

Olympic and Rowing World Cup Boat Classes

Men

Single Scull (M1x)
 Double Scull (M2x)
 Lightweight Double Scull (LM2x)
 Quadruple Scull (M4x)
 Pair (M2-)
 Four (M4-)
 Lightweight Four (LM4-)
 Eight (M8+)

Women

Single Scull (W1x)
 Double Scull (W2x)
 Lightweight Double Scull (LW2x)
 Quadruple Scull (W4x)
 Pair (W2-)
 Eight (W8+)

Note: Other boat classes are known as International events



2. Samsung World Rowing Cup I - Munich (GER)

2.1 Key Media Information

Local OC Press Officer

Phillip Gutt
Phillip.Gutt@gmx.de
media@regatta.de

Media accreditation deadline

14 May 2009

About Munich

The Olympic Regatta course is situated in Oberschleissheim, approximately 20km from the city centre of Munich. It was built for the 1972 Olympic Games and has since been used regularly to hold both national and international rowing events. Since the creation of the series fifteen years ago (in 1997), the course hosted 13 World Cup regattas and was home to a very successful World Rowing Championships in 2007.

The city of Munich itself is rich in history: founded in the 12th century, it soon became an important crossing point for trade routes through Europe. Since then it has continued to grow in size and importance. Today Munich is a cosmopolitan city of 1.3 million people, making the Bavarian capital the third largest city in Germany.

Media Accommodation

Muenchner Hotel Verbund
Industriestr. 2
82140 Olching
Tel. +49 814 2444 610
Fax +49 814 2444 611
info@muenchen-hotel.de
www.muenchen-hotel.de

Please mention “Regatta”

Transport & Parking

There will be NO shuttle service between accommodation and the regatta venue. Parking for media representatives is available in the parking lot behind the grandstand.

Media Facilities

The media centre will be open on Thursday 26 May in the afternoon and from Friday 27 May to Sunday 29 May from minimum one hour prior to the first race until two hours after the last race of the day.

The media centre is located under the main tribune (section D). Grandstand seats are situated just outside the media centre in the main tribune.

TV and radio commentary positions are located at the top of the grandstand and must be booked in advance through the host broadcaster.

The usual facilities are available to the press in the media centre and the tribune:

- Workspaces with power
- Telephone lines
- Access to wireless LAN
- Internet terminal
- International telephones
- Fax machine and copy service
- TV monitors in the media centre for viewing racing on finals day (no individual monitors on work place)
- Drinks and snacks throughout the day

Note: Power sockets are European two pin

Accreditation

Last-minute media accreditation requests should be made directly to marion.gallimore@fisa.org. Local media should contact the local press officer directly.

Accreditation can be collected on site upon arrival at the venue. A media accreditation confirmation e-mail will be sent to media having requested accreditation for this event.

Photographers

Photographers wishing to be taken to the start should enquire at the media centre information desk about being taken to the start area in time for the chosen races.

General Programme

Monday, 16 May 2011		Close of entries
Thursday 26 May 2011	16:30	Team Managers' Meeting and Draw
	18:30	Adaptive Heats
Friday, 27 May 2011	08:00	Heats, Repechages and Quarterfinals
Saturday, 28 May 2011	08:30	Repechages, Semifinals, Finals C, D, E, F
	16:24	Finals B + A - International Events
	17:43	Finals B + A – Adaptive Events
Sunday, 29 May 2011	09:00	Finals B – World Cup events
	11:03	Finals A – World Cup events
	Approx. 14:15	End of the Regatta

Other useful information sources

www.worldrowing.com

The official World Rowing website provides detailed coverage of the 2011 Samsung World Rowing Cup series. The live race viewer and race results feed allow you to follow the racing as it happens.

A wide range of photos covering the event will be uploaded regularly to the website photo gallery. Should you wish to get usage of these photos contact the World Rowing communications staff who will be happy to put you in touch with the right photographer.

Access to live internet streaming of the event is available through www.worldrowing.com. Check the direct links depending on which country you are accessing from.

[World Rowing Database of athlete bios and results](#)

This is perhaps the most comprehensive database of athlete biographies and results. We'd like to encourage you to use this fantastic resource. We will have PCs running the athletes database in the media centre. Please ask a member of the FISA media team to show you around the site.

www.Infostradasports.com

World Rowing has compiled this media guide in association with Infostrada Sports Media Services. Infostrada provides historical and statistical information on a wide range of sports – from football to Formula 1 to rowing.

2.2. Time Table of Events (provisional at close of entries)



27 - 29 May 2011

Munich, Germany

PROVISIONAL COMPETITION SCHEDULE (Subject to the Draw at 16:30 hrs on Thursday, 26 May 2011) (As of 17 May 2011)

N°	Event	#	Thursday, 26 May		Friday, 27 May 2011		Saturday, 28 May 2011		Sunday, 29 May			
			Heats (Time trials)		Heats <13, Reps & Quats		Prelim Reps		Final A Final B			
International Events												
17	LW1x	20	08:00	08:06	08:12	08:18	15:00	15:06	10:24	11:06	16:24	16:45
18	LM1x	19	08:24	08:30	08:36	08:42	15:12	15:18	11:12		16:30	16:55
20	LM2-	11	08:48	08:54			15:24	15:30			16:36	17:05
World Cup Events												
1	W2-	17	09:00	09:06	09:12		15:36	15:42	11:18		13:30	13:36
2	M2-	20	09:18	09:24	09:30	09:36	15:48	15:54	10:30	11:24		09:06
3	W2x	17	09:42	09:48	09:54		16:00	16:06	11:30		13:42	13:48
4	M2x	27	10:00	10:06	10:12	10:18	16:12	16:18	10:06	10:36	14:06	14:12
5	M4-	19	10:36	10:42	10:48	10:54	16:36	16:42	11:42		14:18	14:24
8	LW2x	26	11:12	11:18	11:24	11:30	11:36	11:42	10:06	10:42	14:30	14:36
9	LM2x	35	11:48	11:54	12:00	12:06	12:12	12:18	10:12	10:48	14:42	14:48
10	LM4-	14	12:24	12:30	12:36		17:36		12:00		14:54	15:00
11	W4x	8	12:42	12:48			17:42	17:48	15:12		09:48	12:27
12	M4x	12	12:54	13:00			17:54	18:00	15:24	15:36	09:54	12:51
13	W8+	6	13:06	13:12	13:18	13:24	18:06	18:12	10:54	12:12	10:00	13:06
6	W1x	22	13:30	13:36	13:42	13:48	18:30	18:36	10:18	11:00	10:06	13:21
7	M1x	29	14:06	14:12			18:54	19:00	16:18		16:06	16:12
14	MB+	8									10:12	13:51
Adaptive Events												
			Heats		Reps		Final C					
81	ASW1x	9	18:30	18:38			19:30				17:43	18:15
82	ASM1x	19	18:46	18:54	19:02	19:10	19:38	19:46	19:38	17:51	18:27	
83	TA2x	10	19:18	19:26			19:54			17:59	18:39	
84	IDM1x4+											
85	LTAM1x4	10	19:34	19:42			20:02				18:07	18:51

6:30-7:30 hrs

6:30-8:00, 12:25-13:10 after 19:00 hrs

6:30-8:30

Notes for FISA and OC people:

- 1. Thursday's meetings:
 - 13:30 hrs - Technical & Rescue Rehearsal
 - 14:30 hrs - Handover meeting
 - 15:00 hrs - Jury Meeting and Inspection of the Course
 - 15:30 hrs - Fairness Committee Meeting
 - 16:30 hrs - Team managers meeting and Draw

General notes:

- 1. Preliminary Races for allocation of lanes
- 2. On Saturday from 15:00 to 16:00 - TV Rehearsals
- 3. Adaptive Training Times:
 - Wednesday and Thursday: 13:00 - 15:00 hrs. Course closed for non-adaptive crews.
 - Friday: 14:10 - 14:40. In the middle 5 lanes only.
 - Saturday: 12:25 - 13:10 hrs. In the middle 5 lanes only.

Broadcaster information: all times indicated are local times. Televised races are indicated in bold font. Please revert to the EBU offer for international signal times and details.

The last medal ceremony will finish approximately 20 minutes after the start of the last race

Follow the live results on www.worldrowing.com



2.3. Actual Entries by Country (provisional at close of entries)

Munich, Germany

27 - 29 May 2011

ENTRIES BY EVENT

As of 16 MAY 2011

Olympic Events

W2-	M2-	W2x	M2x	M4-	W1x	M1x	LW2x	LM2x	LM4-	W4x	M4x	W8+	M8+
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]	[10]	[11]	[12]	[13]	[14]

17	20	17	27	19	21	29	26	35	14	8	12	6	8
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CHN1	ARG1	AUT	ARG	ARG	BEL	AUT	ARG1	ARG	CHN1	GBR	CRO	CHN	CHN
CHN2	ARG2	BLR1	BEL	BLR	BLR	AZE	ARG2	AUT1	CHN2	GER1	FRA	GBR	CRO
CHN3	CHN1	BLR2	CZE	CHN1	BUL	BEL	AUT1	AUT2	DEN1	GER2	GBR	NED	FRA
CRO	CHN2	BUL	EST1	CHN2	CHN	BUL	AUT2	AUT3	DEN2	ITA	GER	POL	GBR
FRA1	CRO	CHN	EST2	CRO	CZE1	CRO	BEL	AZE	ESP	POL	ITA1	ROU	GBR
FRA2	CZE1	DEN	GBR1	CZE	CZE2	CYP	CHN1	BEL	FRA	SUI	ITA2	UKR	GER
GBR	CZE2	FIN	GBR2	ESP	CZE3	CZE	CHN2	BUL	GBR1	UKR1	POL		NED
GER	ESP	GBR	GER1	EST	ESA1	EST	CZE1	CHN	GBR2	UKR2	ROU		POL
ITA	FRA	HUN	GER2	FRA	ESA2	FRA1	CZE2	CZE1	GER		SLO		UKR
NED1	GBR	IRL	GRE	GBR	EST	FRA2	DEN	CZE2	ITA		SUI		
NED2	GER	ITA	ISR	GER	FRA	GBR1	FRA	DEN1	JPN		UKR1		
NED3	GRE	LTU	ITA1	GRE	GBR	GBR2	GBR1	DEN2	NED		UKR2		
ROU1	HUN	ROU	ITA2	ITA	GER	GER	GBR2	ESP	POL				
ROU2	ITA	UKR1	ITA3	NED	GRE	ITA	GER	FRA	SUI				
UKR	NED	UKR2	LTU1	POL	IRL	LTU	GRE	GBR					
USA1	NOR	UKR3	LTU2	ROU	LTU	NOR	HUN	GER					
USA2	POL	USA	NOR	SRB	NED	POL	IRL	GRE1					
	SLO1		POL	UKR1	SWE	SLO1	ITA	GRE2					
	SLO2		ROU	UKR2	THA	SLO2	JPN1	HUN					
	SRB		SLO		UKR	SUI	JPN2	IRL1					
			SRB		USA	SVK1	NED	IRL2					
			SUI			SVK2	POL1	ITA1					
			UKR1			SWE	POL2	ITA2					
			UKR2			UKR1	SUI	JPN					
			UKR3			UKR2	SWE	NOR					
			USA			UKR3	USA	POL					
			UZB			USA		POR					
						UZB		SLO					
						VEN		SRB					
								SUI					
								TUN					
								TUR					
								USA					
								UZB					
								VEN					



Munich, Germany

27 - 29 May 2011

ENTRIES BY EVENT

As of 16 MAY 2011

International Events

LW1x	LM1x	LM2-
[17]	[18]	[20]

20	19	11
----	----	----

BRA	AZE	CZE
DEN	BUL	FRA1
GBR	FRA1	FRA2
GER	FRA2	GBR1
GRE1	IRL1	GBR2
GRE2	IRL2	GER
IRL	ITA	ITA1
ITA1	JPN	ITA2
ITA2	NED	NED
JPN1	NOR	SRB
JPN2	PER	SUI
NED	POL	
POL1	POR	
POL2	SLO	
POR	SRB	
SUI1	THA	
SUI2	TUN	
SWE	USA	
THA	UZB	
UZB		

Adaptive Events

ASW1x	ASM1x	TAMix2x	LTAMix4+
[81]	[82]	[83]	[85]

10	19	10	10
----	----	----	----

AZE	AUS1	AUS	BRA
BLR	AUS2	BLR	FRA
FRA	BLR	BRA	GBR1
HUN	BRA	EST	GBR2
IRL	CRO	FRA	GER
ISR	ESP	GBR	IRL
ITA	FRA	ISR	ITA
POR	GBR	ITA	POL
RUS	GER1	POL	RUS
UKR	GER2	UKR	UKR
	IRL		
	ISR		
	ITA1		
	ITA2		
	POL1		
	POL2		
	RUS1		
	RUS2		
	UKR		

	NFs	Crews	Competitors
Men	33	115	301
Women	27	69	151
Lightweight Men	31	79	165
Lightweight Women	23	46	67
Adaptive Men	14	19	19
Adaptive Women	10	10	10
Adaptive Mixed	13	20	69
Total	46	358	780



2.4. Who to Watch in Munich

Women's Pair (W2-)

Never underestimate the benefit of home turf: Kerstin Hartmann and Marlene Sinnig of Germany will be hoping to make full use of this advantage. They were sixth at the 2010 World Rowing Championships and will be hoping to step up this year. Camelia Lupascu and Nicoleta Albu (Romania) finished a disappointing seventh last year in this boat class that has seen many Romanian combinations dominate. This year, they come into the event as the number two boat from their country, so a stiff challenge may confront them in the form of fellow Romanian rowers Roxana Cogianu and Ionelia Zaharia.

Of the boats entered, the highest pollers have to be Helen Glover and Heather Stanning of Great Britain. Glover and Stanning came through their internal British selection process with flying colours and with a 2010 World Championship silver medal already in their possession.

Keep an eye out also for the United States. They are regularly strong in the pair and have mixed up their former World Champions, Susan Francia and Erin Cafaro, into competing boats.

W2-: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	BLR	ROU	USA	NZL
2	GER	CHN	ROU	GBR
3	ROU	BLR	NZL	USA
4	AUS	GER	GER	AUS
5	NZL	NZL	AUS	CAN
6	CHN	GBR	GBR	GER
7	USA	USA	FRA	ROU
8	CAN	FRA	RUS	CRO
9	NED	CAN	ARG	CHN
10	DEN	AUS	CRO	NED
11	RUS		CHN	
12	GBR		BLR	

Men's Pair (M2-)

Last year this event turned into a two-boat head-to-head race between New Zealand and Great Britain. The Kiwis and the Brits managed to outclass the rest of their competitors with the New Zealanders holding the upper hand. But at Munich, New Zealand's Eric Murray and Hamish Bond are absent, leaving the way clear for Andrew Triggs Hodge and Peter Reed. Hodge and Reed remain the top two sweep rowers in Great Britain and their coach, Juergen Grobler, has kept them in the pair with expectations of winning this season.

After Greece's Tziallas and Christou finished third at the 2010 World Rowing Championships, they highlighted the growing strength of Greek rowing. Christou, however, is now paired up with Nikolaos Gkoutoulas leaving a bit more to guesswork. They could be the most likely ones to challenge the Hodge-Reed duo.

Watch out also for Lorenzo Carboncini and Niccolo Mornati of Italy, who finished fourth in Karapiro last year. Also notching up points on the experience front is Serbia's Nikola Stojic who paired up with Marko Marjanovic in 2010.

M2-: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	AUS	AUS	NZL	NZL
2	NZL	CAN	GBR	GBR
3	GBR	NZL	GRE	GRE
4	FRA	GER	FRA	ITA
5	RSA	RSA	USA	GER
6	SRB	USA	RSA	FRA
7	POL	SRB	GER	RSA
8	USA	CZE	SRB	ESP
9	GER	FRA	CUB	USA
10	CRO	DEN	CZE	SRB
11	DEN	ITA	POL	ARG
12	CAN	CRO	CAN	SLO

Women's Double Sculls (W2x)

Finishing 2010 unbeaten and earning the World Rowing Female Crew of the Year is quite a pedigree to take into this season. This pedigree is owned by Katherine Grainger and Anna Watkins of Great Britain, but Watkins is fighting an injury and will be replaced by Melanie Wilson at Munich.

This could leave the door wide open for legitimate challenges from the likes of the very experienced Yuliya Bichyk of Belarus who has teamed up at Munich with Tatsiana Kukhta to go after the medals.

Have a look too at the United States, Romania and China. When they get it right, their crews can pull off some notable results, with China boating former World Champion in the lightweight double, Shimin Yan.

W2x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	CHN	NZL	POL	GBR
2	NZL	GER	GBR	AUS
3	GBR	GBR	BUL	POL
4	ROU	CHN	AUS	CZE
5	CZE	USA	CZE	USA
6	GER	CZE	USA	GER
7	ITA	UKR	NZL	NZL
8	USA	AUS	GER	CHN
9	AUS	ROU	FIN	DEN
10	HUN	ITA	DEN	ITA
11	KOR		UKR	FIN
12	NOR		BLR	

Men's Double Sculls (M2x)

There is no doubt that Great Britain's Marcus Bateman and Matthew Wells were disappointed to finish with silver at the 2010 World Rowing Championships last year. In the absence of the 2010 World Champions, New Zealand, Bateman and Wells will definitely have their sights set firmly on gold.

Italy has entered three boats to utilise this regatta as a form of seat racing. Perhaps their most experienced duo is Luca Agamennoni and Rossano Galtarossa. Estonia has held Allar Raja and Kaspar Taimsoo together for another year. Although last season was not the best for Raja and Taimsoo, the duo has medals from the 2009 World Rowing Championships and their talent is recognised.

Also with prior success, 2009 World Champions Erik Knittel and Stephan Krueger of Germany are together again. They will be chased hard by Mathias Rocher and Hans Gruhne who make up Germany's number two boat in this event. Watch out too for Switzerland. Andre Vonarburg and Florian Stofer appear to be in it together for the long haul despite mixed results in the past.

Slovenia's top rower Iztok Cop paired up with 24-year-old Gasper Fistravec. Back on the international scene after a break, Cop must be eager to race on home turf at the 2011 World Rowing Championships.

M2x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	SLO	AUS	GER	NZL
2	FRA	EST	FRA	GBR
3	EST	GBR	EST	FRA
4	GBR	NZL	NZL	NOR
5	BLR	FRA	SLO	AUS
6	NZL	SLO	SRB	GER
7	CRO	BLR	SUI	USA
8	AUS	BEL	POL	EST
9	USA	GER	UKR	CZE
10	GER	BUL	BEL	ARG
11	BEL	RUS	CUB	SUI
12	POL	USA	GBR	CHN

Men's Four (M4-)

Winter training results will be revealed at Munich with current World Champions, France (Macquet, Charadin, Despres and Mortelette) back in the same line-up and hoping to remain at the top. But Great Britain dearly want to change their 2010 fourth place result and they will be pushing hard to get into the medals, especially with the return of 2008 Olympic Champion, Tom James.

Greece, who were the world silver medallists in 2010, are back with one change to the boat. Georgios Tziallas has come into three seat. Greece knows how to sprint and other crews will need to hold on in the last quarter of the race if they want to keep the Greeks behind.

Keep an eye out too for Germany. They are trying to rebuild a medal-winning four, and coach Hartmut Buschbacher will be hoping that he has nailed the right combination.

M4-: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	NZL	GBR	GBR	FRA
2	ITA	AUS	AUS	GRE
3	NED	FRA	SLO	NZL
4	GBR	SLO	CZE	GBR
5	SLO	CZE	FRA	USA
6	FRA	GER	BLR	ITA
7	CZE	NZL	GER	AUS
8	USA	NED	ESP	GER
9	GER	USA	NZL	CHN
10	IRL	IRL	GRE	ESP
11	BLR	ITA	POL	NED
12	AUS	BLR	CRO	CAN

Lightweight Women’s Double Sculls (LW2x)

This event is anyone’s guess. A whole new list of combinations will be racing at Munich as coaches test out different crews in their lead up to the all-important World Rowing Championships in August. But keeping with the same line-up is Hester Goodsell and Sophie Hosking of Great Britain. Goodsell and Hosking finished outside of the medals at last year’s World Rowing Championships, but their time in the boat as a partnership must play in their favour at Munich.

A strong challenge is likely to come from under-23 champions Christina Giazitzidou and Triantafyllia Kalamopoka of Greece.

In the category of new combinations, check out two top single scullers, Michaela Taupe-Traer and Sara Karlsson. The duo are rowing for Austria. The United States often surprise with new crews that go fast early in the season, so Kristin Hedstrom and Julie Nichols are worth noting. Belgium, China, Germany and Poland could also be medal contenders.

LW2x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	AUS	NED	GRE	CAN
2	FIN	FIN	POL	GER
3	DEN/GER	CAN	GBR	GRE
4		GER	GER	AUS
5	GRE	CHN	AUS	GBR
6	CHN	GRE	CAN	NZL
7	CAN	DEN	CUB	CHN
8	GBR	AUS	HUN	USA
9	JPN	JPN	NED	ITA
10	POL	USA	DEN	BEL
11	USA	GBR	USA	AUT
12	ITA	CUB	SWE	ESP

Lightweight Men's Double Sculls (LM2x)

This event is huge. Thirty-five entries are lining up to make it the biggest event at Munich, and amongst them are the world gold and silver medallists from 2010. World and Olympic Champions Zac Purchase and Mark Hunter of Great Britain will be the crew to beat with Italy's Lorenzo Bertini and Elia Luini aiming to remain in the medals. This leaves a difficult fight for a lesser medal.

All eyes will be on the return to the double of Denmark's Mads Rasmussen and Rasmus Quist. The duo won bronze at the Olympic Games in Beijing but only now have they returned to this event.

Also pushing to get into the better side of the final will be two crews that have remained the same from last year. Both Portugal (Fraga and Mendes) and Germany (Hartig and Lichtschlag) had international success in 2010 and they will be hoping to expand on this.

LM2x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	DEN	GBR	NZL	GBR
2	GRE	GRE	FRA	ITA
3	GBR	DEN	ITA	NZL
4	AUS	ITA	GER	CAN
5	ITA	CHN	CAN	CHN
6	JPN	CUB	GBR	POR
7	HUN	NZL	GRE	GER
8	GER	POR	DEN	FRA
9	CHN	GER	SRB	GRE
10	FRA	AUS	POR	NOR
11	AUT	FRA	CUB	USA
12	CAN	CAN	RSA	SLO

Lightweight Men's Four (LM4-)

Is that Eskild Ebbesen sitting in the stroke seat of the Danish boat? If anyone can be called the king of the lightweight four then it is Ebbesen. He is a three-time Olympic Champion in this event, including Beijing. But in the last year the Danish boat has been suffering. Perhaps this has brought Ebbesen, who last raced at the 2008 Olympics, back into the fold. Does Ebbesen, who is just shy of 39 years old, have what it takes to bring the Danes back to the top of the lightweight four pile?

The Danes will be up against current World Champions Great Britain who have maintained their 2010 lineup. They will also face last year's world bronze medallists, China.

Do not overlook Germany and Poland. The Germans finished fourth last year and with Lars Wichert now in the boat, the crew will be looking to take the lead and hold on to it. Poland missed last year's World Rowing Championships but they did finish second at the European Rowing Championships and they are now back to put the heat on the leading crews.

LM4-: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	GBR	DEN	GER	GBR
2	FRA	POL	DEN	AUS
3	ITA	CAN	POL	CHN
4	CAN	FRA	FRA	GER
5	CHN	GBR	ITA	NED
6	DEN	NED	NED	ITA
7	AUS	ITA	ESP	FRA
8	POL	CHN	CZE	SUI
9	EGY	AUS	SUI	DEN
10	NED	IRL	JPN	USA
11	USA	USA	CAN	RSA
12	IRL	EGY	USA	JPN

Women's Quadruple Sculls (W4x)

Great Britain has retained the crew that took World Champion gold in 2010. The crew includes Olympic medallists Debbie Flood and Frances Houghton who both took a break after Beijing. Flood and Houghton now have a full winter's training behind them so this crew is likely to be even faster than last year.

But Germany, who were third at the worlds in 2010, will be doing all they can to overturn any kind of British domination. The Germans have entered two boats, spreading their bronze medallists evenly between the two.

Ukraine is also aiming solely for one position – first. The 2010 European Champions could not hide their disappointment in finishing second in Karapiro and this must surely have been motivation for them as they trained through the long winter months.

Keep an eye out too for Poland. They have put 2009 World Champion from the women's double, Julia Michalska, in the middle of the boat. This could indicate a new priority boat for Poland.

W4x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	GBR	CHN	UKR	GBR
2	GER	GBR	USA	UKR
3	CHN	GER	GER	GER
4	UKR	UKR	ITA	AUS
5	CAN	USA	GBR	USA
6	USA	AUS	RUS	NZL
7	AUS	RUS	NZL	CHN
8	ROU	CAN	BLR	CAN
9	FRA			SUI
10	RUS			RUS
11	BLR			ROU
12	LTU			

Men's Quadruple Sculls (M4x)

Let the showdown continue. Olympic and former World Champions Poland meet current World Champions Croatia again at Munich. The two crews last raced at the 2010 European Rowing Championships with Poland (Wasielowski, Kolbowicz, Jelinski and Korol) outwitting Croatia (Sain, Martin and the Sinkovic brothers). In the absence of Poland, Croatia won at the World Rowing Championships in Karapiro and the young crew have no qualms in showing up against their more experienced Polish counterparts. Munich will indicate who has had a more fruitful winter training period.

Any other crew that manages to get in on the Polish – Croatia battle will consider themselves lucky. The Italians, Germans and Great Britain have the best chance. Italy was second behind Croatia in 2010 and they have retained three of their silver medal crew. Germany is doing a bit of mixing and matching while Great Britain's quad is nearly identical to their 2010 fifth-place finishers: Tom Solesbury has come in for Charles Cousins.

M4x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	POL	POL	POL	CRO
2	FRA	ITA	AUS	ITA
3	GER	FRA	GER	AUS
4	ITA	AUS	CRO	GER
5	CZE	USA	FRA	GBR
6	UKR	GER	ITA	RUS
7	RUS	RUS	SLO	NZL
8	EST	UKR	UKR	USA
9	USA	EST	RUS	CHN
10	AUS	CZE	EST	UKR
11	CUB	BLR	CZE	
12	BLR	CUB	USA	

Women's Eight (W8+)

In the absence of the United States and Canada, this race looks like it could be a battle between the old guard of the women's eights world, Romania and the newly revamped and revved up programme of the British. Romania finished third in 2010 with Great Britain two seconds back in fourth. The British have made two changes for their 2011 crew while Romania has altered three athletes in their boat.

Also returning with a substantial number of their 2010 crew are the Dutch. In eights rowing the Netherlands have always been near the front of the pack and their fifth-place finish in 2010 was less than their usual results. In 2011 Annemiek de Haan returns to the eight after a short spell in the quad. The experience behind de Haan indicates that the Netherlands will be expecting to make an impression in this event.

W8+: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	USA	USA	USA	USA
2	ROU	NED	ROU	CAN
3	GBR	ROU	NED	ROU
4	AUS	CAN	GER	GBR
5	GER	GBR	GBR	NED
6	CAN	AUS	CAN	CHN
7	NED	GER	POL	GER
8	CHN		BLR	NZL
9	NZL			RUS
10				
11				
12				

Women's Single Sculls (W1x)

After Sweden's Frida Svensson knocked perennial world number one Ekaterina Karsten of Belarus off her perch at last year's World Rowing Championships, the status quo of singles domination by Karsten looks to have changed.

Earlier this month Mirka Knapkova of the Czech Republic raced Svensson and Karsten at the Philadelphia Challenge Cup in the United States and won convincingly. Can Knapkova do it again? Is Karsten bidding her time until the big one? Has Svensson's winter training been effective? This World Rowing Cup will no doubt answer some big questions.

Keep an eye out too for Annekatrin Thiele of Germany. She has spent recent years in team boats but this season she has been at the top of German trials in the single. On her home turf, Thiele will be out to impress.

W1x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	BLR	BUL	BLR	SWE
2	BUL	USA	GBR	BLR
3	USA	BLR	CZE	NZL
4	CZE	CHN	NZL	CZE
5	CHN	CZE	CHN	RUS
6	NZL	POL	RUS	SRB
7	FRA	SWE	SRB	GER
8	POL	ITA	GER	CHN
9	SWE	NZL	SWE	GBR
10	RUS	AUS	POL	USA
11	ITA	SRB	EST	UKR
12	ESP	FRA	BEL	ESP

Men's Single Sculls (M1x)

Ondrej Synek of the Czech Republic came through last season as the undisputed champion, remaining unbeaten in 2010. Can he be so convincing this year as these men make the push towards the Olympics? In an event where there is very little between the top boats, Synek has his work cut out for him and the proof of this may be in Synek's loss to Slovenia's Iztok Cop earlier this month at the Philadelphia Challenge Cup. But Synek knows how to perform when it is important and there is every indication that he will do what it takes at Munich.

Back to chase Synek is Great Britain's unstoppable Alan Campbell. Campbell took a well-deserved bronze last year and his ability to sprint when needed has left other scullers in awe. Also likely to be up there at the head of the field is Norway's Olympic Champion Olaf Tufte. Tufte often starts the season off slowly, preferring to continue high intensity training through these regattas, but he has the ability when needed.

Also watch for Germany's Marcel Hacker, Tim Maeyens of Belgium and Sweden's Lassi Karonen who all have the chance to be in the medals when they race at their best.

M1x: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	NZL	NOR	NZL	CZE
2	CZE	CZE	GBR	NZL
3	NOR	NZL	CZE	GBR
4	GBR	BEL	BEL	NOR
5	GER	GBR	GER	CHN
6	SWE	SWE	NOR	SLO
7	BEL	GER	LTU	SWE
8	ARG	LTU	GRE	LTU
9	SUI	SUI	SWE	EST
10	NED	GRE	CUB	GER
11	AUS	USA	ARG	BEL
12	BUL	AUS	USA	USA

Men's Eight (M8+)

The Germans come to Munich on the back of a two-year winning streak. Their 2010 World Champion win gave them back-to-back titles and, no doubt, huge confidence. Coach Hartmut Buschbacher has made two changes to the crew and moved Kristof Wilke into stroke seat. On their home waters, Germany will be hard to beat.

But the British are gaining momentum as their rowing squad is building on success in their quest to be the number one rowing nation at next year's Olympic Games in London. Germany and Great Britain are likely to form the main clash of the giants in this event.

The Dutch, who finished fourth at the World Rowing Championships last year, have a whole bunch of new crew members. Still, rowing stalwart, Diederik Simon, 41, remains in stroke seat. Watch out too for France and Poland who often sit on the edge of the medals.

M8+: Major results since 2007

Place	WRCh 07	OG 08	WRCh 09	WRCh 10
1	CAN	CAN	GER	GER
2	GER	GBR	CAN	GBR
3	GBR	USA	NED	AUS
4	USA	NED	POL	NED
5	RUS	POL	GBR	NZL
6	POL	AUS	ITA	USA
7	CHN	CHN	AUS	CAN
8	AUS	GER	UKR	POL
9	SUI		USA	CHN
10	NED		RUS	UKR
11	FRA			RUS
12	BLR			

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