

2009 FISA Extraordinary Congress
 13 to 15 February 2009
 Cape Town, South Africa

Proposals Received from Member Federations

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To whom it may concern,

In response to your call for proposals for amendments to the Statutes and Rules of Racing to be discussed at the 2009 FISA Extraordinary Congress, Rowing Australia would like to propose the following amendments to **Rule 29 – World Championship Boat Classes**:

1. The addition of a BLW4x boat class to the U23 World Rowing program.

With the lack of lightweight categories in the Junior program, there is an enormous development step that exists in progressing to Senior racing. There are currently few international opportunities in the proposed boat class and the equivalent Senior category lacks depth as a result.

2. The FISA Rules of Racing currently state: *"If, in any of the above events, excluding the events designated below for the Olympic Games and all other 8+ events, there are less than seven starters in three consecutive World Championships, then that event shall be automatically removed from the programme of the World Championships for the following years. This does not apply to adaptive events until 2009"*.

We propose an amendment to the wording of the rule to include *"excluding Junior or U23 World Championship events where there is an equivalent Senior or Olympic boat class"*. For similar reasons as those given above, there is a need to protect the developing event and maintain the progression from junior to senior racing, therefore ensuring the depth of Olympic competition.

We understand proposals and justifications are to be submitted in both French and English and will have a French submission to you as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Dee".

Andrew Dee

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Australian Government
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From: Lambert Georges [mailto:lambert.gd@skynet.be]
Sent: 14 November 2008 10:56
To: etude@denis-oswald.com
Cc: Matt Smith; 'Patrick Rombaut'
Subject: Statuts FISA.

(Original in French)	(Translation to English)
Monsieur le Président,	Dear Mr. President
La Fédération Royale Belge d'Aviron fait la proposition suivante.	The Royal Belgian Rowing Federation makes the following proposal.
Article 33.	Article 33
Révision des Comptes.	Auditing of Accounts
Texte actuel.	Current Text.
Un professionnel désigné par le Comité exécutif revise chaque année les comptes de la FISA, qui peuvent ensuite être encore examinés par une fédération nationale, si le Congrès le souhaite.	FISA's accounts shall be audited each year by a professional auditor appointed by the Executive Committee, and subsequently may be inspected by a representative of a Member Federations if so desired by the Congress.
Proposition de la FRBA.	RBRF's Proposal
Article 33	Article 33
Révision des Comptes.	Auditing of Accounts
Un professionnel désigné par le Comité exécutif revise chaque année les comptes de la FISA.	FISA's accounts shall be audited each year by a professional auditor appointed by the Executive Committee.
Motivation :	Reasoning :
Dans la mesure où une révision professionnelle est prévue, il nous semble inutile de demander une révision par une Fédération Nationale.	As the audit is required to be performed by a professional auditor, we believe that it is not necessary to ask a national federation to also perform an audit.
Bien à vous	Sincerely,

 Georges Lambert
 Président FRBA
 Olmstraat, 136
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Proposal on the Olympic Qualification System

Dear Mr.Oswald,

The Chinese Rowing Association would like to make a proposal on the Olympic Qualification System to the FISA Extraordinary Congress. We believe the proposal will help rowing develop in a very much healthy and sustainable way around the world, especially in the situation that all sport events have to enter the Olympic Games program by voting.

It can't be denied that European countries play an important role in the development and promotion in the rowing history. Further more, rowing in Europe and North America is still taking the lead in the event development of the sport around the world. And just because of this, the main international rowing competitions such as World Cups and World Rowing Championships are mostly staged in Europe. So this must result in a phenomenon that quite a lot of non-European countries have to pay increasing cost in order to participate in the rowing events. Moreover, most of the participating countries, especially Asian, African and Latin American countries can only go home with empty hands—without medals after the regatta. To a certain extent, this has dampened the enthusiasm of universalizing and developing rowing in these underdeveloped countries.

On the other hand, the Olympic Qualification System which has been used nowadays is one of the important factors that restrict the development of the rowing among the underdeveloped continents. This is simply because current Olympic qualifications are only decided especially for the big boat by the World Rowing Championships in pre-Olympic year. As the unbalanced development in the current regions, European countries and Canada, USA, Australia, New Zealand and etc. monopolizes most qualifications. In order to have more countries in the regatta of Olympic Games and gain enough number of countries participating in rowing event, the current qualification system has given a solution that Asia, Africa and Latin America should be allocated a certain qualification places in single and lightweight double sculls. Though it did reach the basic number of countries for the Olympic Games on the surface, it still will not benefit for the universality and development of rowing in terms of long-term development. One can not imagine that rowing can be popularized and developed in a country when there is only one chance for them to win the place in the qualification which is single scull. So we propose that the current FISA Olympic qualification system should be modified and improved as follow.

1. Reduce the number of big boats in pre-Olympic year. For example, one place for the events of M4×,W4×,M4-,LW4-,M8-,W8- should be reserved in advance, for which Asian, African and Latin American rowers can compete in FISA final Olympic qualification regatta. It can give Asian, African and Latin American rowers a racing chance. And it also serves as a promise that big boat event can be developed with courage in these countries.

2. The small boats allocation method which still meets the needs of the sport development should be existed as it is.

Chinese Rowing Association

The Modified Olympics Qualification Systems

Boat Class	2007 Worlds	Continental Qualification Regattas				Total Boats	Total Athletes
		Aisa	Africa	Latin America	Final		
Men							
Single Sculls(1x)	11	6	4	6	3	30	30
Pairs(2-)	11	--	--	--	2	13	26
Double Sculls(2x)	11	--	--	--	2	13	26
Fours(4-)	10	--	--	--	2+1*	13	52
Quadruple Sculls(4x)	10	--	--	--	2+1*	13	52
Eights(8+)	6	--	--	--	1+1*	8	72
Men Lightweight							
Double Sculls(2x)	11	3	1	3	2	20	40
Fours(4-)	10	--	--	--	2+1*	13	52
Women							
Single Sculls(1x)	9	5	3	5	3	25	25
Pairs(2-)	8	--	--	--	2	10	20
Double Sculls(2x)	8	--	--	--	2	10	20
Quadruple Sculls(4x)	6	--	--	--	1+1*	8	32
Eights(8+)	4	--	--	--	2+1*	7	63
Women Lightweight							
Double Sculls(2x)	8	3	1	3	2	17	34
Host Nationplaces						2	2
Tripartite places							4
Boats	129	17	9	17	28		
Athletes	402	23	11	23	85		550

*reserved for the only top crew of Asia, Africa or Latin America

**Proposal from the Rowing Federations of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden
of an Amendment to the Rules of Racing**

FISA Rules of Racing Rule 31 / Bye-Law 1.5 states:

“ To avoid accidents arising from capsizing, all boats shall be equipped with stretchers or shoes that allow the competitors to get clear of the boat without using their hands and with the least possible delay.”

Background

At the FISA Master’s Regatta in Trakai 2008-09-04 one of our International Umpires was involved in a discussion with a rower in a 1X on the outgoing pontoon.

The umpire pointed out that his stretcher was not properly secured. The cord restraint between the shoe and the plate allowed the heel to be lifted approximately 30 cm. The shoe could be “folded double” without tensioning the cord.

The Umpire wanted him to shorten the cord, but he claimed that it was OK, as the cord was attached at both ends. He claimed that he had been rowing with this configuration at home, and he saw no problems with it. In his view he was complying with the rules.

FISA safety guidelines page 51 state:

”Heel restraints and quick-release mechanisms must be in proper and effective working order in all boats equipped with fitted shoes. These restraints should not allow the heel to lift more than 5 cm (2 inches).”

At present the FISA safety guidelines are not supported by the rules in the Bye-Laws to the Rules of Racing. In other words: A FISA-umpire cannot demand a restraint of a given length, because of the lack of support in the rule-book.

The Nordic Federations all have national rules limiting the movement of the heel. We have, however, found that 5 cm is too little. Rowers with limited movement in their ankles (e.g. Masters) need to be able to move the heel a little further. In our experience 7 cm is just right.

The Rowing Federations of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden proposes that article 1.5 in Bye-Laws to Rule 31 should read as follows:

“ To avoid accidents arising from capsizing, all boats shall be equipped with stretchers or shoes that allow the competitors to get clear of the boat without using their hands and with the least possible delay.

To make this possible the stretcher shall be equipped with heel restraints or a quick-release mechanism.

Heel restraints and quick-release mechanisms must be in proper and effective working order in all boats equipped with fitted shoes. These restraints should not allow the heel to lift more than 7 cm from the stretcher.”

Morten Espersen
President
Danish Rowing Federation

Samuli Toikka
President
Finnish Rowing Federation

Rolf Thorsen
President
Norwegian Rowing Federation

Jan Cederlund
President
Swedish Rowing Federation

FISA STATUTES	Proposed New Wording	Explanation
PART I - GENERAL PROVISIONS		
Article 4 -Autonomy of national federations		
FISA shall have no part in purely national questions. It shall allow its member federations complete autonomy internally.	(add) – FISA shall preserve the complete autonomy of its members federations and ensure that NFs don't suffer from any kind of pressures from their respective governmental authorities.	
PART II - MEMBERSHIP		
Article 12 - Admission to membership		
In order to become a member of FISA, a national rowing federation shall:		
1. Make formal application to the Executive Committee at least one month before the date of the next Congress.		
2. Submit with its application a copy of its statutes, rules of racing, written evidence that the requirements for affiliation have been complied with, and a detailed report on the activities of the clubs that it represents.	2. Submit with its application a copy of its statutes approved by its respective NOC , rules of racing, written evidence that the requirements for affiliation have been complied with, and a detailed report on the activities of the clubs that it represents.	
3. Provide details of the membership of its committee and the design and colours of its racing uniform and blades.	3. Provide details of the membership of its committee/Board. The Members of this committee/board shall be elected by the General Assembly of the NF. In case the National Federation Board members are nominated by Governmental Authorities, FISA give this NF time limited of five months to convene to General Assembly for elections of Board. If this National Federation did not correct its situation according to FISA guidelines within five months, FISA executive committee – after studying the case – submit its recommendations (temporary	

	<p>suspension or other penalties) to FISA Council that take decision after consultation with the concerned continental representative and NOC.</p> <p>4. Provide the design and colours of its racing uniform and blades.</p>	
Article 18 - Recognition of Rowing Confederations		
<p>The Council may recognise rowing confederations, which consist of a number of FISA members with a common geographical or other basis and may grant to these confederations permission to be represented at Congresses by observers.</p>	<p>(Add) – FISA should ensure a close cooperation & consultations with these Confederations in any rowing activities exercise within the confederation's geographical area.</p>	
PART III - GOVERNANCE		
PART III B. COUNCIL		
Article 39 - Election of Members of the Council		
<p>The members of the Council, with the exception of the Executive Director and the Continental Representatives, shall be elected for four years by the Congress. They are eligible for re-election. Members of the Council can no longer hold office after the 31st of December following their 65th birthday. With the exception of the Executive Director, the members of Council are not remunerated by FISA but may receive reimbursement of expenses.</p>	<p>The members of the Council, with the exception of the Executive Director and the Continental Representatives, shall be elected for four years by the Congress. They are eligible for re-election.</p> <p><u>Members of the Council can no longer hold office after the 31st of December following their 75th birthday.</u> With the exception of the Executive Director, the members of Council are not remunerated by FISA but may receive reimbursement of expenses.</p>	
Article 41 - Appointment of the Continental Representatives		
<p>The Council shall appoint a Continental Representative for each of the following continents or sub-continents: Africa, Asia, Oceania, South America and North America (including Central America and the Caribbean).</p>		

<p>They are appointed in the Olympic year for a four year term and may be reappointed. In making the appointment, the Council may consult the member federations concerned. Continental Representatives should become members or ex-officio members of the Executive Committee of the appropriate rowing Confederations in their continent for the period of their appointment.</p>		
<p>Continental Representatives shall serve as liaisons between the Council and the member federations in their respective continents. The Executive Committee may entrust Continental Representatives with specific duties. Continental Representatives shall be ex-officio members of the Development Commission.</p>	<p>Continental Representatives shall serve as liaisons between the Council and the member federations in their respective continents. The Executive Committee may entrust Continental Representatives with specific duties. Continental Representatives shall be ex-officio members of <u>the Development Cross Commission.</u></p>	
<p>Article 44 - Duties of the Council</p>		
<p><i>Bye-Law to Article 44 - Duties of the Council Members</i></p>		
<p><i>e. Duties of the Commission Chairs</i></p>		
<p>The Chairs of the Commissions of FISA:</p>		
	<p><u>6. cooperate with the Continental Representative and the Continental Confederations and share them in the commissions activities.</u></p>	<p><i>To have better exchanges and cooperation relations, in order to achieve more efficient activities.</i></p>
<p>PART III D. COMMISSIONS</p>		
<p>Article 53 - Commissions</p>		
<p>The Development and Women's Rowing Commissions are Cross Commissions whose members are drawn from amongst the Council and other Commission members. The Development Commission is chaired by the Vice President.</p>	<p><u>The Development and Women's Rowing Commissions are Cross Commissions whose include beside the elected members; members drawn from amongst the Council and other Commission members.</u> The Development Commission is chaired by the Vice President.</p>	
<p>The Women's Rowing Commission is chaired by an elected Chair who is a member of Council and is not necessarily a member of</p>	<p>The Women's Rowing Commission is chaired by an elected Chair who is <u>shall be</u></p>	<p>Clarification of wording. The current wording might be interpreted as if the</p>

another Commission.	a member of Council and is not necessarily a member of another Commission.	Chair can only be elected from members of Council.
These Commissions shall consist, in principle, of a minimum of two and a maximum of six members appointed by the Council for a period of four years which may be renewed, in addition to the Chair who shall be a member of the Council. The Council shall determine from time to time the size of each Commission within these limits.	These Commissions shall consist, in principle, <u>of a minimum of four and a maximum of six members</u> appointed by the Council for a period of four years which may be renewed, in addition to the Chair who shall be a member of the Council. The Council shall determine from time to time the size of each Commission within these limits. <u>FISA Council can appoint honorary members in the specialist commissions in addition to the commissions members after consultation with the chairs of the concerned commissions</u>	
Bye-Law to Article 53 - Appointments to Commissions		
<i>For all commissions, except Cross Commissions, FISA will call for nominations for Commission membership in the year of election of the Commission Chair. Candidates shall be nominated in writing by their member Federations no later than the end of the Congress of that year. Appointments of Commission members are made by the Council on the recommendation of the newly elected Commission Chairs. Member federations nominating candidates are expected to commit themselves to provide financial support for the travel and work of the Commission members, if they are appointed.</i>	<i>For all commissions, except Cross Commissions, FISA will call for nominations for Commission membership in the year of election of the Commission Chair. Candidates shall be nominated in writing by their member Federations no later than the end of the Congress of that year. Appointments of Commission members are made by the Council on the recommendation of the newly elected Commission Chairs. Member federations nominating candidates are expected to commit themselves to provide financial support for the travel and work of the Commission members, if they are appointed.</i>	
CHAPTER IV - INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATIONS		
Article 55 -Commitment		
Any party which deals with FISA, is a member of FISA or shares in its activities including a party which:		
a) participates in an event under the authority of FISA;		

b) acts as an official (trainer, coach, team manager, delegate, representative etc) of a team, a club or a member federation;	b) acts as an official (trainer, coach, team manager, delegate, representative etc) of a team, a club, a member federation, or recognized confederation ;	
c) officiates as an international umpire or in a similar role;		

FISA Rules of Racing and related Bye-Laws

Egyptian Rowing Federation

Rule 87 - Penalties

The Jury shall impose appropriate penalties in any case of breach of the rules. The penalties available to the Jury are:

1. reprimand,
2. Yellow Card (it will apply to the next round in which the crew competes),
3. relegation (in minimum boat weight violations),
4. exclusion (from all the rounds of the event in question),
5. disqualification (from all events in the regatta).

~~The Umpire may also order a race to be re-rowed with all the crews or with a limited number of the crews should this be necessary, in his opinion, to ensure the fairness of the competition. **(REMOVE)**~~



To:
Matt Smith,
Executive Director, FISA

From:
Di Ellis
Chairman, Amateur Rowing Association

5th December, 2008

Re: Proposal for the FISA EGM, February 2009

FISA Statutes, Article 39, Article 53 and rules of Racing, Section 10, Rule 79

In line with the changing equity rules within FISA Member Federations, the Amateur Rowing Association (British Federation) proposes that the age limitation within the FISA Structures, Article 39 and Article 53 and the Rules of Racing, Rule 79 are changed from,

'following their 65th birthday'

to

'following their 70th birthday'

Extraordinary FISA Congress 2009
Submissions from the German Rowing Federation, DRV

Dear colleagues,

The German Rowing Association hereby submits the following proposals to the Extraordinary FISA Congress 2009.

1. IOC

The Extraordinary Congress is requested to ask FISA Council to agree with the IOC a system of checking and approving racing boats ahead of the Olympic Games.

Reason for the proposal:

At the Beijing Olympic Games, the IOC raised objections to two German Rowing Association boats that had been used throughout the season at FISA events. Major technical efforts were required before these boats were allowed to race in Beijing. This caused significant concern to the athletes affected.

We therefore propose that an IOC representative inspects the racing boats at World Cup events in the year of the Olympics, documents their status, and approves them for racing at the Olympic Regatta.

2. Statutes

Continental Representatives

Article 41, 1st sentence

insert "Europe" after Asia:

"The council shall appoint a Continental Representative for each of the following continents or sub-continent: Africa, Asia, **Europe**, Oceania, South America and North America..."

Reason for the proposal:

Just as in other continents, European Rowing Associations also have specific problems and expectations. These need to be laid out to Council by a specific Continental Representative. FISA headquarters' location in Europe aids recognition of certain developments across the continent. However, FISA focuses on rowing's expansion and development worldwide. European associations are organised in many different ways. As a result, specific problems are not always fully apparent.

We assume that the Continental Representative should in principle come from an association not already represented on a FISA Commission or similar body.

3. Rules of Racing

Rule 5

New: 3rd paragraph

"A candidate is generally considered suitable if an international regatta has been conducted there under FISA supervision before the candidate's selection for final approval. This

international regatta shall already have used the facilities and technical installations proposed in the candidate's bid."

Reason for the proposal:

Numerous World Championship host candidates promise to invest in the course and facilities if their bid is successful. Not all bids are submitted by experienced Organising Committees. If it becomes clear after allocation of the championships that the proposed infrastructure improvements are not fully possible, FISA has only limited scope for corrective action. We therefore propose that candidates should have proved before bid submission that the intended infrastructure for the event in question is fundamentally fit for purpose, and that an experienced regatta Organising Committee is available.

4. Advertising Rules

The Extraordinary Congress requests Council to revise Appendix 2 and liberalise the advertising rules.

The idea is in principle to avoid any restriction on the size and numbers of sponsor identifications on clothing, boats and equipment. Future rules should only govern manufacturer identification, the FISA / OC sponsor and other sponsors (e.g. boat name, member federation or club name, national flag, advertising). There will be limitations on manufacturer identification, FISA / OC sponsor and country flag.

FISA and the Organising Committees of international regattas have exclusive use of spaces on boats and boat numbers for their sponsors.

If FISA does not have a sponsor three months before an event, these spaces become available for marketing by the event's OC. At FISA events, FISA also has a reserved area on athletes' shirts.

Details are enclosed in the following section marked "proposed version".

Reason for the proposal:

The current FISA advertising rules are restrictive and a barrier to attracting sponsors for our sport. Despite government support, national associations need to find additional sources of income. This is only possible with suitable promotional opportunities in exchange for sponsoring.

The German Rowing Association removed all advertising restrictions in 2003, except on alcohol and tobacco. Our athletes have, however, not turned into walking billboards, and rowing's good image is not at risk. One advantage of the liberalisation has been that umpires can now fully concentrate on fairness during racing, and no longer need to invest efforts in policing the observation of restrictive advertising rules.

Current version as of February 2007	Proposed version
<p>Appendix 2 – Bye-Laws to Rule 41 – FISA Advertising Rules 1.0 General Principles At a FISA event, a boat or crew with any rower with alerted, partially or completely covered or removed FISA advertising</p>	<p>Appendix 2 – Bye-Laws to Rule 41 – FISA Advertising Rules 1.0 General Principles At a FISA event, a boat or rower(s) which does not comply with the Advertising Rule 41 or its Bye-Laws will not be allowed to race</p>

<p>identifications on clothing and/or equipment will not be allowed to race and shall be excluded by the Starter or Umpire.</p> <p>Where a boat or rower(s) is found to have raced with alerted, partially or completely covered or removed FISA advertising identifications on their clothing and/or equipment worn or used during that race, the crew shall be relegated to last place in the race concerned. If the crew races again in a later round of the same event with clothing and/or equipment that is again in breach of this rule, the crew shall be excluded from the event concerned.</p> <p>Where rower(s) participating in a victory ceremony have alerted, partially or completely covered or removed FISA advertising identifications on clothing without the specific approval of the Executive Committee or are not in accordance with the FISA Advertising Rule 41, if a first violation, shall be relegated to the last place in the particular race or, if a repeat violation, excluded from the event concerned. Medals already awarded shall be withdrawn and awarded to the next placed crew in that event.</p> <p>1.1 Application of these Rules These bye-laws apply to all international regattas governed by FISA. In addition, certain sections below describe advertising rules for World Rowing Championships and the regattas comprising FISA's Rowing World Cup and other international rowing events as FISA may decide ("FISA events"). They apply to all competitors, boats and oars when they are on the water during the hours of racing of the regatta, and at any time on or near the victory pontoon or stage. They apply as well to all regatta officials and umpires. They do not concern the Olympic Games where the Olympic Charter applies.</p> <p>1.2 Exclusive rights of FISA The following rights are the exclusive property of FISA at all FISA Championship Regattas and shall be commercialised in cooperation with each Organising Committee: 1. Television rights, including all means now known or hereafter devised, whether live or recorded, pay or free television including terrestrial, satellite or cable transmission; 2. Commercial rights, including all</p>	<p>and shall be excluded by the Starter or Umpire.</p> <p>Where a boat or rower(s) is found to have raced but was not compliant to the Advertising Rule 41 or its Bye-Laws, the crew shall be relegated to the last place in the race concerned. If the crew races again in a later round of the same event not compliant to the Advertising Rule 41 or its Bye-Laws, the crew shall be excluded from the event concerned.</p> <p>Where rower(s) participating in a victory ceremony do not comply with the Advertising Rule 41 or its Bye-Laws without specific approval of the Executive Committee, for a first violation the crew shall be relegated to the last place in the particular race or, if a repeat violation, the crew shall be excluded from the event concerned. Medals already awarded shall be withdrawn and awarded to the next placed crew in that event.</p> <p>1.1 Application of these Rules These bye-laws apply to all international regattas governed by FISA. In addition, certain sections below describe advertising rules for World Rowing Championships and the regattas comprising FISA's Rowing World Cup and other international rowing events as FISA may decide ("FISA events"). They apply to all competitors, boats and oars when they are on the water during the hours of racing of the regatta, and at any time on or near the victory pontoon or stage. They apply as well to all regatta officials and umpires. They do not concern the Olympic Games where the Olympic Charter applies.</p> <p>1.2 Exclusive rights of FISA The following rights are the exclusive property of FISA at all FISA Championship Regattas and shall be commercialised in cooperation with each Organising Committee: 1. Television rights, including all means now known or hereafter devised, whether live or recorded, pay or free television including terrestrial, satellite or cable transmission; 2. Commercial rights, including all</p>
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<p>commercial and sponsorship rights arising in relation to or in any way connected including signage rights, general sponsorship rights, official supplier rights, event programme rights, advertising rights on all promotional materials and publications and hospitality rights.</p> <p>1.3 Prohibited Advertising Any form of advertising (including body advertising) which is not specifically permitted by this bye-law is prohibited. In addition, all advertising must comply with the laws and the rules of the country where the regatta is being staged. Even if otherwise permitted by such laws and rules, there shall be no advertising which is inappropriate or harmful for the image of rowing such as tobacco and strong liquor (more than 15%) or in contradiction with FISA rules, especially with Article 3 of the Statutes. In case of doubt, the Executive Committee shall decide. In events, regattas and championships solely for juniors advertising relating to alcohol is totally prohibited. Where an advertiser or sponsor deals mainly in products which are prohibited by this clause, but also produces some other (not prohibited) products or service, it may have identifications, provided that the identification is clearly associated with the product or service that is not prohibited and cannot be seen as advertising the prohibited product (for example, Marlboro Wear or Memphis Timing would not be prohibited).</p> <p>1.4 "Identification" and how to measure it There are six types of Identifications referred to in these rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturer, • Member federation or Club name, • Boat name, • Member federation or Club sponsor, • FISA Sponsor • National Flag. <p>Advertising, for example, the manufacturer and/or the sponsor may consist of the name, the mark or logo and/or the product, thus one, two or three of these elements may be</p>	<p>commercial and sponsorship rights arising in relation to or in any way connected including signage rights, general sponsorship rights, official supplier rights, event programme rights, advertising rights on all promotional materials and publications and hospitality rights.</p> <p>If FISA does not make use of its rights described above in number 1 and 2 it has to inform the organizing committee at the latest 6 month in advance before the FISA Championship takes place. The organizing committee then can make use of the rights FISA did not use by itself.</p> <p>1.3 Prohibited Advertising Any form of advertising (including body advertising) which is not specially permitted by this bye-law is prohibited. In addition, all advertising must comply with the laws and the rules of the country where the regatta is being staged. Even if otherwise permitted by such laws and rules, there shall be no advertising which is inappropriate or harmful for the image of rowing such as tobacco or alcohol or being in contradiction with FISA rules, especially with Article 3 of the Statutes. In case of doubt, the Executive Committee shall decide. Where an advertiser or sponsor deals mainly in products which are prohibited by this clause, but also produces some other (not prohibited) products or service, it may have identifications, provided that the identification is clearly associated with the product or service that is not prohibited and cannot be seen as advertising the prohibited product (for example, Marlboro Wear or Memphis Timing would not be prohibited).</p> <p>1.4 "Identification" and how to measure it There are three types of Identifications referred to in these rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturer, • FISA sponsor, and • Other sponsors (f. e. : Boat name, Member federation or Club name, national flag, advertising) <p>The area of the Identification is calculated by</p>
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<p>displayed (but each one only once). All the elements must be placed together, not separately, and must be directly connected, for example by pertaining to the same manufacturer or sponsor. This advertising or identification will hereafter be referred to as an "Identification" in these rules.</p> <p>The following are examples of what is permitted: OMEGA or OMEGA O or OMEGA O WATCHES</p> <p>The following are examples of what is not permitted: IBM O or IBM O CHOCOLATE</p> <p>The area of the Identification is calculated by drawing vertical and horizontal lines at right angles to each other extended from the most extreme points of the name or symbol, or the background colour if this covers a larger area. The area is therefore measured as a square or rectangle, for example LEICA EMPACHER</p> <p>1.5 A Manufacturer as Sponsor If a manufacturer is also a sponsor, it may use the space reserved for a sponsor, but is not allowed to create a single larger area by combining the two specified areas, and gives up the right to be identified as the manufacturer. If the area reserved for the manufacturer is not used by the manufacturer, it cannot be used for another purpose.</p> <p>1.6 Identifications within the Crew The Identifications do not necessarily have to be the same on the boat, the different items of clothing and the oars/skulls, but within each type it must be identical; for example, all the oars/skull of a crew must carry the same Identification in the same format; and each individual item of clothing must be identified in the same way for all members of the crews.</p> <p>2.0 Racing Clothing 2.1 Uniform Clothing The clothing of all the members of a crew must be identical and uniform, and any Identifications must be worn on the same part of the clothing by each crew member when they are on the water during the hours of racing of the regatta, and at any time on or</p>	<p>drawing vertical and horizontal lines at right angles to each other extended from the most extreme points of the name or symbol, or the background colour if this covers a larger area. The area is therefore measured as a square or rectangle, for example</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEICA EMPACHER</p> <p>1.5 A Manufacturer as Sponsor If a manufacturer is also a sponsor, it may use the space reserved for a sponsor besides the space for the manufactures identifications. It is not allowed to create a single larger area by combining the two specified areas.</p> <p>1.6 Identifications within the Crew The Identifications do not necessarily have to be the same on the boat, the different items of clothing and the oars/skulls, but within each type it must be identical; for example, all the oars/skull of a crew must carry the same Identification in the same format; and each individual item of clothing must be identified in the same way for all members of the crews.</p> <p>2.0 Racing Clothing 2.1 Uniform Clothing The clothing of all the members of a crew must be identical and uniform, and any Identifications must be worn on the same part of the clothing by each crew member when they are on the water during the hours of racing of the regatta, and at any time on or</p>
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<p>near the victory pontoon or stage.</p> <p>2.2 Racing shirt or equivalent For FISA Events, the racing shirt shall be the “singlet” or “sleeveless-shirt” style.</p> <p>2.3 Identification on the Racing Shirt or equivalent</p> <p>2.3.1 International Regattas</p> <p>a. The Identification of the member federation or Club may appear once and may be no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p>b. The Identification of the Manufacturer may appear once and may be no more than 16 sq cm in area.</p> <p>[Identification of Shirts]</p> <p>c. The Identification of a sponsor of the member federation or Club may appear once and may be no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p>2.3.2 FISA Events The rules in 2.3.1 above also apply at FISA Events. In addition, FISA may require competitors to wear special clothing with the Identification of FISA’s sponsor. This may take the form of a “bib” or a specially made T-Shirt, to be provided by FISA, which shall be worn under the member federation racing shirt. This Identification of the FISA sponsor may appear once on each sleeve and each Identification may be no more than 100 sq cm in area. Coxswains may also be required to wear additional clothing with Identification of the FISA sponsor.</p> <p>2.4 Identification on Hats or Head Bands The Identification of a sponsor of the member federation or Club may appear once and may be no more than 50 sq cm in area. Only one identification may appear on a Hat or Head Band.</p> <p>2.5 Identification on the Shorts or the equivalent The Identification of a sponsor of the member federation or Club may not exceed 50 sq cm in area and may appear either once (at 50 sq cm) or twice (once on each side of the shorts, each side to be identical) at 50 sq cm each.</p> <p>2.6 Identification on Socks The Identification of the manufacturer may appear once on each sock and may be no more than 6 sq cm.</p>	<p>near the victory pontoon or stage.</p> <p>2.2 Racing shirt or equivalent The racing shirt shall be the “singlet” or “sleeveless-shirt” style.</p> <p>2.3 Identification on the Racing Shirt or equivalent</p> <p>2.3.1 International Regattas No restrictions</p> <p>2.3.2 FISA Events FISA may require competitors to wear special clothing with the Identification of FISA’s sponsor. This may take the form of a specially made T-Shirt, to be provided by FISA, which shall be worn under the member federation racing shirt. This Identification of the FISA sponsor may appear once on each sleeve and each Identification may be no more than 100 sq. cm in area. Coxswains may also be required to wear additional clothing with Identification of the FISA sponsor.</p> <p><i>2.4 Identification on Hats or Head Bands Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p><i>2.5 Identification on the Shorts or the equivalent Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p><i>2.6 Identification on Socks Provision will be scratched</i></p>
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<p>2.7 Identification on Eyewear The Identification of the manufacturer may appear once on one of the eyeglass arms and may be no more than 6 sq cm. Alternatively, Identification may appear twice; once on each of the two arms, where each arm is to be identical and each Identification may not exceed 3 sq cm in area.</p> <p>2.8 No Identifications on any other clothing or accessories No Identifications may appear on any other clothing or accessories worn or carried by the competitors.</p> <p>3.0 Identification on Boats On the boats, there are the following possibilities of identification: Manufacturer, Boat name, Sponsors of the member federation or Club, FISA Sponsor, National Flag.</p> <p>3.1 Identification of the Manufacturer a. On the outside of the boat, the Identification of the Manufacturer may appear once on each side of the shell in the section of the boat occupied by the rower(s) and each may be no more than 100 sq cm in area. b. In the first 50 cm from the bow of the boat the logo of the manufacturer may appear once on each side of the boat and may be no more than 80 sq cm in area. The logo shall not include text.</p> <p>3.1.1 Identification on Riggers On each rigger the manufacturer's Identification may appear only once and may be no more than 16 sq cm in area. The Identification may only appear on the edge of the rigger facing the bow of the boat.</p> <p>3.1.2 Identification on Swivels (Oarlocks) On each swivel the manufacturer's Identification may appear only once and may be no more than 40 mm in height and 5 mm in width. The Identification may only appear on the side of the swivel facing the bow of the boat.</p> <p>3.1.3 Identification on Seats On each seat the manufacturer's Identification may appear only once and may be no more than 6 sq cm in area.</p>	<p><i>2.7 Identification on Eyewear Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p><i>2.8 No Identification on any other clothing or accessories Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p>3.0 Identification on Boats On the boats, there are the following possibilities of identification: Manufacturer, FISA sponsor and Other sponsors.</p> <p>3.1 Identification of the Manufacturer a. On the outside of the boat, the Identification of the Manufacturer may appear once on each side of the shell in the section of the boat occupied by the rower(s) and each may be no more than 100 sq cm in area. b. In the first 50 cm from the bow of the boat the logo of the manufacturer may appear once on each side of the boat and may be no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p><i>3.1.1 Identification on Riggers Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p><i>3.1.2 Identification on Swivels (Oarlocks) Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p><i>3.1.3 Identification on Seats Provision will be scratched</i></p>
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<p>3.1.4 Identification on Shoes On each shoe the manufacturer's Identification may appear only once and may be no more than 6 sq cm in area. No other Identification of the Manufacturer is allowed.</p> <p>3.2 Other Identifications on the Boat Except as provided for in 3.2.2 below (FISA Events), the name of the boat or the Identification of the sponsors of the member federation or club are the only other optional Identifications allowed on the boat. These two types are interchangeable and are hereinafter referred to as "Sponsor Identifications".</p> <p>3.2.1. International Regattas</p> <p>a. Single Scull At FISA Events, FISA may place Identifications of a FISA sponsor no more than 800 sq cm in area, and the abbreviation of the crew's country in the first 80 cm of the washboard once on each side. The first 80 cm is reserved for the Identification of a FISA sponsor and the country abbreviation. The space for the Identification of the FISA sponsor shall not exceed 42 cm in length and the space for the country abbreviation shall not exceed 18 cm in length.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There may be no more than two sponsors presented on any boat. - Sponsor Identifications may only appear within an "Advertising Space". Each Advertising Space on a boat may be no more than 800 sq cm in size and may contain one or two different Sponsor Identification(s). - On each side of a single scull, only one Advertising Space is allowed (The first 80 cm of the washboard is reserved for FISA). The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both sides of the boat. - On each deck area of a single scull, bow and stern, only one Advertising Space is allowed. The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both deck areas, if both decks are used. - No additional Identifications are allowed. <p>b. Double Sculls, Pairs and Coxed Pairs At FISA Events, FISA may place Identifications of a FISA sponsor no more than 800 sq cm in area, and the abbreviation of the crew's country in the first 80 cm of the washboard once on each side. The space</p>	<p><i>3.1.4 Identification on Shoes Provision will be scratched</i></p> <p>3.2 Other Identifications on the Boat</p> <p>3.2.1 International Regattas</p> <p>The Organising Committee may place Identifications of its sponsor no more that 800 sq cm in area in the first 80 cm of the washboard once on each side.</p> <p>The OC advertising space must clearly be identifiable. No other sponsors or manufacturer's identification may appear within a 5 cm distance around the OC advertising space and the abbreviation of the crew's country.</p> <p>Besides theses restrictions there is no limit to sponsors identifications neither by size, number nor position inside or outside the shell.</p>
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reserved for the Identification of a FISA sponsor shall not exceed 42 cm in length and the space for the country abbreviation shall not exceed 18 cm in length.

- There may be no more than two sponsors presented on any boat.
- Sponsor Identifications may only appear within an "Advertising Space". Each Advertising Space on a boat may be no more than 800 sq cm in size and may contain one or two different Sponsor Identification(s).
- On each side of a 2x, 2- or 2+, only one Advertising Space is allowed (The first 80 cm of the washboard is reserved for FISA). The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both sides of the boat.
- On each deck area of a 2x, 2-, 2+, bow and stern, only one Advertising Space is allowed. The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both deck areas, if both decks are used.
- No additional Identifications are allowed.

c. Quadruple Sculls, Fours and Coxed Fours

At FISA Events, FISA may place Identifications of a FISA sponsor no more than 800 sq cm in area, and the abbreviation of the crew's country in the first 100 cm of the washboard once on each side. The space reserved for the Identification of a FISA sponsor shall not exceed 60 cm in length and the space for the country abbreviation shall not exceed 20 cm in length.

- There may be no more than two sponsors presented on any boat.
- Sponsor Identifications may only appear within an "Advertising Space". Each Advertising Space on a boat may be no more than 800 sq cm in size and may contain one or two different Sponsor Identification(s).
- On each side of a 4x, 4- or 4+, only two Advertising Spaces are allowed (The first 100 cm of the washboard is reserved for FISA). The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both sides of the boat.
- On each deck area of a 4x, 4-, 4+, bow and stern, only one Advertising Space is allowed. The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both deck areas, if both decks are used.
- No additional Identifications are allowed.

d. Eights

<p>At FISA Events, FISA may place Identifications of a FISA sponsor no more than 800 sq cm in area, and the abbreviation of the crew's country in the first 100 cm of the washboard once on each side. The space reserved for the Identification of a FISA sponsor shall not exceed 60 cm in length and the space for the country abbreviation shall not exceed 20 cm in length.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There may be no more than two sponsors presented on any boat. - Sponsor Identifications may only appear within an "Advertising Space". Each Advertising Space on a boat may be no more than 800 sq cm in size and may contain one or two different Sponsor Identification(s). - On each side of an 8+, only four Advertising Spaces are allowed (The first 100 cm of the washboard is reserved for FISA). The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both sides of the boat. - On each deck area of an 8+, bow and stern, only one Advertising Space is allowed. The Sponsor Identifications must be identical on both deck areas, if both decks are used. - No additional Identifications are allowed. <p>3.2.2 FISA Events The rules in 3.2.1 above also apply at FISA Events. In addition to those provided for in 3.1 and 3.2.1 above, FISA may place Identification of a FISA sponsor no more than 800 sq cm in area, and the abbreviation of the crew's country in the first 100 cm of the washboard once on each side. The space reserved for the Identification of a FISA sponsor shall not exceed 60 cm in length and the space for the country abbreviation shall not exceed 20 cm in length.</p> <p>For single sculls, double sculls, pairs and coxed pairs, the first 80 cm is reserved for Identification of a FISA sponsor and the country abbreviation. The space for the Identification of the FISA sponsor shall not exceed 42 cm in length and the space for the country abbreviation shall not exceed 18 cm in length.</p>	<p>3.2.2 FISA- Events FISA may place Identifications of a FISA sponsor no more that 800 sq cm in area in the first 80 cm of the washboard once on each side.</p> <p>Each crew has to place its country abbreviation on the consecutive 20 cm of the washboard following the FISA sponsor once on each side.</p> <p>The FISA advertising space must clearly be identifiable. No other sponsors or manufacturer's identification may appear within a 5 cm distance around the FISA advertising space and the abbreviation of the crew's country.</p> <p>FISA may indicate the organizing committee of an FISA event at least 3 month in advance if FISA intends not to use its advertising space. The advertising space then can be used by the organizing committee.</p> <p>Besides theses restrictions there is no limit to sponsors identifications neither by size,</p>
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<p>3.3 Country Flag on the Boat Additionally, the flag of the country of the crew may appear once on each side of the “cockpit” area of the boat. It shall not exceed 20 cm in length and may be no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p>3.4 Identification on Bow Numbers 3.4.1 International Regattas The Identification of a regatta sponsor may appear once on the bottom of the bow number and the lettering may be no more than 5 cm in height .</p> <p>3.4.2 FISA Events In the place of the Identification in 3.4.1 above, the Identification of a FISA sponsor may appear once on the bottom of the bow number and the lettering may be no more than 5 cm in height .</p> <p>4.0 Racing Sculls and Oars 4.1 Application - These Bye-Laws apply to each oar, whether it be a sweep-oar or a sculling oar.</p> <p>4.2 Blade Colours - Only the member federation colours as registered with FISA or the Club colours as registered with the member federations may appear on the blades.</p> <p>4.3 The Outboard Section - No Identifications are allowed on the outboard section of the loom or shaft (that is, outboard from the collar).</p> <p>4.4 Identification on the Inboard Section - On the inboard section of the loom or shaft (when measured from the attachment of the handle with the shaft to the collar) the following identifications are permitted:</p> <p>4.4.1 Identification on Sculls</p>	<p>number nor position inside or outside the shell.</p> <p><i>3.3 Country Flag on the boat</i> Additionally, the flag of the country of the crew may appear once on each side of the “cockpit” area of the boat. It shall not exceed 20 cm in length and may be no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p>3.4 Identification on Bow Numbers 3.4.1 International Regattas The Identification of a regatta sponsor may appear once on the bottom of the bow number and the lettering may be no more than 5 cm in height .</p> <p>3.4.2 FISA Events In the place of the Identification in 3.4.1 above, the Identification of a FISA sponsor may appear once on the bottom of the bow number and the lettering may be no more than 5 cm in height .</p> <p>If FISA intends not to use its advertising space, FISA has to inform the organizing committee at the latest three month in advance. The organizing committee can use the FISA advertising space as its own.</p> <p>4.0 Racing Sculls and Oars 4.1 Application – These Bye-Laws apply to each oar, whether it be sweep-oar or a sculling oar. Only identical oars may be used by a crew by means of sponsors identifications.</p> <p>4.2 Blade Colours – Only the member federation colours as registered with FISA or the Club colours as registered with the member federations may appear on the blades.</p> <p>4.3 The Outboard Section - No Identifications are allowed on the outboard section of the loom or shaft (that is, outboard from the collar).</p> <p>4.4 Identification on the Inboard Section – On the inboard section of the loom or shaft (when measured from the attachment of the handle with the shaft to the collar) there is no limit of identifications neither in number, size nor position.</p>
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<p>a. From 0 cm (the attachment of the handle to the shaft) to 47 cm. - The Identification of the sponsor of the member federation or Club may appear once and may be no more than 4 cm in height and no more than 72 sq cm in area.</p> <p>b. From 47 cm to the collar – The Identification of the manufacturer may appear once and may be no more than 4 cm in height and no more than 72 sq cm in area.</p> <p>4.4.2 Identification on Sweep Rowing Oars</p> <p>a. From 0 cm (the attachment of the handle to the shaft) to 50 cm: The Identification of the sponsor of the member federation or Club may appear once and may be no more than 5 cm in height and no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p>b. From 50 cm to the collar: The Identification of the Manufacturer may appear once and may be no more than 5 cm in height and no more than 100 sq cm in area.</p> <p>4.5 No additional Identifications - The only other markings allowed on oars or sculls are discrete marks to identify the owner, the particular boat and/or the position in which it is used. No additional identifications of any kind, particular, no national flag or club emblem, may appear on the oar or scull.</p> <p>5.0 Identification on Regatta Officials' Clothing</p> <p>a. International Regattas - Regatta officials and umpires may wear clothing with regatta sponsor Identifications (two maximum), each up to 50 sq cm, (including the name of the manufacturer) on each item (eg. headgear, sweaters, tracksuits, shirts, shorts/trousers, raingear, etc.) The positions of these identifications may vary according to the function of the regatta official.</p> <p>b. FISA Events - In the place of the Identifications in 5.0a above, FISA may require regatta officials and umpires to wear clothing with FISA sponsor Identifications (two maximum), each up to 50 sq cm, (including the name of the manufacturer) on each item (eg. headgear, sweaters, tracksuits, shirts, shorts/trousers, raingear, etc.) The positions of these identifications may vary according to the function of the regatta official.</p>	<p>5.0 Identification on Regatta Officials' Clothing</p> <p>a. International Regattas - Regatta officials and umpires may wear clothing with regatta sponsor Identifications.</p> <p>b. FISA Events - In the place of the Identifications in 5.0a above, FISA may require regatta officials and umpires to wear clothing with FISA sponsor Identifications.</p>
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Schweizerischer Ruderverband
Fédération Suisse des Sociétés d'Aviron
Federazione Svizzera delle Società di Canottaggio

FISA – Fédération International des Sociétés d'Aviron
Maison du Sport International
Avenue de Rhodanie 54
1007 Lausanne

Sarnen, 13 November 2008

Proposals for the FISA extraordinary congress 2009

Dear Mr President

Please find attached 3 proposals of the Swiss Rowing Federation to be considered by the FISA Extraordinary Congress 2009.

All the proposals are written in English and French and reach you by e-Mail and as a hardcopy by mail at the time.

Delegate names were already announced to the FISA office using the FISA attendance form.

Kind regards,

SWISS ROWING FEDERATION


Hans-Rudolf Schurter
President


Christian Stofer
Director

attached: 3 proposals



Schweizerischer Ruderverband
Fédération Suisse des Sociétés d'Aviron
Federazione Svizzera delle Società di Canottaggio

Proposal for an addition of Rule 61 “Draw” of the FISA Rules of Racing

Dear Mr President, Council Members
Delegates

The Swiss Rowing Federation (SRF) would like to propose an adaptation of Rule 61 of the FISA Rules of Racing.

Rule 61 – The Draw (current version)

At World Rowing Championships, Olympic and Rowing World Cup regattas, the draw for the first round of heats shall take place at the Team Manager’s meeting on the day before the first heat takes place, or earlier if appropriate. [...]

Rule 61 – The Draw (with completion proposed by SRF)

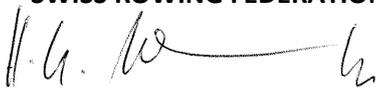
At World Rowing Championships, Olympic and Rowing World Cup regattas, the draw for the first round of heats shall take place at the Team Manager’s meeting on the day before the first heat takes place, or earlier if appropriate.

The Draw of the options (appendix 3) is executed by a member of the Jury before the end of the first heat of the preceding round in the respective event. The result of the draw of the options will not be published before the end of the preceding round.

Aim: The current version of Rule 61 is not exactly clear about the definition of the draw of options. We therefore propose a completion of the Rule 61 to have a transparent procedure installed and to give the Jury – and only the Jury - the respective responsibility. Fairness for all competitors is guaranteed and the new rule shall be applied for all international regattas and Championships.

Yours sincerely

SWISS ROWING FEDERATION


Hans-Rudolf Schurter
President


Christian Stofer
Director



Schweizerischer Ruderverband
Fédération Suisse des Sociétés d'Aviron
Federazione Svizzera delle Società di Canottaggio

Proposal for a new format of the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta

Dear Mr President, Council members
Delegates

The Final Olympic Qualification regatta in 2008 took place in Poznan prior to the last stage of the Rowing World Cup series, also held in Poznan, Poland. The Final Olympic Qualification regatta saw a record entry compared to four or eight years ago. At the same time, the entries for the final stage of the Rowing World Cup were generally disappointing. There were Olympic categories with no races at all (e.g. W4x) or with very little entries (e.g. M8+). This is not a good evolution and it is absolutely necessary to act in favour of the sport of Rowing. The regatta organisers of the World Cup series do make big efforts to stage good events. But they also need a certain guarantee that the best crews in the world do participate at these major events of our sport. It is absolutely not good for our sport if races have to be televised with less than six boats at the start for example.

Proposal

The Swiss Rowing Federation (SRF) would like to propose that the Final Olympic Qualification regatta what is considered as the last chance to qualify for the Olympic Games will be analyzed in detail by the Executive Committee of FISA in close collaboration with the Rowing World Cup Committee and the FISA commissions. A new format for the Final Olympic Qualification regatta has to be found. It has to make sure that existing regattas (e.g. FISA Rowing World Cup regattas) will be supported and that costs for the federations are kept under control.

It is a non-negotiable requirement that such an important regatta needs to be held on a venue with the best possible conditions for every participant.

We would like the Delegates to consider our proposal and to accept it for the best possible development of our sport.

Yours sincerely

SWISS ROWING FEDERATION


Hans-Rudolf Schurter
President


Christian Stofer
Director



Schweizerischer Ruderverband
Fédération Suisse des Sociétés d'Aviron
Federazione Svizzera delle Società di Canottaggio

Proposal for an addition of Rule 30 “Olympic Games Boat Classes”

Dear Mr President, Council members
Delegates

The Olympic Games Boat Classes are defined in Rule 30. We do support the actual programme at an Olympic regatta. Great efforts have been made in the past to increase universality of our sport and to establish the Olympic regatta as the pinnacle for every athlete, coach and federation. Nevertheless, it is time to reflect. What is the main goal of the Olympic regatta and who should participate in it? Do we want to have all the best crews at the start of an Olympic regatta or do we want to have a universality approach? Do we operate the best possible system at the moment to give crews a fair chance to reach the Olympic regatta and to have as many FISA member countries participating in the regatta? Are the available quota places allocated in the best possible way?

We do think that the current system needs to undergo a serious review. Rowing has to be even more universal, but what is the cost of that process? Is it correct that athletes from traditional rowing countries, mainly from Europe, can not qualify anymore while at the same time, several boats from developing countries are allowed to compete in the Olympic Games? How can this reasonably be explained to the athletes?

In many small and middle European rowing nations, financial subsidies from the governments or the National Olympic Committees to the National federations are only guaranteed if they are present with their boats and achieve reasonable results at the Olympic regatta.

Assuming the number of places reserved for rowing not being increased, assuming universality is a common goal of the rowing community and assuming that the best athletes should be able to participate in the Olympic Games the problem breaks down into two questions. It is the question if the line has to be drawn at the bottom or at the top.

- 1) Is the actual number of quota spots awarded in Continental qualification regattas for the respective events correct? And is it correct to stage Continental qualification regattas at all?
- 2) Is it correct that big and successful rowing countries can qualify in all boat classes?

Universality does not only mean to help develop rowing in developing countries. It does also mean to maintain the qualification chances for all well established FISA member countries, also in Europe. The allocation of Olympic qualification spots needs to undergo a serious review. We therefore would like to start the discussion by putting forward the following proposal:

Proposal

The Swiss Rowing Federation (SRF) would like to propose that Rule 30 “Olympic Games Boat Classes” will be revised as follow:

Rule 30 – Olympic Games Boat Classes (revised)

The programme at an Olympic regatta includes the following events :

[...]

No member federation shall be allowed to compete in more than 10 events at an Olympic regatta.

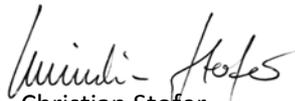
The Bye-laws will be elaborated by the FISA Executive Committee.

We would like the Delegates to consider our proposal and to start a discussion about the Olympic qualification system.

Yours sincerely

SWISS ROWING FEDERATION


Hans-Rudolf Schurter
President


Christian Stofer
Director