

Summary of proposed major changes to the FISA Rules of Racing and related Bye-Laws – 14/08/20

RULES AND RELATED BYE-LAWS			
Old Rule Number	New Rule Number	Change	Rationale
1	1	Removing definition of a rowing boat	This Rule defines what rowing is and the scope of FISA. Therefore, the limitations on boats and oars were moved to the Boats and Equipment Rule.
4	3	Add in World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships. Change 'Junior' to Under 19 from 2022.	Add in Beach Sprint as a defined World Rowing Championship for the purposes of the Rules. Change "Junior" to "Under 19" to correspond to "Under 23", and to better describe what the event is for those outside the sport.
6	5	All events other than a Senior World Rowing Championship to be attributed by the Council.	To allow for smoother, less complex and lower cost bidding and attribution processes for under age events.
9, 10, 11	6	Combining all Rules defining International Regattas	Simplification of the Rules for easier reading
12, 13	7	Combining all Rules defining International Matches	Simplification of the Rules for easier reading
14	-	Creation of a new Regatta Roles appendix, and moving the Technical Delegates Rule to this	Simplifying the Rules and locating all definitions of roles at regatta in one logical place for easier reference.
20	13	Complete re-write	New wording to reflect FISA's position on gender and changing of gender.
21	14	Moving wording from Rule 99 to combine with this Rule. Addition of basic swimming requirements.	Additional wording around FISA's commitment to safety and health. Addition of basic swimming requirements and details around what that entails. Additional wording around the requirement of the OC to provide safe, healthy and hygienic facilities and environments.
-	Bye-Laws to Rule 14	Moved from Bye-Law to Rule 99. Addition of requirement for pre-competition health screening for World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships. Clarification of the Chief Medical Officer of each MF and the Team Medical Officer of each team.	World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships are a MF representative competition, therefore should be subject to the same pre-competition health screening requirements as other representative World Championships. The Chief Medical Officer is the overall medical contact for that MF, compared to the Team Medical Officer who would be physically at the event.
22	15	Additional details and requirements added	Updated to include the latest insurance requirements and professional recommendations
23	16	Addition that rowers may also be required to sign commitments from other organisations	IF FISA has committed to Rules of other organisations, eg. WADA, rowers are obliged to sign such additional commitments.
26	-	Removed from Rules	No longer relevant

29, 30	19	Combining age category Rules	Simplification for easier reference
27	21	Rowers specified to include coxswains	Clarification that rowers include coxswains unless otherwise specified.
31	22	Rules specifying the process and procedures for the weighing of lightweights moved into a new Bye-Law rather than being part of the Rule. Proposal for a study to be made looking at lightweight averaging.	Simplification of the Rules. Delegation of authority to 2022 Congress to allow time for the Sports Medicine Commission to complete an in-depth analysis of possible changes to Rules on lightweight averaging.
35	24	Addition of Coxed Quadruple Sculls	To recognise the coastal C4x+
36	25	Proposal to delegate ability to change the WRCH event programmes to 2022 Congress. WRCC, WRBSF and WRIC event programmes to be found in their Regulations. Removal of the 'Natural Death' Rule.	Delegation of authority to the 2022 Congress to allow more time to study event entry trends for 2018, 2019 and 2021, given only two years so far with the current programme. Confirming that the programmes for the other WRCHs are in their Regulations. Removal of the 'Natural Death' Rule to allow a comprehensive analysis of participation trends and ensure programmes are gender equal – the Natural Death scenario doesn't allow for this.
-	Bye-Law to Rule 26	Inclusion of the Olympic Games events	Moved from the Olympic Games Regulations to be more visible in the Rules.
Bye-Law to Rule 39	Bye-Law to Rule 28	Moved to new Appendix	Given the length and substance of these Bye-Laws, it makes sense for them to have their own Appendix and simplify the actual Rules.
40	29	Addition of a 'principle' statement	Addressing 'speed' – not wanting speed to be dictated by new technology, rather by athletic performance.
Bye-Law to Rule 41	Bye-Law to Rule 30	Moved to new Appendix	Given the length and substance of these Bye-Laws, it makes sense for them to have their own Appendix and simplify the actual Rules.
42	31	WRCC, WRBSF and WRIC course requirements to be found in their Regulations.	Clarification of the location of that level of detail on those events.
43	32	WRCC, WRBSF and WRIC course distances to be found in their Regulations.	Clarification of the location of that level of detail on those events.
44	33	WRCC, WRBSF and WRIC number of racing lanes to be found in their Regulations.	Clarification of the location of that level of detail on those events.
46	35	Moving of most of the Rule and Bye-Law to new Regatta Roles Appendix	Simplifying the Rules and locating all definitions of roles at a regatta in one logical place for easier reference.
71, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94	37	Listing of the roles of FISA at regattas and specifying that the details around them will be found in the new Appendix	Simplifying the Rules and locating all definitions of roles at a regatta in one logical place for easier reference.

50	38	Moving of most of the Rule to the relevant existing Appendix	Simplifying the Rules
54	43	Entries shall also include the names and date of birth of potential replacement rowers. Events with only one entry will be cancelled.	Spare athletes at World Championships should also be entered to ensure a smooth substitution process. Confirmation of current practise that events with only one entry will be cancelled at the entry deadline (the single entry would be offered to join another event if possible/appropriate).
59	48	World Championships - crew changes to be received at least three hours before the first heat of the event	Changed from one hour to ensure sufficient time for the timing system to prepare correct information for officials and broadcast (other than for medical reasons as specified in the Bye-Law which remains in principle one hour).
62	51	Addition that the Jury has the authority to prohibit crews going on the water if they consider that the crew poses a danger to themselves or other crews.	Gives the Jury discretion to ensure that crews, for example novices, will not pose a safety threat.
-	52	New Rule – partly moved from former Rule 62. Confirmation that training Under 19 and Under 23 World Championships shall open three days before the start of racing.	Give “Safety during Training at Regattas” the importance of its own Rule. Change to current practises for the amount of training days at different World Rowing Championships.
64	54	Confirmation of the President of the Jury’s role in approving all boats on the water during racing, and the Competition Manager during training.	Change to a more practical and realistic approach given the likelihood that the President of the Jury will not always be at the venue during training.
66	56	Additional wording around the general principles of Fairness	Expanded to include showing respect to the race officials, and to include Team Officials as part of the Rule.
-	58	Create a new Rule for Seeding, moved from former Bye-Law to Rule 68	Seeding is important enough to require its own Rule
Bye-Laws to Rule 70	Bye-Laws to Rule 62	Move the Bye-Laws to Rule 62 giving detail to Time Trials to it’s own Appendix	Simplifying the Rules
-	64	Creation of new Rule defining Re-Rows (and relevant Bye-Laws)	Giving more detail around Re-Rows
72	65	Changing Penalties to Sanctions. Giving more detail around what a Reprimand is, what a Disqualification is, and addition of ability of FISA to sanction a Member Federation.	Change to ‘Sanction’ as opposed to penalty as a Reprimand is not actually a penalty. Giving more clarity about what a Reprimand is and what Disqualification entails. Including ability to sanction a Member Federation if the situation requires it.
Bye-Laws to Rule 74	Bye-Laws to Rule 67	Removal of restriction on the Starter to not use a Quick Start if a race has to be restarted.	If a race has to be restarted in adverse weather conditions, a quick start will often be the most appropriate start.

80	73	Specifying that the race is concluded when the Umpire confirms the result (with a white flag or otherwise)	Including a specification on when the race is concluded, as opposed to when a crew has finished its race.
Bye-Laws to Rule 80	Bye-Laws to Rule 73	Re-write of the first point of the Bye-Law. Addition to allow for time trial times to be recorded to the level allowed by the photo finish equipment rather than restricted to 1/100 th of a second.	Re-write for clarity. Given the importance of ranking by time for time trials, it makes sense to record time to as fine detail as possible in that situation, to clearly show how it makes the ranking of crews.
82	75	Re-write of the Rule and the relevant Bye-Law	Changes for clarity – more details around when, where and to whom Objections can be made.
83	76	Re-write of the Rule	Changes for clarity
84	-	Deleted	Duplicated in other Rules
85	77	Re-write of the Rule	Changes for clarity
-	79	New Rule covering disputes OCs, Clubs or Member Federations	To cover additional cases that may arise at International Regattas.
Bye-Laws of Rules 81, 82, 83 and 84	-	Moved to their own new Appendix 'Duties of the Jury'	All Bye-Laws detailing the duties of the Jury moved to one place – simplification of Rules