



Agenda Papers

2020 FISA Ordinary Congress

16 October 2020





Agenda Papers

2020 FISA Ordinary Congress

Virtual Congress
Friday, 16 October 2020
12:00 hrs - 14:00 hrs CEST

AGENDA

2020 FISA ORDINARY CONGRESS

16 October 2020, 12:00 hrs - 14:00 hrs CEST
Virtual Congress

1.	Opening of the session	–
2.	Identification of the delegates and confirmation of their authority	–
3.	Appointment of scrutineers for the period of Congress	–
4.	Approval of the minutes of the 2019 Ordinary Congress	–
5.	President's report and reports from the Vice President, Treasurer and Executive Director	5
6.	Reports of the Chairs of the Specialist Commissions	26
7.	Reports of the Continental Representatives and Co-opted Council Members	60
8.	Accounts, financial report and auditors' report	76
9.	Approval of the 2019 accounts	76
10.	Determination of entrance fee and annual subscription	76
11.	Budget for the following year, 2021	76
12.	Reports on future FISA events and Olympic & Paralympic regattas	87
13.	Place and date of the next Congress	88
14.	Attribution of future World Rowing Championships in accordance with Rule 6	89
15.	Reports of Continental Rowing Confederations and other Member Groupings	90
16.	Reports on applications for affiliation and voting consequent thereon	98
17.	Reconsideration or confirmation of decisions (ref. Art. 31) taken by the Council, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 33 and paragraph 4 of Art. 46, or by the Executive Committee, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of Art. 52.	99
18.	Council and Executive Committee elections in accordance with Art. 40 and 50.	100
19.	Specific proposals to an existing agenda item from the member federations, the Council or the Executive Committee	107
20.	Other additional agenda items proposed by the member federations, the Council or the Executive Committee	108
21.	Any other business	109

AGENDA ITEM 5

President's report and reports from the Vice President, Treasurer and Executive Director

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | Report of President - Jean-Christophe Rolland | 6 |
| 2. | Report of Vice President - Tricia Smith | 14 |
| 3. | Report of Treasurer - Gerritjan Eggenkamp | 16 |
| 4. | Report of Executive Director - Matt Smith | 18 |

PRESIDENT

As I write this report, the world is in turmoil. The extraordinary global health crisis we are experiencing is unprecedented in terms of scope, progression, and dramatic consequences. Nobody knows when or how this unpleasant episode will end; the future is full of uncertainties. Yet the consequences are already real and significant, firstly on a human scale and more broadly in all aspects of society and the global economy.

Sport, of course, has not been spared from this crisis and it goes without saying that once we are through the initial crisis management, we will be faced with an extremely complicated and most uncertain post-crisis period.

Already, the 2020 regatta season has been greatly compromised with the cancellation of all our events and the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games to summer 2021. Planning the 2021 season is proving to be very challenging with serious concerns about the resources available for 2021 budgets not only for FISA, but also for its member federations, organising committees which depend on funding provided by local or governmental authorities, and partners, who have all been impacted to various degrees by the ongoing health crisis.

Whilst the end of the tunnel is still out of sight, I would like to commend the commitment of the teams and parties who have prepared and developed the required elements for reporting back to FISA's Executive Committee and Council which has enabled timely, and often very difficult, decision making. I wish to thank the members of the Executive Committee and the Chair of the Athletes' Commission Frida Svensson for their availability and their engagement during this long period.

Conscious of the difficulties faced by our athletes, some of whom have had to deal with very adverse conditions, including sometimes strict confinement restrictions, topped with heavy uncertainty about the evolution of the competitive season, our responsible approach was always guided by our contribution to fighting the pandemic, by our respect for the regulatory measures and World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations as well as by risk assessment.

I would however like to be optimistic and look forward to meeting in better times. We do not yet know what tomorrow will bring, and what the "post-crisis" landscape will look like, but one thing is certain: we will employ all our means and resources in ensuring the best future for our sport, for the athletes of today and tomorrow.

I will now come back to the 2019 report to convey FISA's key issues to our member federations.

2019 World Rowing Championship regatta

The World Rowing Championship regatta, true showcase of our sport and highlight of the season, was particularly awaited during this pre-Olympic year, mainly for securing qualification places for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Record participation and outstanding performances marked the 2019 Linz-Ottensheim edition.

Before I begin, I would like to honour the memory of Dzmitry Ryshkevich, the rower from Belarus, who tragically died during training on Wednesday 21 August. The regatta opened in great sadness. The Congress paid tribute with a moment of silence in memory of Dzmitry with thoughts for his family, his friends and his team mates. Although the investigation has since

been completed, the full procedure has, to date, not yet been finalised. I therefore cannot bring any further details or comments about this tragedy at this time.

On the competition side, expectations were surpassed. The athletes presented us with exceptional and exciting races. I would like to congratulate them, as well as the teams and their entourage, for their performances. But “actors” cannot perform if the “stage” is not up to standard or the “props” are not correctly in place. Therefore I wish to also thank the local Austrian authorities for their support and their investment in the renovation of the infrastructure, and express my gratitude to all the contributors, to the organising committee led by Horst Anselm with the support of Bernd Schuhmacher and Wolfgang Pawlinetz, and to all the volunteers and partners for the absolute success of these championships.

Allow me to highlight a few points.

- The exceptionally high participation, at maximum capacity level, triggered some reflections about our open participation model which results in a very high number of entries in some events. This, in itself, is positive. However, it does generate logistical challenges for the organisation and pushes the progression system to its limits with the resulting high number of races. Discussions have started, several options are possible, and the member federations shall be consulted on this matter. With regards to the progression system, the Competitive Rowing Commission has been working on alternative proposals in view of limiting the number of races and these shall be shared and discussed.
- Although the weather conditions were generally excellent, we did, once again, experience some sudden gusts of wind which affected a few races. I have brought this up several times in the past; this is indeed frustrating but as we strive to do the utmost to ensure the fairest conditions possible, there are some limits that we shall never be able to overcome. The Fairness Committee, made up of highly experienced members, once again applied the official procedures. These procedures are regularly reviewed and were most recently improved after the 2018 World Rowing Championships mainly in terms of reactivity and decision making. As we aim to continuously build on our experiences, I will insist once again that we are reaching a threshold which will be more and more difficult to improve on.
- I can only agree, that having to re-run a race is very unpleasant for the athletes involved, especially when they are not responsible for the situation. However, despite the empathy with the teams when the situation arises, we must apply our rules, otherwise we risk other problems. I repeat here again, it's a matter of ensuring fair and equal treatment for all athletes.

Remaining on the subject of the 2019 season, I would like to thank the organising committees of the various championships and of the stages of the World Rowing Cup series, all the public and private partners and all the volunteers who contributed to the great success of the 2019 regattas. The standard required to offer our athletes the best possible conditions has risen significantly in the past few years, and we can be grateful for the services provided.

Coastal rowing: a promising future

The World Rowing Coastal Championships took place in rather particular circumstances due to the events that were affecting Hong Kong at the time. I would hereby like to commend the very appropriate way in which this crisis was managed with the stakeholders. While all other international events were cancelled due to the situation, we were able to hold these championships thanks to ongoing risk assessment driven in close collaboration between the national authorities, the organising committee and FISA. This was certainly a brave decision

considering the context. The entire community of participants, athletes and their teams, officials and volunteers remained completely safe throughout their stay.

I want to express all my gratitude and thank the organisers, President Mike Tanner and his entire team for their remarkable work under extremely challenging circumstances. These championships were a great success and offered participants a unique experience in the most outstanding of settings provided by Victoria Harbour at the heart of Hong Kong and access to the magnificent Hong Kong Yacht Club as a base.

As part of our efforts to develop this discipline, we had also invested in professional footage production. Here again, the outcome has been outstanding, resulting in stunning images. Congratulations to the production team! As for the sporting aspect, I would highlight the exciting races, with close competition, and an increasing number of different nations at the forefront.

I also wish to mention the great success of the first edition of the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals which were held in Shenzhen, China thanks to close collaboration with the Chinese Rowing Federation and the local authorities in Shenzhen.

This is certainly an excellent way of promoting coastal rowing in its two different race formats as part of our efforts to develop this discipline and in light of our Olympic strategy.

I do wish to state the necessity to somewhat evolve the rules for this discipline. It is indeed confusing when, for example, the crew which crosses the line first is not the winner. The in-competition penalties communicated after the conclusion of the race may impact the result and the subsequent protests cause delays which are incompatible with optimal sports presentation. Some proposals shall be made at the next Extraordinary Congress in order to address the need for improvement.

Our sights are set on Tokyo

As has been the case since the Athens Olympic Games, the 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships served as a test event in preparation for the Olympic Games. This was especially important since the "Sea Forest Waterway" is a brand-new regatta course. Officially opened on 16 June 2019 by Governor Koike, the course is the outcome of an ambitious project which faced several challenges. I will hereby emphasise the extremely high quality of the infrastructure and wish to warmly thank the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) and its Governor, Mrs Koike, for the timely delivery of what has become a remarkable water sports complex.

The Championships and the test were a great success, and I wish to greatly thank and express our immense gratitude to our member federation, the Japanese Rowing Association (JARA), its President Naotake Okubo and Secretary General Nobuyuki Aiura for the delivery of an excellent World Rowing Championships as well as to our Council Member Masakuni Hosobuchi for his valuable involvement.

The few points for improvement which were raised shall be dealt with in time for the Olympic Games. We can count on a remarkable team, led by our member of staff Nathalie Philips, who has relocated to Tokyo as competition manager for rowing.

Continuing on the subject of the Olympic Games, I also want to mention the excellent organisation of the African continental qualification regatta by the Tunisian Rowing Federation. The qualification system achieved the intended objectives and enabled 14 African countries to qualify for Tokyo (12 for the OG; 1 for the PG; 1 for both the OG and PG).

Indoor rowing... a turning point

Indoor rowing is an integral part of our strategy to develop rowing in all its forms. The potential for growing the rowing community is simply enormous. Although each member federation has a different approach, the discussions held during the Member Federations' Conference demonstrate the interest shown by our member federations for this discipline. We are working on the regulations and legal framework as well as pursuing the development of this discipline through World Rowing branded championships, the second edition of which was held in Los Angeles in 2019, followed by the third in Paris in February 2020. It is clear that such an event has huge potential and I praise the organisers for the innovations they each bring to the presentation of this discipline.

Indoor rowing was a highlight of the World Urban Games in Budapest where it was presented as a showcase sport. I applaud the creativity of FISA's technical staff, Liz Soutter and Matt Evans, who put together a series of varied and attractive contests requiring extreme sporting qualities which indoor rowing experts and avid fans would have appreciated.

Olympic strategy: "From defensive mode to a proactive approach"

We have continued to progress our Olympic strategic plan described in my 2018 report. In parallel to the discussions we hold with the IOC and other stakeholders, we have taken every opportunity to engage in consultation and communication with our member federations at international regattas and general assemblies of continental confederations. At this stage, I humbly admit that nothing is to be taken for granted as to the final decision of the IOC Executive Board with regards to the Paris 2024 Olympic programme. However, as mentioned before, the success of the World Coastal Championships in Hong Kong, of the Beach Sprint Finals in Shenzhen and the various international beach events such as the African Beach Games which took place in Cape Verde are all additional assets which play in our favour. The discipline is evolving at a steady pace, and despite not having yet reached its full potential, it is very encouraging to note the significant progress which has been made. Many member federations have also embarked on this path, having also grasped its Olympic potential. FISA's development department has invested specific efforts. I also take the opportunity to remind you of the IOC's decision to add coastal rowing, in its beach sprint format, to the 2022 Youth Olympic Games programme in Dakar: we will need to be prepared!

FISA filed its initial submission for the Paris 2024 Olympic programme to the IOC Sports Department at the end of February 2020. It comes as no surprise that the submission includes the ambitious proposal of adding three coastal rowing events (women's' and men's' solo and a mixed double) to make up for the loss of the lightweight doubles. This proposal is in accordance with the strict criteria set by the IOC, namely (1) no increase in the athlete quota, or possibly even a decrease to conform with the global Games quota of 10'500 including the additional sports; (2) full women – men equality; and (3) the use of an existing competition venue. The Covid-19 crisis has increased the pressure on complexity and costs. The IOC and the Paris 2024 organising committee are continuing to analyse and evaluate this proposal which shall also be debated and presented for validation at the FISA Extraordinary Congress in October 2020. Once all these stages have been fulfilled, the final decision on the programme of the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris shall be made by the IOC's Executive Board in December 2020.

Another key point is the Olympic rowing course for the Los Angeles 2028 Games. As announced, we have pursued our assessment and analysis of the historic site of the 1932 Games in Long Beach as an alternative course to Lake Perris (the venue originally proposed and presented in the bid submission). The analysis concluded that the proposal is feasible but

implies a regatta course limited to 1500 metres. The FISA Council will finalise its decision, considering and carefully weighing up its implications on the sporting aspects and on the future of the sport. One essential point must be emphasised here, a point which has raised many questions during our exchanges with the federations and representatives: under no circumstances shall the fundamentals of our sport be changed, and should Long Beach be selected as the venue for Los Angeles 2028, only the Olympic and Paralympic regattas would be raced on that distance. This would be an exceptional, one-off adjustment to a very particular situation. All World Rowing championships and regattas, including the Olympic and Paralympic qualification regattas will be raced on the official distance of 2000 metres.

Finance

I shall let you acquaint yourself with the report of the Treasurer Gerritjan Eggenkamp and with the figures and explanations included in the Agenda Papers. I wish to emphasise the ongoing careful, reasonable, and reasoned management of our resources which are mainly allocated to the organisation of our international events, to the promotion and attractiveness of our sport and to development projects.

In terms of resources, the current climate in the private sponsorship market makes us highly dependent on Olympic revenue and on the few major international regattas which generate broadcast income such as the senior World Rowing Championships, the World Rowing Cup series and the European Rowing Championships.

Once again, the consequences of Covid-19 and notably the global economic crisis, which promises to be of incredible magnitude, will certainly impact our resources for the future. Allow me first to recognise the decision made by the Executive Committee several years ago to create and maintain a reserve which is proving to be crucial to allow us to pursue our activities during these difficult times. Our rather conservative approach of considering only guaranteed income in our budgets has also shown to be very judicious. The post-Covid-19 landscape shall no doubt be even more challenging and we shall search for new opportunities within this uncertain context.

I am particularly grateful to our Treasurer for his significant involvement in his mission, and for his role as Chair of the Finance Sub-committee which regularly reviews the financial elements in great detail; I thank him also for his oversight of our asset portfolio, a particularly challenging task as it is tightly linked to our Olympic revenue cycle. These elements are reported back to the Executive Committee which notably this year exercised its responsibility to approve additional expenses to the 2020 budget, in relation to amongst other things our Olympic strategy.

Governance

In accordance with our organisation model, we have pursued the governance of our organisation through our statutory bodies. The Council met three times in 2019: in Lausanne in February, in Rotterdam in July during the final stage of the World Rowing Cup, and in Linz during the World Rowing Championships mainly to deal with topics relating to sporting aspects, as well as the assessment of the Strategic Event Attribution Process for future regattas, a subject which I will cover later on in this report. The Executive Committee held twice monthly conference calls and met in person four times (in Lausanne in February, in Montreal in March, in Linz during the World Rowing Championships and in London in November at the Coaches Conference, NF Conference and Joint Commissions Meeting).

I welcome the following new members to the Council, who took up office on 1 January 2020: Frida Svensson, President of the Athletes' Commission and Mehdi Garidi, Continental

Representative for Africa who takes over from Khaled Zein El Din, whom the Council and Congress paid tribute to for his dedication to our sport in Africa.

I personally took part in meetings or general assemblies of our continental confederations: at the beginning of April with the presidents of the European federations, in August with COPARE (Confederacion Panamericana de Remo) during the Pan American Games in Lima (PER), then in October with FASA (Fédération Africaine des Sociétés d'Aviron) on the occasion of the Olympic and Paralympic qualification events in Tunis (TUN), and with ARF (Asian Rowing Federation) at the Asian championships in Chungju (KOR). I thank the presidents and their executive boards for their invitations to participate; this enables me to gain a better understanding of the issues specific to each continent and to discuss openly the stakes and challenges faced by FISA and our sport.

Evolution of the Statutes at the next Extraordinary Congress: no surprises

We continue to follow our process of continuous improvement, adopting the principles of good governance and learning from our experience when dealing with sporting rules. While preparing the proposed changes to the Statutes and Rules of Racing, the two dedicated working groups pursued their analysis, backed by the Executive Director and his team. I really wish to thank the members of these groups for their contribution to this demanding exercise: Annamarie Phelps, Algirdas Raslanas and Tricia Smith coordinated by Lucy Trochet for the working group dedicated to Statutes and Kris Grudt, Patrick Rombaut, Lee Spear, Mike Tanner and Mike Williams, coordinated by Cameron Allen for the group dedicated to competition rules. I would like to make a special mention for the precious advice provided by our Honorary President Denis Oswald who is always available to support our numerous requests, despite his multiple commitments and his involvement, among other things, with the IOC Executive Board.

As with the preparation of the 2017 Extraordinary Congress, we continued to share the proposals with the federations by publishing updates and presenting key areas of progress at conferences and meetings held with the federations. The FISA member federations will thus have had regular opportunities to put forward their suggestions and feedback. I consider such preparation and anticipation essential to the success of the Congress. There shall be no surprises.

Clean sport

Protecting this fundamental right of the athletes has always been one of the strong values of our sport. History has shown, and I like to repeat it, that this approach is part of our DNA. It is therefore with relative serenity that we underwent an audit by WADA at the end of 2018.

Here is an extract from the executive summary of the report:

"It is the view of the audit team that FISA has been able to accomplish a lot with limited resources. FISA has certainly been a leader in a number of areas such as its early work on the development and implementation of its Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) and its health-related programmes and policies. While FISA should be commended for this work, this report highlights a number of areas within FISA's programme that can be improved. In order to do so, the audit team encourages FISA to evaluate whether additional resources, human and/or financial, may be needed to implement the corrective actions outlined in this report to ensure that its anti-doping programme is enhanced."

Although our commitment is recognised, the application of the Code and its six international standards (soon to be eight, when the new 2021 Code comes into effect as of January 2021) requires an adjustment to our approach in order to fully comply with all the regulatory requirements. One of the direct consequences is the very significant increase in administrative workload and demand on financial resources.

In this particular context, I must highlight the commitment of FISA's anti-doping department with Dr Alain Lacoste and Natalie Schmutz together with the anti-doping committee led by Juergen Steinacker. The fight against doping is a necessity and we shall continue to strive in view of protecting clean athletes. Progress in science, technologies and in methods of investigation are certainly great assets in the fight against cheating. However, we must keep in mind that this also adds complexity and requires ever more resources. We have called upon the services of the ITA (International Testing Agency) to help us in targeted areas and we shall assess the relevance of moving towards sub-contracting certain aspects.

I also would like to mention our constructive relationship with WADA, in rather difficult circumstances, and take this opportunity to thank and congratulate its President, Sir Craig Reedie, who at the end of 2019 came to the end of his mandate, a mandate which was all but easy having had to deal with the complex Russian case. The case is still ongoing, the saga goes on, and we continue to collaborate closely with WADA to deal with potential cases which concern our sport.

Attribution of events: a strategic approach

I would like to commend the new FISA event attribution process, known under the acronym SEAP (Strategic Event Attribution Process) which came to completion for the first time at the Congress in Linz. The process provides the opportunity for initial consultation and offers clearer mid-term perspective to organising committees for the hosting of events. It is also a tangible asset for securing funding from territorial and governmental bodies. I think it is safe to say that the reaction to this approach from the stakeholders was particularly favourable.

Congratulations to the Executive Director for this initiative and to his team for the work accomplished. Stage by stage consultation has made it possible to progressively construct the planning schedule, avoiding the inconveniences that can arise through an individual attribution approach.

It remains, however, that the decision-making authority for the Senior World Rowing Championships sits with the Congress, based on a recommendation and detailed analysis by the Council.

Conclusion

I shall end this report by expressing my sincere and warm gratitude to the Executive Director Matt Smith who, despite health issues which affected him greatly during several long months, carried out his mission with great professionalism. And behind him, with him, a team, a remarkable collective. Our Sport Director Colleen Orsmond decided to begin a new chapter in her professional life in 2019. Appreciated by all, notably for her humility, Colleen is an individual with many qualities and I offer her my best wishes for her ongoing journey.

I would like to thank the Council members for their commitment to our sport and our organisation. I am always pleased to witness the openness in our debates, and the constructive and respectful attitude towards each other.

My gratitude goes out to our Vice President Tricia Smith who is always available for her sport despite her numerous other commitments, and to all the members of the Executive Committee with whom, I think I may say, we make a true team.

And finally, as we endure these difficult times and we are faced with heavy uncertainty about the outcomes of this crisis, I hope that we shall come through this stronger, together.

I can assure you of my full commitment and my motivation to carry on my mission for FISA.

Jean-Christophe Rolland (FRA)

VICE PRESIDENT

The role of the FISA Vice President is to:

- Carry out such duties as are delegated by the President;
- Represent FISA when the President is unable to do so, or when requested by the Executive Committee;
- Work on special assignments and working groups when requested to do so by the Executive Committee or the Council. These assignments or working groups may concern the internal affairs of FISA or FISA's relations with other bodies;
- Oversee the work of the Development Programme; and
- Submit a report to the Ordinary Congress each year.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

As Vice President I continue to support the President, the Executive Committee and Executive Director, particularly in the Governance Working group and generally, with regard to external relations, appeals committees, strategic planning and general oversight. This work is done alongside the other Executive Committee and Council members.

I have also taken the opportunity to gather helpful information and represent the interests of international sport and of FISA, where appropriate, at the numerous sport-related functions I attend during the year as Canadian NOC President, ANOC EB Member, Pan Am Sport EB Member, ICAS Member and IOC Member. In particular, I have advocated further developments in the fight against doping in sport including submissions to the WADA Code working group this past year. I also work for women in sport both in support of the Development Department and Women's Commission of FISA, Pan Am Sport and the IOC Women in Sport Commission. I continue as a member of the IOC Legal Commission.

The Vice President's role in FISA Development continues to be in an advisory and consultative basis only. The FISA Development Programme has evolved and is managed on a day to day basis by the FISA team led by Sheila Stephens-Desbans.

Meetings and events attended in 2019

Include but are not limited to the following:

- January 14-20, IOC Commission meetings (Women in Sport and Legal Affairs), Lausanne (SUI)
- January 21, ANOC Executive Board meeting, Lausanne (SUI)
- February 7, FISA Executive Committee meeting, Lausanne (SUI)
- February 8-10, FISA Council meeting, Lausanne (SUI)
- February 24, FISA Indoor Rowing Championships, Long Beach - meetings with LA2028 organisers and venue visits, California (USA)
- March 2, Bobsleigh and Skeleton World Championships, Whistler (CAN)
- March 9, Rugby Sevens world event, Vancouver (CAN)

- March 29, FISA Executive Committee meeting, including meeting with WADA Director General and CEO, Montreal (CAN)
- May 24, ANOC extraordinary meeting, Lausanne (SUI)
- May 27 - 28, ICAS meeting, Lausanne (SUI)
- June 22 – 27, 134th IOC Session, Lausanne (SUI)
- July 12 - 14, World Rowing Cup III, Rotterdam (NED)
- July 23 – August 11, PANAM Games, Lima (PER)
- August 29 – September 2, World Rowing Championships, Olympic qualifiers, Executive Committee & Council meetings, and Congress, Linz (AUT)
- October 13 – 20, XXIV ANOC General Assembly (QAT)
- October 21 – 22, 53rd ICAS meeting, Budapest (HUN)
- November 21 - 25, FISA Executive Committee meeting in London (GBR)
- December 10 - 12, Regional SportAccord 2019, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida (USA)
- December 12 - 15, America's Best Practices Symposium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida (USA)

(above list is exclusive of Canadian Olympic Committee domestic events)

Thank you as always to Jean Christophe Rolland, Matt Smith and the talented FISA team for their commitment, excellence and integrity. Thank you also to our member federations, to our Council and Commission members and to the many volunteers - all the exceptional individuals who make up the FISA family. I feel extremely fortunate to be working with you all to support our athletes and our sport.

Tricia Smith (CAN)

TREASURER

The role of the FISA Treasurer is to:

- Be responsible for the oversight of financial management of FISA and preparation of FISA's long-term financial plan having regard to the four-year Olympic cycle;
- Be responsible for keeping the Executive Committee and Council informed of FISA's financial situation by means of management accounts;
- Oversee the management of FISA's assets, the adequacy of insurance, the financial terms of major contracts and staff remuneration in consultation with the President and the Executive Director;
- Oversee the preparation of the annual budget and the annual accounts, and present them to the Ordinary Congress, liaise with the Executive Director in order to monitor the progress of income and expenditure during the year, and seek approval from the Executive Committee for significant deviations from budget; and
- Submit a report to the Ordinary Congress each year.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

Apart from participation in the Executive Committee meetings, my principal activities in 2019 continued to be oversight of FISA's financial activities in coordination with the Executive Director, Matt Smith and the Controller, Emilio Pastorello. The accounts appear elsewhere in the agenda papers so I will not go into detail here. Our expenditure tracked the budget including additional amounts approved by the Executive Committee and was well controlled. Our investment portfolio performed strongly throughout the year ending up with a 10.5% increase, making up for the losses of (December) 2018.

During 2019, I received monthly reports from our investment manager Jean-Maurice Mordasini which we discussed in our monthly calls and in which we also aligned on the overall risk exposure (especially the dollar exposure) and strategy. He has performed well within the restrictive and conservative investment mandate we give him.

The Finance Sub-Committee met in December to review our 2019 performance and agree budget amendments for proposal to the Executive Committee for 2020.

Meetings and events attended in 2019

- Executive Committee and Council meetings, Lausanne (SUI), February
- Executive Committee, Vancouver (CAN), March
- World Rowing Cup 3 and Council meeting, Rotterdam (NED), July
- World Rowing Championships, Executive Committee, Council and Congress, Linz (AUT), August
- Executive Committee, JCM and Coaches Conference, London (GBR), November
- Finance Sub-Committee, Lausanne (SUI), December

Summary

FISA's financial situation is becoming more and more challenging. For 2020, FISA has increased governance-related requirements as a result of the negative image of a number of sport federations, increased anti-doping administration and activities following increased WADA requirements, and increased expectations on the quality of events; these increased demands on resources are without additional income to FISA as the sponsor market for sport remains difficult. The result is a revenue / cost ratio that is not sustainable (i.e. negative). Moreover, it is likely that this trend of increasing governance and anti-doping requirements will continue, putting further pressure on FISA's financial situation.

On top of this, Covid-19 has created significant uncertainty around FISA's financial situation. Although this report deals with 2019, the impact of Covid-19 is such that I would like to mention it. Firstly, with the Tokyo Olympic Games being postponed, the IOC contribution (\$17m in 2016) is delayed by one year. Herein, there is a risk that the amount will be lower given the additional costs the IOC will face postponing the Olympic Games. Even worse, if the Tokyo Olympic Games do not take place, it remains to be seen what amount the international federations would receive. Secondly, other revenue streams (i.e. broadcasting rights) have diminished with events not taking place. Thirdly, although conservatively managed and mainly in fixed income (bonds), FISA runs a risk that it may incur losses on its asset portfolio as a result of Covid-19, especially if one or more companies in which FISA holds bonds goes bankrupt because of Covid-19.

Fortunately FISA has built up a reserve and has been able to secure all potential support we applied for, receiving loans from both the IOC and federal government and receiving short term employment support. This ensures FISA can continue its operations leading up to and after the Tokyo Games in 2021. However, given the uncertainty of the size of the Olympic revenue, costs have been reduced where possible for the 4 year budget (2021-2024). In case the Tokyo Olympic revenue is lower than assumed in the 4 year budget, we will need to further adjust FISA's cost base, which would severely impact the ability of FISA to provide what it currently does. We deem this scenario unlikely, but given the uncertainty it is a scenario we need to keep in the back of our mind.

Gerritjan Eggenkamp (NED)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to report to you on the FISA operations and provide you with an overview of FISA's general activities. We appreciate very much the excellent cooperation between the FISA staff and the member federations which enables us to work efficiently and constructively.

Headquarters Operation

The FISA headquarters' staff continues to work on the areas identified in our Strategic Plan found here:

http://www.worldrowing.com/mm//Document/General/General/13/55/04/WorldRowingStrategicFramework2018_Neutral.pdf

Development continues to be one of our primary goals with creation and delivery of the related initiatives. As you will recall, Sheila Stephens-Desbans was promoted to the position of Development Director upon the retirement of legendary Thor Nilsen; Gianni Postiglione is FISA's Coaching Director. They are ably assisted by Development Managers Yihuan Chang and Daniela Gomes, and new to the team is Paolo Mattana.

Colleen Orsmond continued in the position of Sport Director until July 2019 when she returned home to South Africa. Her duties have been temporarily shared among the other events staff members. Liz Soutter joined as Sport Manager in 2018 and she is following the development of the disciplines of indoor rowing and coastal rowing as well as para rowing and is managing the event bidding process.

In the Events Department, Svetla Otzetova, is the Events Technical Director and Nathalie Phillips Senior Events Manager. Cameron Allen is Events Manager, Daniela Oronova continues as Events Manager – Teams, and Prateek Gumbar is Events Logistics Manager. Matt Evans, competition manager from Glasgow 2018, joined the team in 2019. Nathalie Phillips accepted the opportunity, and challenge, to move to Tokyo and take over as Rowing Sport Manager in June and led the Tokyo team to stage a very successful test event in 2019 and is advancing preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I would also like to recognise the untiring work of our Swiss Timing Sportservice Manager Ralf Hoffmann and his very dedicated team.

The Communications and Marketing areas work carefully to make sure their efforts are well-coordinated. Andy Couper continues as Marketing Director along with Melissa Bray, Communications Manager – Content. Tim Cetinich continued as Digital Communications Manager. They are assisted by a team of part-time communication contributors seen mostly at events.

The Governance and Administration area includes Governance Manager Lucy Trochet, Controller Emilio Pastorello, Natalie Schmutz, Anti-Doping Coordinator and Elisabeth Waroux, Administrative Assistant. Ludovica Caprino joined the administration as an intern in late 2019 and moved into a full-time position shortly after. Olivier Caillet, our information technology consultant, continues as well as Jean-Maurice Mordasini, our asset manager.

FISA's headquarters has now been in the "House of International Sport" since October 2006 and continues to benefit from the close contact with the International Federations (IFs) of Archery, Boxing, Canoe-Kayak, Fencing, Triathlon, WADA and several other organisations including, notably, ASOIF, GAISF, and the International Master Games Association. This allows our staff to exchange ideas and share experiences with other IF staff.

Development

In 2019, the Development team continued to make strong progress in many areas. They include an excellent group of coaches including Oswaldo Borchini for the Americas; Faycal Soula for Africa, and Chris Perry for Asia. Long-time development consultant Michel Doutré retired at the end of 2019 after many years of excellent service to rowing. They are complemented by active and influential Continental Representatives who are also key contributors.

The FISA Development Programme continued to strongly encourage all active members to stage national championships and have a national selection policy. In close cooperation with the Continental Confederations, a series of training camps and regional and continental regattas were staged to help prepare the member federations attempting to qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

As reported last year, the 2018 Youth Olympic Games regatta's extensive qualification system stimulated 111 member federations to attempt to qualify crews. This is an increase over the 2014 YOG 101 member federations and the 2010 YOG 65 member federations. The same system is now in place to help member federations attempt to qualify for Tokyo. This started with the 2019 World Rowing Championships and the first continental qualification regatta for Africa in Tunis, TUN. The success of this approach was achieved by combining training camps with the continental qualification regattas and increasing accessibility for member federations by providing support for flights and accommodation, aided by the participation of the IOC's development arm, Olympic Solidarity.

FISA has embarked on an ambitious project to grow para rowing on the continents through a series of training camps and continental regattas building on an already successful Olympic, Paralympic and YOG training camp and qualification regatta system. A series of regional coastal rowing activities were carried out in 2019 including the African Beach Games.

With regards to universality, a new member federation from Dominica was added to FISA in 2019, bringing the total FISA member federations to 156. Coaching education, athlete development and guidance for administrators are highlighted as key areas of focus for new members. Additionally, as member federations progress, where possible, the FISA Experts discuss a basic strategic plan, budget planning, governance, selection, and approaches for working with partners in order to develop the sport. Consideration and priority are given to indoor rowing as a starting point, followed by identifying target disciplines through coastal, Olympic and Paralympic for focused development.

The FISA Coach Education Framework is now being applied as a principle within all FISA Olympic and YOG activities and the aim is to have modules integrated into the Framework for Paralympic, coastal and indoor. By having a better coaching education framework, more rowing opportunities should exist in all areas. The Olympic Values Education Programme continues as a key element of coaching education and member federations are encouraged to continue these sports initiation programmes in their national setting and to work with their National Olympic Committees and/or Sports Councils to expand the reach of rowing.

Events

We can be proud of the standard and quality of our events in 2019 with three excellent World Rowing Cup events that were very well organised and set high standards; our thanks go to the organisers of Plovdiv, Poznan and Rotterdam. Lucerne staged the European Rowing Championships in 2019. The World Rowing Under 23 Championships were well organised in Sarasota-Bradenton with thanks to the Sarasota Organising Committee (OC) and USRowing.

The World Rowing Junior Championships and Olympic Test Event in Tokyo went very well with thanks going to the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic OC and the Japan Rowing Federation.

The 2019 World Rowing Coastal Championship regatta in Hong Kong China was also a great success with thanks to the OC, the Hong Kong Yacht Club and the Hong Kong Rowing Federation. It was a record entry for this event outside of Europe with 578 rowers and 238 crews from 28 nations. For the first time, the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals were staged in Shenzhen, China at the end of October and were a success thanks to the host Dameisha Yacht Club and the Chinese Rowing Association. There were 35 crews from 11 member federations competing across four events, with six nations winning medals (CHN 4 medals, ESP 2 medals, FRA 2 medals, GBR 2 medals, GRE 1 medals, NED 1 medals).

The 2019 World Rowing Masters Regatta was a huge success on Lake Velence, Hungary. With 14'171 seat entries which is just less than the record 18'397 in Bled in 2017. The OC, Jury, national technical officials and FISA Masters Rowing Commission worked tirelessly from dawn to dusk to deliver a seamless event. Thanks go to the Lake Velence OC and Hungarian Rowing Federation for their hard work. This event continues to grow in complexity and expectations; in 2019 the first steps were taken to reduce the risk of the event by introducing entry quotas.

The 2019 World Rowing Championships were staged at the well-known Linz-Ottensheim rowing venue. A total of 80 member federations sent more than 500 crews and nearly 1200 rowers to the event. The participation of women crews was a record at 42.3% which is an increase from the previous high in 2018 of 40.6%. This was the second World Championships with a gender equal number of events, seeking to have gender equity in participation. We cannot report on this event without mentioning the terrible loss of Belarus Para Rower Dzmitry Ryshevich during training before the start of the event. The investigation is not yet public so I cannot say more at this time.

The second World Rowing Indoor Championships were staged successfully in Long Beach, California, USA in February with entries from over 700 indoor rowers. The event was held in partnership with Concept2, USRowing, and the Long Beach Rowing Association, and was combined with the inaugural USRowing Indoor National Championships and also the Long Beach Rowing Association Beach Sprints. Continuing with indoor rowing, World Rowing was fortunate to take part in the 2019 World Urban Games (Budapest, HUN). This inaugural World Urban Games (WUG) took place in September and featured indoor rowing as a "showcase" sport among other sports such as parkour, breakdancing, 3 x 3 basketball, laser run, BMX, and more. Six new race formats were staged over three days of competition. Indoor rowers from around the world competed in an open, online qualification process to earn one of the 8 male and 8 female spots at the WUG.

The FISA events team continues to work very hard to advise and support the OCs while doing its best to treat them consistently. As the size and number of our events grows, we enter a zone of higher risk as the load on the organisers and the events team pushes all limits. The Council has discussed this and has formed a working group to work on ideas so that the load on organisers is known in advance, complexity known in advance, and so that budgets can be more accurately established. The pre-Olympic World Championship regatta has become the highest risk event, with the massive entries of 2015 and 2019 putting our OCs at risk, financially and organisationally.

A new, strategic approach to event attribution was announced at the end of 2017 after broad consultation with many event stakeholders. The new approach to event attribution recognised the critical role of government authorities which are investing in our venues and seek a long-term strategy to justify these investments of public finances. The first stage of the

2017-2019 Strategic Events Attribution Process ("SEAP") was concluded at the time of the 2019 Congress in Linz with the attribution of a large number of our events for 2021 to 2024. This allowed the Council and the Congress to make strategic decisions having the whole scope of venues and bids in consideration in order to maximise the spread of World Rowing events across as many different member federations as possible. For this first experiment, European Rowing also participated in the process. The attributions from the SEAP are found here:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/events/events-bidding>

The second "repechage" round was completed in early 2020. This was followed by a process for the World Rowing Coastal Championships and the World Rowing Indoor Championships in June 2020.

Television and Video Streaming

Linear Television continues to be the number one means to spread awareness of our sport as it touches the greatest number of viewers of any of our communications platforms. In 2019, we reached a total average audience record of 213 million viewers (total of average audiences) and a record 823 broadcast hours. Our television and video streaming strategy provides a well-structured and dedicated professional resource that has delivered improved and more consistent host TV productions, has led to a far greater amount of coverage and a wider distribution of rowing programming.

As we need the interest and support of the sport directors of the various television channels, we consult with them widely to be sure of what they need and want for broadcast. Each day they have many offerings to choose from to transmit on their channels, so we need them to want to show rowing. Our whole broadcast strategy is settled on what they tell us they want to show on their channels and how they like sports productions, and particularly rowing, to be produced.

Our long-term strategy to increase the global coverage and promotion of rowing was very effectively maintained in 2019. In Europe, our key and long-term partner is the European Broadcasting Union ("EBU") which is the means to reach government operated national television broadcasters in Europe including: BTV – Bulgaria, TV2 – Denmark, FTV – France, BBC – Great Britain, MTVA – Hungary, NRK – Norway, TVP – Poland, RTVSLO – Slovenia, CT – Czech Republic, ERR – Estonia, ARD/ZDF – Germany, ERT – Greece, RAI – Italy, NOS – Netherlands, RTR – Russia and SRG - Switzerland. This relationship is critical to the success of FISA's work on television in Europe.

Outside of Europe, our television partner Quattro Media of Munich, Germany is our partner for television rights sales ex-Europe. Current rights holders are Fox Sports – Australia, Sky NZ – New Zealand, GloboSat – Brazil, Rogers – Canada, CCTV – China. Discussions are on-going with other broadcasters in the USA, Latin America, Africa and Asia.

The 2019 World Rowing Championships was broadcast for a record total of nearly 440 hours to 54 countries reaching over 111 million viewers (record is 117 million in 2015) around the world. The 2019 World Rowing Cup regattas were transmitted in 49 countries over 276 hours.

The World Rowing News Service, led by the Quattro Media team, continued at each FISA event and there were 1'849 news clips transmitted from all FISA events in 2019 which is up from 1'607 in 2018.

Our Television and News team is led by Marketing Director Andy Couper accompanied by our TV Advisors Peter Hertrampf, Florian Schnellinger and Mike Wenigmann of Quattro Media

along with World Rowing Productions Executive Producer Steffen Rapp who directs the host broadcasters. Together they form our World Rowing Productions team and we thank them for their excellent work.

Video streaming has continued to make progress with a total of over 7 million views of all FISA digital video content in 2019. FISA pays particular attention to our web streaming service at our events. We have a dedicated team of commentators for the live video streaming led by our host, Olympic gold medallist Martin Cross who is accompanied by Sarah Cook, Greg Searle and Robert Treharne-Jones.

Overall, more broadcast hours have been achieved and greater audiences reached across more countries – all of which helps promote and develop rowing, Detailed information can be found at this link:

http://www.worldrowing.com/mm/Document/General/General/14/23/78/2019KeyMedia-PerformanceIndicators_TV_Streaming_SM_Neutral.pdf

Communications

In communications, the focus of 2019 continued to be the “digital spectator experience” when following our World Rowing events through digital means. This involved the continued development of all platforms for World Rowing to reach as many fans as possible and bring them into the rowing family. Naturally, the events are the focus of much of the attention to World Rowing and we continued to use new platforms for spreading the interest in the sport. The coverage was very well-received by our followers. Our Total Digital Impact for 2019 resulted in 25 million views across all our World Rowing digital platforms. More than 7 million were video views and more than 1.8 million were views of racing footage.

The digital event experience includes, of course, the Worldrowing.com website powered by Swiss Timing and DeltaTre, our service providers. But it also includes many other digital platforms including: the Live Blog, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and many short and medium video clips loaded to many of these platforms. We also engage top professional photographers Igor Meijer and Detlev Seyb to provide fantastic photos to our photo galleries at the events to help visitors to the site feel the events.

With the help of the member federations, we have built an excellent network of communications channels in each country. We have also created a database of member federation and athlete social media handles in order to engage as wide an audience as possible. During our events, we provided quotes and tailored information to news outlets and member federations and created posts in multiple languages.

The successful video-streaming of the World Rowing Under 23 and Junior Championships in Sarasota-Bradenton and Tokyo helped us to connect with the under 23 and junior communities via our digital channels.

Marketing

In terms of marketing, the best advertisement for the sport is through our events. The highest number of people who view our sport, view it on television (which is discussed above). The second highest is through digital means which is also covered above in communications and video streaming. But it is important for us to deliver an attractive event to those on site and we continued in 2019 to use a bespoke sports presentation team led by World Champion rower Sebastian Franke, journalist Michiel Jonkman and Michael Hein. They prepare and deliver our sports presentation at all World Rowing events along with the dedicated commentary team

of Robert Treharne-Jones, Paul Castle, Kat Holloway, Colleen Saville, Camilla Hadland and Jillian O'Mara plus our tower announcers Peter O'Hanlon and Rob Curling. They work with Swiss Timing, Quattro Media and the OCs to deliver excellent commentary, music, video content and atmosphere.

The world of sport is still suffering from the problems of corruption within high profile federations and the doping scandals which have generated relentless controversy. This "brand damage" to the world of sport, the world of sport events and federations has certainly caused a significant drop in levels of trust and confidence which has been compounded by the struggling global economy and severely constrained corporate budgets.

For an international sports organisation that depends on cash sponsorship from international companies in a rather limited range of product categories, 2019 has been just as difficult as previous years. However, our many initiatives of this year to exploit the new Digital and Social Media trends, as well as increase the quality and quantity of our television coverage have certainly created better promotion of our sport and increased value for possible new partners. So, our focus is now on adapting our sponsorship product to better fit the trend toward tailor-made sponsorship properties that will deliver global reach but can be activated locally in many different ways for specific audiences.

FISA is working hard to effectively differentiate our sponsorship product from that of other sports. For this, we have strengthened our efforts to maintain the high ground in terms of integrity and transparency as well as having maintained our focus on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) which fully utilises our "Clean Water" relationship with WWF International. We are pleased that this strategic partnership shall be continued with the signing of the new agreement at Linz-Ottensheim in August 2019 for a further five years.

<http://www.worldrowing.com/news/course-for-cleaner-water-world-rowing-and-wwf-partner-until-2024-improve-global-water-quality>

With this policy and an experienced and dedicated marketing team, we remain confident that our efforts and flexibility will deliver funding and valuable commercial partnerships

Governance

Governance and ethics remained as high-profile issues in 2019. FISA maintained its focus on this area, with a dedicated resource in place to review governance related matters, make recommendations and support the Executive Committee and the Council in ensuring the preservation of FISA's strong ethical principles and reputation as a benchmark for good governance.

Early in 2019, FISA introduced its policy and procedures on Safeguarding Participants in Rowing from Harassment and Abuse. As part of the implementation process, FISA Event Safeguarding Officers were appointed for all of the 2019 World Rowing events; many other initiatives were also put in place, including training, education and communication exercises on the subject of Safeguarding.

The ASOIF (Association of Summer Olympic International Federations) Governance Self-Assessment Questionnaire was again a welcome initiative with the 3rd edition being launched at the end of 2019 and providing the opportunity for FISA to further explore additional areas to strengthen the governance of our organisation and at the same time demonstrate its already strong governance principles and processes. At the time of writing this report, the latest assessment exercise was released by ASOIF and the results can be found transparently at this download:

http://www.worldrowing.com/mm//Document/General/General/14/23/33/FISA-ASOIFGTFI Fgovernanceassessment2019-20_Neutral.pdf

Alongside this work, the organisation of the main annual governance events - the Joint Commissions' Meeting (JCM), Members Federations' Conferences and the Ordinary Congress – went smoothly. The JCM and MF Conference were successfully staged along with the World Rowing Coaches Conference and the World Rowing Awards Dinner in November 2019, in London, GBR.

Anti-Doping

One of the most important jobs of the international federation is to operate a fully credible and efficient anti-doping programme to discourage doping and to prosecute those who do. The cleanliness of our sport in terms of doping is one of the most important values we share. 2019 continued to be dominated by the McLaren reports which focused on the institutionalised manipulation of anti-doping test results and other manipulations in Russia. At the beginning of 2019, the hard disc containing the Moscow Anti-Doping Laboratory's data base was delivered to WADA and underwent an extensive verification process that resulted in greater clarity on the findings of the McLaren investigation. WADA recently delivered further evidence to the international federations which should lead to further justice for these anti-doping violations.

The Russian Rowing Federation cooperated fully with the requests of the FISA Executive Committee in an effort to create trust in the anti-doping efforts being carried out on Russian rowers and, in 2019, RUSADA was allowed to re-start anti-doping testing in Russia. In 2019, the RRF delivered a list of all international rowers in advance of the season so that FISA, RUSADA and WADA could ensure focused testing could take place on Russian rowers.

Finance & Administration

FISA operates a system of financial controls with appropriate segregation of duties and authorities. Our finances are stable and perform generally in line with our budgets. As you will see in the financial section, we ended 2019 with a deficit of CHF 520'415 due to the extensive spending on the Development Programme in the year before the Olympic Games which is not unexpected at this stage of the four-year plan. After accounting adjustments for exchange rate and release of provision for valuation of securities, we report a surplus of CHF 355'424. Our permanent reserve at the end of the 2017-2020 period, also known as the "Oswald Fund" from the unexpected positive results of the London 2012 Olympic Games, is expected to reach approximately CHF 4'000'000.

PriceWaterhouseCoopers continues as FISA's external financial auditors and, along with the financial audit, reviews accounting policies and internal controls, and makes recommendations as appropriate. FISA transparently reports all financial results and publishes them on the website at this address:

<http://www.worldrowing.com/fisa/publications/>

FISA retains an advisory agency that reviews our insurance policies and assists with new recommendations related to insurance. FISA's investments are managed by an external asset manager under conservative risk parameters established by the Finance Sub-committee with monthly calls to discuss placements and market review by the Treasurer, the Asset Manager, the Controller and myself. The Finance reports are included in a dedicated section of the Agenda Papers.

Conclusion

I would like to thank FISA President Jean-Christophe Rolland for the tremendous commitment he makes to rowing and his support for our work in Lausanne. I would also like to thank the Executive Committee, Council and Commission members as well as the member federations and their staff for their excellent cooperation. This is greatly appreciated by the staff and I. Finally, I would especially like to thank the FISA staff and consultants for their dedication and commitment to rowing and to FISA.

Matt Smith (SUI/USA)

AGENDA ITEM 6

Reports of the Chairs of the Specialist Commissions

1.	Athletes' Commission – Lenka Dienstbach-Wech	27
2.	Competitive Rowing Commission – Rosie Mayglothling	30
3.	Equipment and Technology Commission – Paul Fuchs	32
4.	Events Commission – Eva Szanto	34
5.	Event Promotion Commission – Pat Lambert	36
6.	Masters Rowing Commission – Ron Chen	38
7.	Para Rowing Commission – Fay Ho	41
8.	Rowing for All Commission – Guin Batten	43
9.	Sports Medicine Commission – Jürgen Steinacker	48
10.	Umpiring Commission – Patrick Rombaut	52
11.	Women's Rowing Commission – Jacomine Ravensbergen	55
12.	Youth Rowing Commission – Algirdas Raslanas	58

ATHLETES' COMMISSION

The purpose of the Athletes' Commission is to represent active elite rowers and to act as a liaison between FISA and the elite athlete community concerning any issues affecting the sport of Rowing.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Establish a network of representative rowers throughout the world for a wide canvassing of opinion; providing balanced representation across gender, geographical areas, member federation size, etc;
- Make known to the Council the views of rowers on any matter in the field of competitive rowing, in all its forms, as it sees fit;
- Convene and conduct rowers' surveys and/or meetings at World Rowing Championships and to provide a report to the Executive Committee;
- Analyse the organisation of the World Rowing Championship and Olympic and Paralympic regattas and to report its findings to the Council; and
- Communicate information from FISA to the elite athlete community.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- The FISA safeguarding policy to protect participants in rowing from harassment and abuse – introduced and implemented in FISA from February 2019; FISA Event Safeguarding Officers were on site at each of the 2019 World Rowing events.
- The WADA Outreach Programme was organised at the World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo (JPN) – Athletes' and FISA's pledge against doping. Various activities were held to engage with athletes and entourage to raise awareness about the dangers of doping and to enable athletes to make their statement against doping. A focus has been on the education part of the outreach.
- #Row like a Star programme – A social media initiative where Rowing Stars stated why they are rowing clean; it was an opportunity for young rowers to engage with their rowing stars on social media.
- Declaration of Athletes Rights and Responsibilities – An awareness programme in liaison with the IOC was in place at the World Championships in Linz (AUS).
- Athletes' Commission (AC) representatives at major FISA events - The Commission continued with its practice of involving one member at each of the main FISA events to help FISA communicate with the athletes and to assist athletes with questions and comments.
- Fairness Committee – The Commission participated in the operations of the Fairness Committee during events.
- AC website – Published regular updates on relevant issues around rowing and the global sport movement.
- AC meetings in 2019 – April; December.

Focus for 2020

- Continue the Anti-Doping education activities
- Social media project
- Education programmes on Harassment and Abuse
- Education programme on Dual Career
- Education programme on Declaration of Athletes Rights and Responsibility
- Athletes lane selection
- Mental health awareness project
- Involvement in the FISA Media strategy
- Revision of the current commission structure

Summary

In 2019 the AC continued to be actively involved in FISA working groups which ensured that the Athletes voice was heard. This was supported and encouraged by the President, the Executive Committee and the Council.

Over the last years there has been a continuous call for stronger involvement of athletes in sport organisations and discussions on how to involve the broader community in a democratic process. To make sure that we have a good balance between a direct mandate and the right skillset the AC is preparing the change of the commission structure. The proposal is for the AC to transition to 50% elected members, with the Chair elected by the Commission members and proposed to the Council; the AC is also proposing that the Chair becomes a full, voting member of the Executive Committee.

Education about Anti-Doping continues to be most important to prevent positive cases. The AC will encourage and support a motion to make an education programme mandatory for all athletes. With the growing community of indoor rowers and coastal rowers we see the need for a focus on these groups.

We are very proud that we as a commission have been a strong contributor to the FISA Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. Our task now is to educate and inform athletes about the policy and the procedures so they know about the possibilities if they experience any form of harm.

Another key focus will be on athlete's mental health. With the aid of the soon to be published IOC toolkit the AC is seeking to implement education and awareness programmes.

Having reached the end of my final term as Chair of the Athletes' Commission, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Commission, past and present, who have contributed to the tremendous work of the commission. It has been a great honour for me to serve FISA as a member of the Athletes' Commission since 2002 and Chair since 2012. I wish the Athletes' Commission continued positive and constructive collaborations across Rowing and the Olympic Movement, and I wish my successor, Frida Svensson, all the very best in her new role.

2019 Commission Members

Lenka Dienstbach-Wech (GER), Chair

Julien Bahain (CAN)

Hannah Every-Hall (AUS)

Sjoerd Hamburger (NED)

Sophie Hosking (GBR)

Lawrence Ndluvo (RSA)

Robin Prendes (USA)

Moran Samuel (ISR)

Frida Svensson (SWE)

Lenka Dienstbach-Wech (GER), Chair

COMPETITIVE ROWING COMMISSION

The purpose of the Competitive Rowing Commission is firstly to act as a centre of excellence in the coaching field and provide support to regions to develop sustainable coach education, and secondly to increase the breadth and depth of participation in all types of competitive rowing.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Coaching
 - Advise on coaching practice and coach education including support in the production of specific coach education material and coaching courses and seminars;
 - Assist in the implementation of the Coaching Development Programme in conjunction with the Development department;
 - Organise the annual FISA Coaches Conference.
 - Advise on coach identification and recruitment; and
 - Liaise with coaches and implement a coaches' communication network.
- Competition
 - Regulate international rowing competition in terms of (i) composition (events, boat-classes and categories), (ii) conditions, (iii) environment, and (iv) international regatta programme;
 - Analyse and review competition from the point of view of changes, e.g. in competitive standards, social and financial environment, global mobility, participation levels; and
 - Undertake the tasks delegated to it by the Council or the Rules in relation to FISA Events, such as fairness and seeding.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- The 2019 World Rowing Coaches Conference was held in London in November 2019 and the theme was “Managing your Environment to Maximise Performance”. Laurel Korholz and Thomas Poulsen were the coaches in the spotlight and Jean Côté did a keynote address on “Connection before Correction: the development of individual interest and performance in rowing”. Other topics included developing the culture within the training environment, developing a para rowing programme with a special session on coaching PR1 and PR2 rowers, racing in hot and humid conditions and how and why altitude training works. The Beach Sprint workshop highlighted the event with inputs from Guin Batten, Chair of the Rowing for All Commission who was joined by a coach, a rower and a physiologist. A series of mini workshops at the end of the day gave coaches the opportunity to engage with three topics. The day before the Conference started a group of primarily coach educators completed two workshops: one on safeguarding led by Sandi Kirby, the other on transformational coaching led by Jean Côté.
- Development. The Commission continued to work with the Development programme and supported the launch of the new look World Rowing coaching award scheme and assisted at training camps.
- The Women's Development Strategy goal of increasing the number of women coaches has led to a push to increase the number of women at the Coaches Conference and to the launch of the Women's Sport Leadership Academy (WSLA) High Performance Coach programme.

- Seeding. The Commission conducted seeding according to the FISA Seeding Protocol at the European championships, World Rowing Cups and World Rowing Championships.
- Fairness. Two members of the Commission prepared all the information for each event in 2019. Any data already available was reviewed and in particular data for Tokyo, a new course, was collected and evaluated in preparation for the Olympic and Paralympic Regattas. Fairness Committees operated at the European Championships, the World Cups, World Rowing Senior, U23 and Junior Championships and at the African Qualification event.
- Competitive Rowing Commission meetings in 2019 – Video conference calls plus meetings in July, August, October and November.

Focus for 2020

- Increase the standard and number of coaches by:
 - Creating opportunities for coaches to access education and improve knowledge and expertise; in particular, review the website content.
 - Ensure coaches can access coaching materials for coastal and indoor rowing.
 - Continuing to support the Development programmes.
 - Continue to support the Women’s Development strategy goal of increasing the number of women coaches.
- As part of a wider project provide an analysis tool enabling all coaches to access FISA GPS data.
- Undertake a rigging survey for junior boats at the World Rowing Championships in Bled and for the para rowing boats at the Paralympic Games.
- Support FISA to evaluate alternative formats of the sport and work with other Commissions to develop these as appropriate.

Summary

The Commission has worked effectively to find positive solutions for all aspects of coach development, event management, fairness and seeding. Thanks to the members of the Commission for their continued time and effort for the sport, to the other Commissions we work with closely and also to the Council, Executive Committee and FISA Staff for their continued cooperation.

2019 Commission Members

Rosie Mayglothling (GBR), Chair	Faycal Soula (TUN)
Pascale Bouton (FRA)	Marcello Varialle (BRA)
Peter Cookson (CAN)	Mario Woldt (GER)
Johan Flodin (NOR)	Henk-Jan Zwolle (NED)
Nebojsa Ilic (SBR)	

Rosie Mayglothling (GBR), Chair

EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

The purpose of the Equipment & Technology Commission (ETC) is to support development in the field of rowing equipment, including the review of new technology and its potential application to rowing.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Establish the standards for the safety of rowing equipment from the point of view of safety of the rowers and enforce this at FISA events;
- Establish and ensure compliance with rules concerning boats and equipment used in rowing events to which the FISA Statutes and Rules of Racing apply, including working in co-operation with the Control Commission at FISA World Championships;
- Encourage the production of inexpensive rowing equipment complying with specified standards;
- Encourage and promote dissemination of information and courses on boat building and repairs;
- Survey equipment in use and produce theoretical material and drawings for rowing equipment;
- Collect and review scientific information, relating to equipment and technology, available for the sport of rowing; and
- Be the point of contact with FISA for the manufacturers of equipment and technology in the sport of rowing, including innovations (Rule 40).

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Revision of Rules and Bye-Laws in the area of equipment coastal rowing has been evolving rapidly with events now taking place all over the world. We continue to study our rules and the safety of the equipment. We have made recommendations to the Rowing for All Commission with regards to weights and critical dimensions. We are also working to try to find a penalty notification system that will work on the water during racing.
- Para rowing boat decision and equipment recommendations - The equipment for para rowing is under continual review with regard to safety and ease of use. Recent discussions have centred on the weight of the boats, strapping and foot stretchers.
- Electronics - We are continually being challenged by the development of new technology in electronics. We are now part of a study group looking into ways in which more information can be collected and presented both in real time during racing as well as after racing, through the FISA timing and information system. Presently we are having some success in controlling the equipment in the boat and the teams understand the limitations.
- Innovation designs - We have had a number of innovative designs presented for review, primarily foot stretchers, and oars. Changing the rules so that no parts of the oar can move during racing has provided clarity on this issue. All the innovations presented to the ETC have been reviewed and recommendations made to the Executive Committee.
- We are also working with the Sustainability Project. This has been given increased emphasis and we will be looking into life-cycle costs, communicating with manufacturers and discussing how we can contribute to making our sport more environmentally friendly.

- As part of the 2019 Commission appointments process, Arnoud Greidanus was appointed to the ETC for the term beginning 1 January 2020 and invited to attend the 2019 JCM in November. Arnoud will ensure the continuance of a strong technical background on the Commission. In addition to being a world champion, Arnoud also has a PhD in Fluid Mechanics and has done research work on rowing equipment. We welcome Arnoud to our Commission.
- ETC meetings in 2019 – Joint Commissions Meeting, London (GBR), November; Teleconferences.

Focus for 2020

- Review safety guidelines
- Coastal Rowing technical developments
- Sustainability for equipment and venues
- Maintain electronics oversight and control
- Review innovations

Summary

Looking ahead to 2020, we look forward to working with Arnoud, the new member of our Commission. Coastal rowing, with its continued fast growth and potential as an Olympic event, will keep us working to support that initiative. We will continue to monitor new electronics and technology and their use in competition. We would like to find a way that athletes, coaches and spectators can benefit from developments in this area while keeping it fair for all.

Thank you to the FISA family, we appreciate the help, input and counsel we receive in doing our work.

2019 Commission Members

Paul Fuchs (USA), Chair

Marko Banovic (CRO)

Mathias Binder (SUI)

Conny Draper (AUS)

Thanassis Mitrousis (GRE)

Stefan Piesik (GER)

Paul Fuchs (USA), Chair

EVENTS COMMISSION

The purpose of the Events Commission is to establish and monitor the standards of international regattas and of all FISA events with regard to the venue, the technical installations, the safety of rowers and the organisation of the events.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Advise organising committees of FISA events on the standard of facilities and regatta courses and also on the organisation of events;
- Maintain and improve the standard of regatta organisation at all major international events in co-operation with other FISA Commissions as appropriate;
- Visit and inspect regatta courses and regattas;
- Provide advice and guidance at every stage from initial concept to final commissioning in the development of new courses and new regattas;
- Provide members for the technical group responsible for inspecting candidates of future championships and multi-sport Games candidates;
- Monitor and co-ordinate changes to the structure of the FISA international regatta calendar in conjunction with the FISA Events staff taking into consideration the advice of the relevant FISA Commissions; and
- Prepare and regularly update documents and manuals which specify the FISA requirements for all aspects of: a) the upgrading of existing courses; b) the development of new courses; c) the organisation of championships and major regattas.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Attendance at World Rowing events - Members of the Events Commission were involved in all events, including preparatory planning visits. The Commission also continued to attend and advise on several continental events during the year, including the African Continental Olympic Qualification Regatta.
- 2019 World Rowing regattas were successfully completed. In order to improve the presentation of the sport, the use of drones has now become a standard at all televised World Rowing events.
- FISA Manual – The updated 2019 version of the FISA Manual is published on worldrowing.com following a full review and update.
- A Technical Delegates (TDs) workshop was held in Rotterdam 12-14 April 2019 with all the Events Commission members and FISA Events team participating. The goal of the workshop was to reinforce some aspects of our technical knowledge, review procedures in order to maintain a consistent approach of TDs across all World Rowing events, and train new Commission members in their role as TDs.
- New members were active at events and have been fully integrated into the Commission's activities.
- At World Rowing Cup II in Poznan, World Rowing Cup III in Rotterdam and the WRU23CH in Sarasota, different contingency scenarios had to be used due to adverse weather conditions and at all three events they were executed very well, professionally.

- Members of the Events Commission participated actively in Working Groups (WG) to advance strategic projects, such as the Time Trials WG, Coastal Rowing WG.
- Time Trials – During the season we continued testing both single lane and two lane scenarios. Time Trials were used as a contingency at WR Cup III in Rotterdam.
- Commission meetings in 2019: TD Workshop, 12-14 April, Rotterdam (NED); JCM and Commission meeting, 22-25 November, London (GBR)

Focus for 2020

- Continue planning for and deliver events, including Olympic and Paralympic Games Regattas, Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regattas and all other World Rowing events.
- Transfer of knowledge across the Commission to organising committees (OCs) of rowing regattas; identification of a “pool of talent”, the next generation of TDs for continental events.
- Translation of the continental and basic FISA Manuals into Spanish and French - linked to knowledge transfer.
- Consider alternative formats for the meetings with the organising committees and training sessions for them at the JCM in autumn after the season.
- Review the water safety/rescue procedures, course evacuation & communication protocols.
- Introduce a survey template to be used by OCs and/or their contracted partners for course surveys before World Rowing events.
- Discuss whether to introduce the compulsory use of an Automatic Start System for WRJCH and WRU23CH, as well as WRCH.
- Explore new technologies/methods of event promotion, sport presentation and also means of improving event automation, also with the view of making World Rowing regattas more sustainable.

Summary

Ongoing challenges in terms of venue costs and locations mean the Commission should continue to be attentive to the demands which venue requirements make on the future of our sport.

The Events Commission will continue to be involved in a wide range of FISA’s work with clear focus on the quality of event preparation, including the review of water safety requirements and protocols, in close consultation with the excellent Events team at the FISA office. It will continue its work to support and extend good practice at continental and regional levels.

2019 Commission Members

Eva Szanto (HUN), Chair

Victoria Aguirregomezcorta (ARG)

Joost De Geus (NED)

Matt Draper (SUI)

John Hedger (GBR)

Selwyn Jackson (RSA)

Pascal Jolly (FRA)

Victor NG (HKG)

Svetla Otzetova (BUL)

Bill Schenck (CAN)

Jernej Slivnik (SLO)

Nikola Stojic (SRB)

Eva Szanto (HUN), Chair

EVENT PROMOTION COMMISSION

The purpose of the Event Promotion Commission is to maximise and optimise the event promotion opportunities and activities of FISA events.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Advise organising committees of FISA's main events on:
 - Their policy and strategic planning for the promotion of their event;
 - Promoting their event to the local, regional and international communities, utilising all media and communications platforms as well as stakeholder relations;
 - Improving stakeholder experience at events through sport presentation, social media, reporting and information distribution.
- Assist with the transfer of knowledge on promotion strategies and activities between FISA and past, present and future organising committees of FISA's main events:
 - By developing and populating FISA's knowledge transfer database in the event promotion area;
 - By facilitating interaction between organising committees of events in the event promotion area.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Knowledge transfer - Members attended events during 2019, assessing set-ups and gaining experience and ideas for their own World Championships and/or the overall knowledge. The events attended were:
 - European Championships, Luzern (SUI), June – Liliane Pretterhofer (AUT)
 - World Rowing Cup III, Rotterdam (NED), July – Pat Lambert (BEL)
 - World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT), August – Jana Hellerova (CZE), Xie Tian (CHN), Pat Lambert (BEL)Some members also attended events in their role in their respective organising committees; these events are not listed.
- Organising Committee's (OCs) - Members of the Commission report a huge benefit from exchanges between past and forthcoming OCs in terms of promotion, budget, and organisation.
- Sharing best practice for event promotion - active role in staging events by sharing ideas for the benefit of the sport.
- Preparation for the 2020 season, also with other 2020 OCs (e.g. Varese, Racice, ...)
- Event Promotion Commission meetings in 2019 – Commission meeting and Joint Commission meeting, London (UK), November; several on-line meetings to report on events on a regular basis as well as bilateral on-line meetings to exchange more frequently and re-assess the Commission working methods.

Focus for 2020

- Further develop ideas on discussions papers together with other Commissions
- Continue work on reformulation of event promotion as part of the bid process
- Continue work on an event promotion kit including best practices and a promotion timeline
- Continue regular debriefing (on-line meetings)
- Meetings with OC's at an early stage to share best practices

Summary

Building on the experience of the previous seasons, the Event Promotion Commission considers it effectively contributes to FISA's goals and objectives.

The members have continuous and fruitful discussions on themes and ideas for event promotion by sharing their knowledge and the experience of the Chair who can contribute with a longer trail of experience, and best practices.

The Commission wants to express its sincere thanks to FISA staff, as well as to the member of the Commission who left this year Lyudmil Karavasiliev, for a constructive and positive collaboration.

2019 Commission Members

Patricia Lambert (BEL), Chair

Jana Hellerova (CZE)

Masakuni Hosobuchi (JPN)

Lyudmil Karavasiliev (BUL)

Liliane Pretterhofer (AUT)

Xie Tian (CHN)

Pat Lambert (BEL), Chair

MASTERS ROWING COMMISSION

The purpose of the Masters Rowing Commission is to oversee and promote Masters rowing in all its forms on a national and international basis.

The main activities of the Masters Rowing Commission are to:

- Organise the World Rowing Masters Regatta (WRMR) annually;
- In cooperation with other Commissions, establish standard masters classes in other forms of rowing;
- Gather dates and locations of key international masters regattas for the international calendar;
- Publish written information; and
- Consult with and advise the Youth Rowing Commission regarding the Masters Fund for Youth Rowing and the use of the resources of the Fund.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- **2019 WRMR**, Budapest/Velence HUN - The 2019 World Rowing Masters Regatta on Lake Velence, near Budapest, was enormously successful in every aspect. Over the course of five calendar days (three full days and two half days), we conducted 715 individual races at three minute intervals, consisting of 5070 boat entries and 14,171 seat entries (w/o coxswains). Over 3,600 individual competitors participated. We were again blessed with good weather, but overall credit must be given to the extremely able organising committee (OC) which handled the complex logistical challenges, both on and off the water, with great dedication and skill.
- **Entry Caps** - After lengthy study and planning, for the first time in 2019 we implemented limitations on entries, i.e. numerical limits on the number of entries in each event based on data from previous years with periodic adjustment by the Commission. This was necessary in order to keep the regatta inclusive but also within a manageable and predictable size. I am pleased to report that this new system was a complete success in that it allowed us to assure that there would be no more than 180 races in a day (our assessment of the most we could safely manage) but nevertheless, with some minor adjustments, we were not required to deny anyone who entered before the deadline the opportunity to race in their chosen event. We therefore anticipate that the 2019 regatta may serve as a template for future WRMRs held in Europe in terms of size and logistic needs.
- **Club Trophy Programme** - We continued for the third year the club trophies for both men's and women's events based on points accrued for each race. The club trophy programme is attracting increased interest among the competitors who appreciate that it rewards clubs that sustain masters programmes, but at the same time does not detract from individual accomplishments that are recognised through the medals for race winners that have always been awarded. For 2020 we will continue this programme, and the Commission has decided that we should add a third trophy for combined men's and women's events with the proviso that points earned in one gender cannot be more than double the points earned in the other gender so that only clubs that have sustainable programmes in both genders will earn sufficient points to be competitive for this trophy.

- **Anti-doping testing at the WRMR** – In Budapest/Velence, for the second year, FISA undertook random anti-doping tests. A number of tests were conducted throughout the regatta for both women's and men's events under the auspices of the Hungarian Anti-Doping Agency. Masters are particularly well positioned to demonstrate leadership in the fight for fair and honest sport. We would like to remind competitors using substances for medical reasons that Masters rowers may use the retroactive Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) procedure according to Article 4.4.5 of the World Anti-Doping Code.
- **Masters Fund for Youth Rowing** – We continue to work collegially with the Youth Rowing Commission in supporting the longstanding and extremely successful fund to support youth rowing in developing countries. We have made it a priority to communicate more clearly to the masters rowers, whose 1€ per seat donation funds this programme, about the impact it is having on making rowing accessible to the next generation; in Budapest/Velence we had a rollup banner created for this purpose.
- **Strategic Event Attribution Process** - For the first time, the WRMR was attributed, along with the other World Rowing events, in a combined and coordinated attribution process for the years 2021 to 2024. This was at times a hectic process as the WRMR received bids from 13 very attractive venues and the members of the Masters Rowing Commission engaged in multiple site visits over a brief period of time in Spring 2019. The decisions were difficult but the results were well worth it, as we now have four outstanding venues for our regatta: 2021, Banyoles ESP; 2022, Libourne FRA; 2023, Pretoria, RSA (this will be the first World Rowing regatta held in Africa); 2024, Brandenburg, GER. Knowing the venues so far in advance has allowed us to schedule regular teleconferences with future organisers so that we can provide technical and strategic advice well in advance of the regatta.

Focus for 2020

- **Development of masters rowing globally** - Apart from supervising the annual WRMR, the Commission is also charged with encouraging the growth of masters rowing around the world. Masters rowing is obviously well-established in Europe, North America, and Oceania, but also in Central and South America, and the growth of masters rowing in Asia is becoming expansive. The Commission will endeavour to help develop the lines of communication that can bind and unite the masters community in all populated continents, working with the national federations but also directly with masters rowers communities. We can accomplish this partially through use of modern digital media, and also by encouraging the development of regional masters regattas, especially for athletes who are not able to attend the WRMR regularly. For the next four year quadrennium, we hope to focus in particular on further developing ties with the masters communities in Central and South America. We also identified large regatta management as an area where we might be able to provide assistance and education to organisers from developing regions.
- **Technology improvements** – The challenges of dealing with over 5,000 boat entries and approximately 15,000 seat entries each year have made it imperative that we use newly developed information technology capabilities wherever possible. Moreover, ensuring competitors' compliance with eligibility rules is a major challenge (we were able to achieve 98% onsite verification of age and identity at the 2019 WRMR). For the past four years we have used RegattaCentral as our entry systems registrar, and having been very pleased with the service we have received, we have renewed RegattaCentral as our registrar for another multi-year contract. We are also issuing an RFP for a timing and results system provider so that we will have consistent quality in those vital areas in 2021 to 2024.

- **Indoor rowing and coastal rowing** - We are also monitoring the development of masters events in the two newer disciplines of our sport: indoor rowing and coastal rowing. We recognise that the masters competitors in both those disciplines have developed their own customs and rules, and we hope to provide whatever assistance we can without interfering with their own flourishing programmes.
- **2020 WRMR** - We look forward to welcoming many of you to the 46th World Rowing Masters Regatta at Linz/Ottensheim, the site of the 2019 World Rowing Championships, 2-6 September, 2020.

Summary

This was my first year as Chair, having succeeded the much beloved Tone Pahle, and I am supported by very able and high-functioning Commission members who combine their diverse talents on matters both on and off the water to create admirable synergies. In 2019, we had a special meeting in Lausanne to engage in strategic planning for the next four years and to meet with FISA staff at our headquarters. We also had meetings at the 2019 WRMR in Budapest/Velence and at the Joint Commissions Meetings in London Heathrow. The site visit that would normally take place in autumn for the 2020 WRMR was postponed to February 2020, since the 2020 WRMR will be in Linz/Ottensheim, the host of the 2019 WRCs, whose technical installations are less in need of inspection.

2019 Commission Members

Ron Chen (USA), Chair

Gary Bain (GBR)

Inga Daukantiene (LTU)

Sebastian Franke (GER)

Ana Nikolic (SRB)

Zdena Norkova (CZE)

Herman Van Velze (RSA)

Ronald Chen (USA), Chair

PARA ROWING COMMISSION

The purpose of the Para Rowing Commission is to oversee and promote rowing for persons with an impairment (para rowers) on a national and international basis.

The main activities of the Para Rowing Commission are to:

- develop inclusive policies within FISA;
- develop inclusive competitions for all forms of rowing;
- increase participation in para rowing at all levels of performance;
- promote and monitor trends in para rowing at national, international and paralympic levels;
- include para rowing in active life programmes;
- research and disperse knowledge on para rowing to the community.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- World Rowing Indoor Championships, Long Beach (USA), 24 February. A total of six member federations (MFs) (CAN, GER, HUN, POL, SVK and USA) competed in open 2000m events. The entries for each event were: PR1M (4); PR2W (3); PR2M (5); PR3W (4); PR3M (6). Four rowers with physical impairment were classified. Four rowers with Intellectual impairment from three MFs (GER, HUN, USA) competed in open 2000m events.
- International Para Rowing Regatta and training camp, Gavirate (ITA), 12-19 May. A total of 26 MFs (ARG, AUS, AUT, BEL, CAN, FRA, GBR, GER, HUN, ISR, ITA, JPN, KEN, LBA, NED, NZL, PAR, POL, RSA, RUS, SUD, SUI, SWE, TUN, UGA, UKR), with 93 crews, competed in the para rowing events. The entries for each event were: PR1W1X (8); PR1M1X (24); PR2Mix2X (7); PR3Mix2x (7); PR3Mix4+ (10); PR2W1X (5); PR2M1X (11); PR3W2- (2); PR3M2- (13), PR3IDMix2x (2) and PR3IDMix4+ (4). 46 rowers with physical impairment and 15 rowers with visual impairment were classified. 22 rowers participated in "Contribution of trunk function to performance of fixed seat rowing" research. 23 rowers from eight countries took part in the development training camp.
- World Rowing Cup II, Poznan (POL), 21-23 June. A total of 15 MFs (AUS, BEL, BLR, CAN, FRA, GBR, GER, ITA, LTU, NED, NGR, NOR, POL, UKR and USA), with 40 crews, competed in the para rowing events. The entries for each event were: PR1W1X (6); PR1M1X (13); PR2Mix2X (5), PR3Mix4+ (7), PR2M1x (8) and PR3M2-(4). Seven rowers with physical impairment were classified.
- World Rowing Cup III, Rotterdam (NED), 11-14 July. A total of 11 MFs (BEL, BRA, GER, HUN, ISR, NED, LIE, NOR, POL, SWE and UKR), with 25 crews, competed in the para rowing events. The entries for each event were: PR1W1X (5); PR1M1X (8); PR2Mix2X (2); PR3Mix2x (1); PR3Mix4+ (4); PR2W1x (2); PR2M1X (3).
- World Rowing Championships, Linz (AUT), 25 August – 1 September. A total of 37 MFs (ARG, AUS, AUT, BEL, BLR, BRA, BUL, CAN, CHN, ESP, FRA, GBR, GER, HUN, IRI, IRL, ISR, ITA, JPN, KOR, LAT, LBA, LTU, MEX, NED, NGR, NOR, NZL, PAR, POL, RSA, RUS, SUD, SWE, UKR, URU and USA), comprising 101 crews, competed in the para rowing events. The entries for each event were: PR1W1X (14); PR1M1X (27); PR2Mix2X (12); PR3Mix2x (7); PR3Mix4+ (17); PR2W1X (6); PR2M1X (8); PR3W2- (2); PR3M2- (8). 36 rowers with physical impairment and nine rowers with visual impairment were classified.

- Africa Paralympic Qualification Regatta, Tunis (TUN), 4-13 October. A total of nine MFs (ALG, CPV, KEN, LBA, NAM, NGR, SUD, TUN, UGA), with 13 crews, took part in the training camp and nine crews competed at the Qualification Regatta. The entries for each event were: PR1W1X (3); PR1M1X (6); seven rowers with physical impairment were classified.
- Asian Para Rowing Training Camp and Championship, Chungju (KOR), 19-27 October. A total of ten MFs (BRN, HKG, INA, IND, IRI, JPN, KOR, SRI, THA, UZB), with 17 crews, competed in the para rowing events. The entries for each event were: PR1W1X (3); PR1M1X (6); PR2Mix2X (1); PR3Mix2x (2); PR3Mix4+ (4). Only National Classification provided.
- A strategic plan was developed for the continued development of para rowing.
- The para rowing boat research project was concluded, and the Council decision was finalised. The proposal is for a 2kg weight reduction to the PR2 1x minimum weight.
- A pool of coaching tutors and mentors was identified, who are able to use and promote the newly developed para rowing educational modules and material. The objective is to make para rowing a regular component of FISA coaching courses and activities.
- Para Rowing Commission meetings were held in August and November 2019.

Focus for 2020

- Increase member federation representation at international para rowing events, including multi-sport games, indoor rowing and coastal rowing
- Develop a process to re-include intellectually impaired athletes into para rowing
- Develop para rowing specific safeguarding policies and best practices
- Raise the profile of our para rowers and coaches wherever possible

Summary

I would like to thank all FISA colleagues and Commission members for their contribution to the Para Rowing Commission. The enormous support from the FISA staff during the year, particularly from the Development team, is also very much appreciated. Thanks also to the International Paralympic Committee, National Federations and Paralympic Committees, the Agitos Foundation and all of the other bodies with whom we work closely to ensure that para rowing is a fully integrated part of FISA.

2019 Commission Members

Fay Ho (HKG), Chair

Monika Kucima (POL)

Marco Galeone (RSA)

Gordon Marcks (AUS)

Simon Goodey (GBR)

Rebecca Orr (CAN)

Paola Grizzetti (ITA)

Han Seung Hon (KOR)

Fay Ho (HKG), Chair

ROWING FOR ALL COMMISSION

The purpose of the Rowing for All Commission is to oversee and promote on a national and international basis all the following forms of rowing: touring, fitness and recreational rowing; coastal and traditional rowing; and indoor rowing.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Collaborate with member federations to share knowledge, expertise and develop the above forms of rowing, in new countries and to new rowers;
- Guide the strategic growth of international competitions and challenges, to support the development of different disciplines and formats, notably coastal, beach and indoor;
- Oversee the organisation of the World Rowing Coastal Championship Regatta and the World Rowing Tour;
- Develop activities to protect and promote the heritage boat classes and support the traditional activities and regattas; and
- Foster communication between the different rowing communities.

Key Activities and achievements in 2019

World Rowing Tours

- **2019 World Rowing Tour New Zealand**, 9 to 16 April. The tour was successfully staged using rowing coastal quad sculls in the Marlborough Sounds at the “Top of the South” island of New Zealand, in the alpine Lake Rotoiti and in the Bay of Nelson, for a total of approximately 120 km. The Tour had 50 participants with 40 seats in 8 boats each day and a couple of spares and accompanying non-rowers. The Tour included a traditional Maori welcome and culture, and a breath-taking natural wilderness landscape. Safety arrangements were in place, but not needed. There were no incidents. The Tour was a significant contributor to the purchase of four of the coastal quad sculls used on the Tour, which were later shipped to American Samoa for the foundation fleets of the FISA development programmes in Samoa and American Samoa. The Tour was superintended by two FISA representatives from the Rowing For All Commission – Andrea Ranner and Warwick Marler.
- **2019 World Rowing Tour Finland**, 20 to 27 July. The tour was successfully staged, rowing traditional Finnish church boats from Lieska on Lake Pielinen to Joensuu in Karelia, Northern Finland for a total of approximately 160 km. We had 40 rowers in three church boats. The Tour included cultural visits, and a breath-taking natural wilderness landscape. Safety arrangements were in place; there were no incidents. At the Farewell Dinner, the father of FISA World Rowing Tours and long-term chair of the Rowing For All Commission, Bo Gammals, was our special guest. The participants on both Tours each contributed €50 to the FISA Tour Rowing Development Fund, which went towards the purchase of the fleet of coastal boats sent to American Samoa. The Tour was superintended by two FISA representatives from the Rowing For All Commission – Andrea Ranner and Warwick Marler.
- The 2020 World Rowing Tour was awarded to American Samoa.

Coastal Rowing

- **2019 World Rowing Coastal Championships**, 1-3 November. The 2019 World Rowing Coastal Championship was hosted in the historic Victoria Harbour, in Hong Kong China. It was the first time the Championships had been held in Asia. The racing conditions were lively with a complex lattice of waves generated by the NE wind, the wash off the mass of commercial traffic and the bounce back off the dock walls. The racetrack took the fleet along the face of Hong Kong Island, providing a tight turn into a series of chicanes and a double loop for the main finals. The organising committee's (OC) ability to work in collaboration with the local authorities was outstanding. The minute-by-minute communication with the 'coxswains' of the ferries cutting the racing fleet, shows what is possible for future harbour venues.

In addition, Hong Kong was affected by a series of demonstrations which had caused a number of other international sporting events to be cancelled. The organising committee went above and beyond to create safe conditions and protect the movement of volunteers and teams to and from the venue.

There was a total of 578 rowers and 238 crews from 28 nations competing for seven titles. This is the largest entry for a championship held outside of Europe. The medals were spread over ten different nations, with Hong Kong, China winning the first championship title for an Asian federation. The regatta had the second highest ever percentage of women racing (40%) at the Championships.

MEDAL WINNERS 2019	WOMEN	MEN
Solo C1x	UKR 01 30:20.10 DYMCHENKO FRA 01 +0:28.47 BERRA NED 01 +1:00.67 V-D MEULEN	ESP 02 27:15.20 MIRAMON GER 01 +0:15.99 WICHERT ITA 01 +0:29.91 MARTINI
Double Scull C2x	RUS 01 27:58.78 FRA 03 +0:16.18 HKG 01 +0:43.45	ESP 01 25:02.71 UKR 01 +0:02.60 MON 01 +0:05.27
	MIXED	
	UKR 01 26:19.98; NED 01 +0:19.64; ESP 02 +0:37.46	
Coxed Quadruple Scull C4x+	HKG 01 25:49.19 RUS 01 +0:5.46 DEN 01 +0:47.59	ITA 02 23:06.59 ITA 01 +0:11.69 ESP 02 +0:14.71
World Rowing Coastal Championships Nations Trophy	1. ESP 64 points 2. ITA 48 points 3. FRA 45 points 4. NED 39 points 5. UKR 37 points	6. HKG 36 points 7. GER 27 points 8= RUS 25 points 8= GBR 25 points 10. MON 22 points

The OC from the Hong Kong China Rowing Association (HKCRA) put on an outstanding regatta. The host venue, the Hong Kong Yacht Club, provided a warm welcome to all. The racing had a full TV production team, using drone, long lens and camera boats to capture the action. The footage was outstanding and showcased how exciting the 'enduro' format can be. The races were live broadcasted on Hong Kong television as well as on the internet and on big screens at the Yacht Club and downtown Hong Kong in Victoria Park.

YEAR	LOCATION	CW4X+	CW2X	CW1X	CM4X+	CM2X	CM1X	CMIX2X	CREWS	ROWERS	NF	NF MEDALS
2007	Cannes, FRA	22	13	13	29	43	38		158	418		6
2008	San Remo, ITA	16	16	16	37	39	27		151	418		7
2009	Plymouth, GBR	22	13	13	30	52	40		170	443		8
2010	Istanbul, TUR	17	13	20	27	50	45		172	411		9
2011	Bari, ITA	14	18	16	39	54	32		173	457		5
2012	Not held	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-
2013	H'borg, SWE	9	16	18	21	31	32		128	299	20	8
2014	Thessa'niki GRE	10	23	19	33	38	28		151	384	23	7
2015	Lima PER	9	9	22	14	33	39		126	260	25	6
2016	Monaco	25	33	32	53	70	66		279	694	31	11
2017	Thonon, FRA	27	35	36	37	68	66		269	628	32	12
2018	Sidney, CAN	20	26	26	19	35	57	31	214	462	22	9
2019	Hong Kong	23	31	24	34	42	45	39	238	578	28	10

- **2019 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals.** The First World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals were held in on Dameisha Beach, Shenzhen, China. National teams raced in four events: CM1x, CW1x, CMix2x and the CMix4x+. Thirty-five crews from eleven nations competed across the four events, with six nations winning medals (CHN 4 medals, ESP 2 medals, FRA 2 medals, GBR 2 medals, GRE 1 medals, NED 1 medals).

The OC was from the provincial, city and local governments of Dameisha, Yantian District in the city of Shenzhen and the Chinese Rowing Association. The OC did an outstanding job in showcasing the possibilities of the event for athletes and spectators alike. The Dameisha Beach is a very popular swimming beach with a small, but at times challenging 'dumping' wave onto a shelving beach.

- **Future Events** – The 2020 World Rowing Coastal Championships and the 2020 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals will be held in Oeiras (POR) in September/October 2020.
- **Attribution of future events.** At the time of writing the attributions for the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Coastal Championships and Beach Sprint Finals are underway.

Indoor Rowing

- **2019 World Rowing Indoor Championships (Long Beach, California, USA).** In its second year, the 2019 World Rowing Indoor Championships (WRICH) in Long Beach, CA, USA saw over 700 indoor rowers go after the world championship titles. The event was held in partnership with Concept2, USRowing, and the Long Beach Rowing Association, on 24 February at the Walter Pyramid in Long Beach, and was combined with the inaugural US Rowing Indoor National Championships and also the Long Beach Rowing Association Beach Sprints.
- **2019 World Urban Games (Budapest, HUN).** The inaugural World Urban Games (WUG) took place in Budapest (HUN) in September. It featured indoor rowing as a showcase sport among other sports such as parkour, breakdancing, 3 x 3 basketball, laser run, BMX, and more. FISA successfully showcased 6 new race formats over 3 days of competition, and collaborated closely with indoor rowing partners to accomplish this. Athletes from around the world competed in an open online qualification process to earn one of the 8 male and 8 female spots at the WUG.

- **2020 World Rowing Indoor Championships (Paris, FRA).** Paris, France was announced as the host city for the 2020 World Rowing Indoor Championships, bringing the event to Europe for the first time.
- **Other Indoor Rowing initiatives:**
 1. Collaboration with indoor partners. In order to support the indoor rowing ecosystem, FISA is continuously improving relationships and developing partnerships with key stakeholders in the indoor rowing community.
 2. 2019 World Rowing Virtual Indoor Sprints. This annual event saw over 6000 athletes from 73 countries compete, and continues to be a popular event for traditional and non-traditional rowers alike.
 3. 2021-2024 Event Attribution. Following the success of the Strategic Event Attribution process for flat water rowing events, FISA is running an ongoing attribution process for the 2021-2024 World and European Rowing Indoor Championships.

Meetings of the Commission

- Coastal Rowing Working Group, London (GBR), March
- World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals, Shenzhen (CHN), October
- World Rowing Coastal Championships, Hong Kong China (HKG), October
- Joint Commissions Meeting, London (GBR), November

Focus for 2020

- **Future of Coastal Rowing** - The discipline of coastal rowing continues to grow across the globe, with member federations embracing the discipline in different ways to meet the needs of their rowing communities.
 - In March 2019, the Coastal Rowing Working Group met in London to discuss the future of the coastal discipline, these discussions have been included in the World Rowing Strategic Plan.
 - The announcement in late 2019 that Beach Sprint will be the competition format for the 2022 Youth Olympic Games (YOG), means a world and regional competition pathway for juniors is being designed for the five YOG events: CJM1x, CJW1x, CJM2x, CJ2x and the CJMix2x.
 - 2020 has the potential to be a big year for coastal, as Council and Congress continue to explore how this alternative, exciting and unpredictable discipline can become a central part of rowing's global offer.
- **Future of Indoor Rowing** - Indoor rowing offers more opportunity than any other discipline of rowing to activate new participants. The indoor rowing world is largely driven by equipment manufacturers and athletes, and FISA will continue to take the approach to support these key stakeholders in driving the discipline forward.
 - In March 2019, the Indoor Rowing Working Group met in London to discuss the future of the indoor discipline, these discussions have been included in the World Rowing Strategic Plan.
 - FISA and Concept2 have announced a new partnership for 2021-2024 relating to the World and European Rowing Indoor Championships. With their invaluable support, FISA

aims to improve the sport presentation of the WRICH, and distinguish the WRICH as the hallmark event of the indoor rowing season.

- FISA will continue to explore new race formats to introduce in competition in order to attract diverse participants to the sport and to create a stronger narrative for the sake of presentation. The 2019 WUG was a first step in examining the excitement which new race formats can offer while still honouring core race formats (such as the 2000 metre race).
- FISA is sanctioning a new eRace series by RP3, and is looking forward to further developing the concept with RP3 and showcasing more eRaces on our digital platforms.
- **Governance and Rules** - Council continue to explore changes to the governance structures to accommodate the voice and growth in the disciplines of coastal and indoor, so that leaders and technical experts from both communities can be a central part of our governance structures.
- **Member Federations support** - Many member federations have limited coaching and event expertise in coastal rowing, especially on open beaches. Supporting federations to grow the skills of their coaches, umpires, event organisers and rowers so they are confident and competent in the sea environment will be important over the next five years.

Summary

The strategic development of both indoor and coastal is central to the successful future of global rowing. Both coastal and indoor rowing have a huge potential to extend the 'reach' of rowing into the extremes of society from island counties to large urban communities.

2019 Commission Members

Guin Batten (GBR), Chair

Pasquale Triggiani (ITA) - Coastal

Warwick Marler (AUS) - Recreational

Richard Mouchel (FRA) - Coastal

Andrea Ranner (AUT) - Recreational

Vahid Moradi (IRN) - Recreational

Guin Batten (GBR), Chair

SPORTS MEDICINE COMMISSION

The purpose of the Sports Medicine Commission (SMC) is to oversee and advise on all medical and anti-doping aspects related to rowing.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Supervise and monitor medical, health and safety services at World Rowing Championships and World Rowing Cup regattas using Commission members or FISA-certified volunteer medical physicians;
- Investigate and promote the prevention of rowing related injuries and health issues;
- Formulate and publish best practice guidelines for medical and health services and environmental issues;
- Promote research activity on rowing-related health and medical issues, exercise physiology, biomechanics, health, environmental and any other sports medicine related subjects;
- Provide basic medical and health education to coaches;
- Publish in the Sports Medicine section on the FISA website, as appropriate:
 - Legislation and statements (WADA, IOC, FIMS, FISA...);
 - Documentation relating to exercise physiology, sports medicine, biomechanics, biological aspects of training;
 - Research results and best-practices publications;
- Provide basic medical and health education to coaches;
- Provide advice and recommendations upon request to the Council, Coaches Conference and member federations;
- Advise FISA on guidelines and policies for anti-doping activities and supervise anti-doping controls at FISA events; and
- Provide three members of the Commission to serve as the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee, as defined in the Anti-Doping Rules. One member shall be appointed as Chair by the Executive Committee.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- FISA Doctor - Our Commission members continued their service at regattas as the FISA Doctor. The events in 2019 included:
 - The three World Rowing Cup stages (Plovdiv, Poznan, Rotterdam)
 - European Rowing Championship, Lucerne (SUI)
 - World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo (JPN)
 - World Rowing U23 Championships, Sarasota (USA)
 - World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT)
- Representation - The Chair represented FISA at the following events:
 - FISA Council meetings in Lausanne and Rotterdam
 - FISA Doctors seminar in Tokyo and Linz-Ottensheim

- IOC meeting on Transgender and DSD
- IOC work group on water quality (1x in-person in Lausanne, several phone calls)
- ASOIF Medical chairpersons meeting Lausanne (SUI)
- Transgender Meeting, IAAF, Lausanne (SUI)
- World Anti-Doping Conference, Katowice (POL)
- TUEs - Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee:
 - Chair: Dr Donia Koubaa (TUN)
 - 2 members from the SMC are appointed case by case
 - Dr Kate Ackerman was appointed as external member for the TUEC
- Development – The members assisted as follows:
 - African Olympic qualification regatta, attended by Dr Koubaa
 - African Championship and Seminar for African countries, Tunis, attended by Dr Koubaa
 - Paralympic qualifier course, attended by Dr Smoljanovic
- Tokyo 2020 preparations and the 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships (test event):
 - Analysis of the climatic conditions in Tokyo during the time of the 2020 Olympic games and 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships. FISA rules which guide competitions in hot and humid environments are designed to protect rowers. FISA SMC provided detailed analysis of biological temperatures to the FISA Executive Committee and recommended estimates for risks at race times.
 - Medical and rescue preparation of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games was continuously supported.
 - The heat guidelines were applied at the test event. Overall, only 7 collapses required medical treatment which indicates good preparation of the teams and by the organising committee (OC).
 - Dr Hiura served as venue medical director at the test event and will perform this same role for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.
- The Rowing low back pain consensus project, led by Fiona Wilson and supported by the SMC, was successfully finalised.
- Athlete Safeguarding - FISA's Policy & Procedures on Safeguarding and modifications of FISA Code of Ethics came into effect in 2019. The SMC members of the FISA Safeguarding Working Group were the SMC Chair and Dr Wilkinson.
- Water Quality - New FISA guidelines on water quality and guidelines on water testing were applied to all 19 bids for World Rowing events and each venue was rated according to water test results. Many venues had good or excellent water quality; there is room for improvement for water quality in some venues. Documentation and sampling need to be improved.
- Gender Identification and Sex Assignment:
 - A Revision of the FISA Position Paper on Transgender Eligibility and Hyperandrogenism was drafted and completed in 2019 after consultation with the FISA Council. A standpoint on testosterone was published.

- A panel of experts in the specialist areas of Gender Identification, Sex-reassignment, Hyperandrogenism, Transgender and Differences of Sexual Development (DSD) was appointed by the FISA Executive Committee. Members are Dr. Kathryn Ackerman, Dr. Joanna Harper, Prof. Ronald Chen, Dr. Donia Koubaa and Dr. Jürgen Steinacker.
- Publications
 - Updates to the FISA website
 - Update of SMC guidelines on heat and cold, regatta health (Cook book), rescue, hygiene and hygienic hazards protocol, water safety, and the effects of testosterone.
- Management
 - Therapeutic Use Exemptions
 - Heat and weather guidelines
 - Water safety
- SMC meetings in 2019: Linz-Ottensheim (AUT), JCM London (GBR)

Anti-Doping Department (ADD)

- ADD consists of the ADD head Matt Smith, Medical and Scientific Advisor Dr Alain Lacoste, the AD Manager Nathalie Schmutz and legal advisor John Boulton.
- Operational Anti-Doping-Issues are handled by the ADD as part of the administration that is governed by the Executive Director and overseen by the Executive Committee. The ADD proposes the Registered Testing Pool, proposes and conducts testing, communicates with laboratories, analyses the outcomes of testing and adverse analytical findings, and prepares hearing panels. The ADD handles the Biological Passport together with the Lausanne Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU).
- SMC supervises the doping control procedures at FISA regattas. SMC advises FISA on general guidelines and activities in anti-doping. The ADD provides regular updates of activities.
- In 2019, FISA ADD underwent a diligent WADA Code Compliance review due to the new WADA compliance and revised all procedures and rules.

Anti-Doping-Committee (ADC)

- According to the Bye-Law to Rule 100 – Anti-Doping, 5.2.2.1- 5.2.2.3, the ADC is responsible to the Executive Committee to undertake the preparation of anti-doping tests (at Competitions and Out-of-Competition) and oversees the work of the ADD.
- Members of the ADC in 2019: SMC Chair Dr Jürgen Steinacker, FISA Executive Director Matt Smith, Executive Committee Member Dr Lenka Dienstbach-Wech, SMC Member Dr Mike Wilkinson.
- Experts: ADD head Dr Alain Lacoste, AD Manager Nathalie Schmutz and legal advisor John Boulton.
- 2019 amendments to Anti-Doping Bye-Laws were proposed.
- FISA revised the rules about hearing panels; all hearings will now be performed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport's Anti-Doping Division (CAS ADD).
- The International Testing Agency ITA is available to provide support to FISA Anti-Doping and testing.

Focus for 2020

- A redraft of Rule 15-Men's and Women's Events and the related Bye-Law will be presented at the 2020 Extraordinary Congress.
- The health and safety of participants at the Olympic Games in Tokyo will be a main topic for 2020.
- The guidelines on Event Safety, Medical and Rescue Plans as well as the Injury and Serious Events Surveillance and Hygiene measures will be examined in detail. Proposals to improve rescue and safety equipment, such as inflatable devices attached to the wrist, will be analysed.
- A secondary analysis of pre-competition health screening will be performed.
- Members of the SMC will take part in the IOC granted research by Dr Tuakli-Wosornu, Yale (US) et al.: on developing an accessible, digital injury surveillance system and database for FISA.
- Global Health and Development for the health and safety of rowers is on the agenda.
- Educational programmes and work with the Development programme of FISA will also continue to be a priority for the SMC.

Dealing with Covid-19 pandemic

The first months of 2020 were totally occupied by monitoring the Health Situation for Athletes in the evolving and then manifest Coronavirus Pandemic (SARS-CoV-2 / Covid-19). The SMC released recommendations for FISA athletes and for MF's, is monitoring the pandemic, and has continuous exchanges with national health and sport bodies, the IOC and ASOIF, and consults with FISA bodies.

In this way, the Sports Medicine Commission continues to work to significantly improve and secure the safety and health of athletes and teams and the good outcome of events but also contribute to the standing of FISA as an international sport organisation.

2019 Commission Members

Dr Juergen Steinacker (GER), Chair

Dr Jo Hannafin (USA)

Dr Mikio Hiura (JPN)

Dr Donia Koubaa (TUN)

Dr Henning Nielsen (DEN)

Dr Piero Poli (ITA)

Dr Tomislav Smoljanovic (CRO)

Dr Michael Wilkinson (CAN)

Dr Petra Zupet (SLO)

SMC Ad-hoc members:

Dr. Kathryn Ackerman (USA)

Dr. Fiona Wilson (IRL)

Dr Juergen Steinacker (GER), Chair

UMPIRING COMMISSION

The purpose of the Umpiring Commission is to standardise umpiring and to continuously improve the quality of umpiring in general, in particular at FISA World Championships, and at international events (regattas, sprints, para rowing, indoor, coastal, etc.) and to promote umpiring throughout the world.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Select juries for FISA events based on selection criteria as agreed by the Executive Committee;
- Supervise the work of the juries at World Rowing Championships;
- Develop, improve and standardise umpiring by conducting seminars and clinics, using the most modern educational techniques and methods;
- Conduct examinations for international umpire licences;
- Monitor the qualifications and quality of international umpires;
- Define the role of umpires in the development of new types of rowing events, in collaboration with the other FISA Commissions as appropriate;
- Continuously improve the standard of regatta organisation at all major events in co-operation with the other FISA Commissions as appropriate;
- Assist in the implementation of the Umpiring Development Programme; and
- Provide quality assurance for the Rules of Racing and associated Bye-Laws, in the official languages of FISA as appropriate.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- The following World Rowing Events were attended:
 - World Rowing Indoor Championships, Long Beach, CA (USA);
 - World Rowing Cup Regattas, Plovdiv (BUL), Poznan (POL), Rotterdam (NED);
 - World Rowing U23 Championship, Sarasota-Bradenton (USA);
 - World Rowing Junior Championship, Tokyo (JPN);
 - World Rowing University Regatta, Xi'an (CHN);
 - World Rowing Senior Championships, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT);
 - FISA Ordinary Congress, Linz (AUT);
 - World Rowing Masters Regatta, Velence (HUN);
 - African Olympic Qualification Regatta Tunis (TUN);
 - World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals, Shenzhen (CHN);
 - World Rowing Coastal Championships for Clubs, Hong Kong (HKG).
- The following International Regattas were attended:
 - European Rowing Junior Championships, Essen (GER);
 - European Rowing Senior Championships, Luzern (SUI);

- European Rowing U23 Championships, Ioannina (GRE);
 - Pan American Games, Lima – Huacho (PER);
 - Asian Rowing Coastal Championships, Pattaya (THA);
 - Asian Indoor Rowing Championships, Bangkok (THA);
 - Asian Rowing Championships, Chungju (KOR);
 - Asian Rowing Junior Championships, Pattaya (THA);
 - Asian Rowing Cup Regatta, Pattaya (THA);
 - Asian Rowing Masters Regatta Pattaya (THA);
 - South-East Asia Games Regatta, Manila – Subic Bay (PHI);
 - Memorial Paolo d’Aloja, Piediluco (ITA);
 - International Para Rowing Regatta, Gavirate (ITA);
 - International Ghent May Regatta, Gent (BEL);
 - Bled International Regatta, Bled (SLO);
 - Royal Henley Regatta, Henley-on-Thames (GBR);
 - Head of the Charles Regatta, Boston (USA);
 - Head of the Schuylkill Regatta, Philadelphia (USA);
 - Henley Womens Regatta, Henley-on-Thames (GBR);
 - Mâcon International Regatta, Macôn (FRA);
 - Sydney International Rowing Regatta, Sydney (AUS);
 - Donostia Bay Rowing Race, San Sebastián (ESP);
 - Challenge Prince Albert II, Monaco (MON).
- New FISA umpires - The 5 exam sessions during the year resulted in 21 new FISA umpires (9 woman and 12 men, – representing 13 member federations). Examinations were held in five locations: Bled (SLO); Tunis (TUN); Porto (POR); Moscow (RUS); Manila – Subic Bay (PHI).
 - Seminars & clinics - 187 umpires attended a seminar (eight in total). A number of seminars and clinics were held throughout the year: Huacho (PER) (S); Linz-Ottensheim (AUT) (S); Moscow (RUS) (C); Penrith (AUS) (S); Sarasota-Bradenton (USA) (S); Subic Bay (PHI) (S); Tokyo (JPN) (C & S); Tunis (TUN) (S); Velence (HUN) (S); Online Umpiring clinics (from Princeton-USA 6 times x 2 hours).
 - Resignations/non-renewals - Six international umpires did not have their license renewed since they did not attend a seminar.
 - Other achievements of the Commission - Active participation in the Rules Working Group; launch of the Umpires newsletter; support of the trial related to audience participation/athlete recognition during the start procedure (World Rowing Champs – Linz (AUT) and Beach Sprints – Shenzhen (CHN))
 - Umpiring Commission meetings in 2019 - Rowing Season Preparation Meeting, January, Gavirate (ITA); FISA Joint Commissions Meeting, November, London (GBR); meetings at nearly all major FISA events.

Focus for 2020

- The 2020 season starts with:
 - 485 FISA umpires from 68 member federations;
 - 52 member federations having a total of 132 female FISA-umpires (or 27,2% of the total number).
- 262 FISA umpires selected for the different 2020 FISA juries.
- Geographical representation - Continue to expand the number of federations with FISA qualified umpires.
- Gender representation – Further increase the number of female umpires.
- Introduce Regional Umpire level (education and exams).
- Wider distribution of the Umpiring newsletter.
- Learning resources - Continue to develop new resources for umpiring development such as online, You Tube, summary sheets.
- Contribution to practical race preparation of development crews during FISA events.
- FISA projects - Further contribution to new and ongoing rowing formats, with particular focus on beach sprints and coastal rowing.

Summary

FISA's Umpiring Commission will continue to contribute to fair competitions in cooperation with all parties involved.

2019 Commission Members

Patrick Rombaut (BEL), Chair

Angela Alonso (ESP)

Fabio Bolcic (ITA)

Kristopher Grudt (USA)

Ines Hammami (TUN)

Nicholas Hunter (AUS)

Gabrielle Isenschmid Weber (SUI)

Vladimir Meglic (SLO)

Jérôme Mouly (FRA)

Stefanie Palfner (GER)

Takao Senda (JPN)

Patrick Rombaut (BEL), Chair

WOMEN'S ROWING COMMISSION

The purpose of the Women's Rowing Commission is to oversee and promote women's participation in all rowing activities and events, at all levels.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Co-operate with other international sport federations.
- Establish and maintain contacts with people responsible for women's rowing in each member federation.
- Identify and promote women in administration, coaching, umpiring, & research roles.
- Investigate and evaluate regatta results, numbers of participants, weight limits etc.
- Organise seminars.
- Collect material for publicity and promotion of women's rowing.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- **Data management and analysis** - It is very important to regularly monitor the impact of FISA's Strategic Plan for Women's Development and analyse the data from the member federation (MF) surveys and participation at FISA Championships.

– **Increase of female athletes and participation at events** - We have seen an increase of registered female athletes from 40% in 2013 to 45% in 2018 (MF Survey 2018). These increases have been seen across all FISA championships, coinciding with the recent changes in our Olympic, World Championships and World Cup programmes.

The World Rowing Junior Championships topped 46% in 2019. The biggest increase was seen at the World Rowing Championships, the qualification regatta for the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. The female participation was 45% which is quite remarkable in comparison with previous qualifying World Championships (30% in 2007, 32% in 2011 and 36% in 2015).

– **Increase of board positions for women** - In 2019, according to our survey, 25% of the board members of MFs were female, increasing from 17% in 2013. Amongst the new female board members are several women who have been participants of leadership programmes run by the WSLA (Women's Sport Leadership Academy) and the IOC. Their participation was facilitated by FISA's Strategic Plan for Women's Development, the IOC Olympic Solidarity Fund and the NOCs involved. In 2019 again four future female leaders in rowing were participants of the WSLA programme.

Statute amendments aimed at supporting an increase in the number of women in MF board positions will be proposed at the 2020 FISA Extraordinary Congress.

In 2019, 58% of FISA's Commission Chairs (Council members) were female, and amongst voting members of the FISA Council and Executive Committee, there was 43% and 50% female representation respectively.

– **Female umpires** - The percentage of female umpires is still increasing, both national (31%) and international (29%). In 2019, the Umpiring Commission invested in attracting new female umpires by adding specific information, pictures and good practices of MFs in seminars and clinics; they also distributed an e-bulletin periodically in which female

umpires and officials were 'in the spotlight', 'rising star', etc. In 2019, the International Women's Day was dedicated to female umpires and officials.

- **Decrease of female coaches** – A big concern is the decrease in registered female coaches, from 27% to 23% at the national level (MF Survey 2018). At World Rowing Championships and at the Olympics, the numbers are particularly low (7%). Other International Federations (IFs) have similarly low numbers of female coaches at the Olympics. This has led to FISA joining forces with five other Summer Sports IFs - cycling, rugby, tennis, triathlon and wrestling - and in collaboration with WSLA, developing and implementing the Women's Sport Leadership Academy for High Performance Coaches (WSLA HPC).
- **Women's Sport Leadership Academy for High Performance Coaches (WSLA HPC)** - The WSLA HPC is aimed to help develop leadership and technical skills of high potential female coaches. The pilot programme started in November 2019. FISA selected coaches from Argentina, Egypt, Iran, Latvia and Tunisia to participate, in coordination with their MFs and National Olympic Committees (NOCs). Olympic Solidarity, through the NOCs, provided a scholarship for travel, tuition and course expenses. FISA contributed with sport specific costs and facilitated participation at the Coaches Conferences; the MFs supported the application and the career path of the participants. Each participant is obliged to develop a national or regional female coaches' network to increase the impact of the WSLA HPC; their aim is to become head coach of a female team at the Junior World Championships or YOG.
- **FISA Coach Academy** - In addition, in 2019 a focus of the FISA Coach Academy was on improving the balance between male and female coaches. At the coach training and development camps, 50% female participation was reached. Also, the newly formed group of FISA coach developers and mentors show a gender balance.
- **What's Next to Rowing seminar** - During the World Championships in Linz the second What's Next to Rowing seminar took place. More than 50 participants discussed the update of the IOC Gender Equality Report, presented by Sandra Lengwiler from the IOC, and the FISA snapshot from this report, presented by the Women's Rowing Commission Chair. Lucy Faulkner presented the impact of the WSLA programme and what it stands for, Sheila Stephens, FISA Development Director, presented the WSLA HPC and Rosie Mayglothling, FISA Executive Committee member, interviewed several women who have become leaders within World Rowing and discussed their career paths. There were three round table discussions on what helps MFs to ensure sustainability of gender equality in leadership; several recommendations on gender equity were put forward for review by FISA's Governance and Rules Working Groups.
- Other activities of the Commission included:
 - Presentations at the IOC Women in Leadership Forum in Lausanne, the FISA Coaches' Conference in London, and at the Council and Joint Commissions Meetings.
 - Ongoing effort to create greater gender balance on the development programmes, including training camps.
 - Ongoing effort to increase the amount of Olympic scholarships for rowers, in particular for female rowers.
 - Ongoing effort to balance the visibility of women's rowing within FISA: 'Learn to Row' and Coach Academy, guidelines for media streamlines, gender equity on the website, etc.
 - Preparation of proposals to improve and sustain gender equality in the FISA Statutes and Rules.

- Meetings attended included meetings with FISA staff in Lausanne, Council meetings, Joint Commissions Meetings, meetings with research groups on gender studies in sport, MF meetings.

Focus for 2020

We continue to focus on female coaching and officiating.

Together with the European Rowing Board (ERB) and about 20 MFs, Rowing Ireland is preparing a grant application for the Erasmus+ programme. The aim of the application is firstly to join forces to better develop grassroots rowing at club level, coaching and officiating using the Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP) and in this way attract and retain more young rowers in general and girls in particular; and secondly, but equally as importantly, to improve gender balance in grassroots coaching and club level leadership.

2019 Commission Members and FISA staff

The Women's Rowing Commission is a cross commission and therefore has no fixed membership but rather consists of a broad group of men and women including members of the Executive Committee and Chairs and members of several Commissions, in particular the Athletes' Commission, Competitive Rowing Commission, Youth Rowing Commission, Rowing for All Commission, Masters Rowing Commission, Event Promotion Commission and Umpiring Commission. I would like to thank Sheila Stephens, Daniela Gomes and Yihuan Chang from the Development Department, for their continuous dedication and commitment in developing and driving forward initiatives to support women in rowing.

Jacomine Ravensbergen (NED), Chair

YOUTH ROWING COMMISSION

The purpose of the Youth Rowing Commission is to oversee and promote all areas of youth and student rowing and increase participation at all levels of performance and across nations.

The main activities of the Commission are to:

- Assist and advise on the organisation of the World Rowing Junior and Under 23 Championships and other international level youth competitions, e.g. Youth Olympic Games and FISU competitions;
- Represent the interests of youth rowing when decisions about the competition system are to be made;
- Monitor trends in youth rowing at national and international levels;
- Establish and maintain contact with coaches at major FISA events, e.g. by holding meetings at least once per year;
- Organise the World Rowing Youth Coaches Conference;
- Assist the Control Commission at the World Rowing Junior and Under 23 Championships;
- Analyse the organisation, entries and results of the World Rowing Junior and Under 23 Championships and to publish the results and to use the information to inform future activities; and
- Consult with the Masters Rowing Commission regarding the Masters Fund for Youth Rowing and the use of the resources of the Fund.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Event support and Management - The Commission fulfilled its functions at the Under 23 and Junior World Championships. Primarily this supported the new and young coaches, particularly those from development countries. A Coaches meeting was organised and statistics analysed to provide future recommendations regarding trends to the Executive Committee and other Commissions.
 - Fairness - Barbara Fenner, Mehdi Garidi and Barb Grudt were part of the Fairness Committees at the U23 and Junior Championships.
 - Youth Coaches Conference, Hangzhou (CHN) - 112 participants from 16 countries, representing all 5 continents.
 - Development – Axel Müller and Mehdi Garidi assisted at the Junior pre-competition Development training camp in Omigawa (JPN), and during the Junior World Championships in Tokyo (JPN).
 - Safeguarding - Barb Grudt was the FISA Event Safeguarding Officer at the U23 Championships in Sarasota (USA).
- Masters Fund for Youth Rowing - Thanks to the money provided by the Masters Commission many coaches have now passed through the scholarship coach programme to become full-time professional coaches in their own national programmes. Participants include:
 - Chokri Ben-Miled (TUN, 2002)
 - Raihan Omar (SIN, 2004)

- Juvenalis Gitau Kariega (KEN, 2004)
- Ruben Scarpati (URU, 2006)
- Kerrie Mackie (ZIM, 2008)
- Rocio Rivarola Trappe (PAR, 2011)
- Le Van Quang (VIE, 2013)
- Carlos Merino Lemus (ESA, 2014)
- Kushal Abhayaratne (SRI, 2017)
- Sharen Kannangara (SRI, 2017)
- Paisanwan Sitthakam, “Noom” (THA, 2019)
- Youth Rowing Commission meetings in 2019 - U23 World Championships, Sarasota (USA), July; Junior World Championships, Tokyo (JPN), August; Youth Coaches Conference, Hangzhou (CHN), November; Joint Commission Meetings, London (GBR), November.

Focus for 2020

- World Rowing U23/Junior Championships: 2020 Bled (SLO), 16-23 August
- FISU University Championships: 2020 Zagreb (CRO), 27-29 August
- World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals: 2020 Oeiras (POR), 25-27 September
- Youth Coaches Conference: 2020 Limassol (CYP), 5-8 November
- World Rowing U23 Championship: 2021 Racice (CZE), 21-25 July
- World Rowing Junior Championship: 2021 Plovdiv (BUL), 4-8 August
- World Rowing U23/Junior Championship: 2022 Varese (ITA), August

Summary

The Youth Commission members are actively involved in rowing and youth sport activities in all continents displaying their wide experience for their tasks in the Commission.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Commission members, as well as the member federations, for their proposals and suggestions. Their active contribution is greatly appreciated.

2019 Commission Members

Algirdas Raslanas (LTU), Chair

Antonio Colamonici (ITA)

Barbara Fenner (AUS)

Mehdi Garidi (ALG)

Sevara Ganiyeva (UZB)

Barbara Grudt (USA)

Axel Mueller (GER)

Algirdas Raslanas (LTU), Chair

AGENDA ITEM 7

Reports of the Continental Representatives and Co-opted Council Members

1.	Continental Representative for Africa - Khaled Zein Eldin	61
2.	Continental Representative for the Americas – Victoria Aguirregomezcorta	64
3.	Continental Representative for Asia – Liu Aijie	66
4.	Continental Representative for Europe – Ryszard Stadniuk	68
5.	Continental Representative for Oceania – Lee Spear	70
6.	Co-opted Council Member – Masakuni Hosobuchi	74

CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR AFRICA

The role of the FISA Continental Representative, according to the Bye-Law to Article 47 in Appendix 5 of the FISA Rule Book, is to:

- Represent FISA within their continent;
- Promote rowing and maintain close and regular contact with the member federations, continental rowing confederations and groupings of member federations, and regatta organisers in their continents;
- Promote and support FISA development initiatives and advise FISA on rowing development within their continent;
- Observe the major international regattas held within their continent;
- In case of non-observance of the Statutes and Rules of Racing in their continent, submit reports to the Executive Committee;
- Submit reports to the Ordinary Congress each year. For this purpose, they may request reports from the member federations within their continent; and
- Submit to the Executive Committee reports and minutes of meetings attended within their continent, where those meetings relate to their FISA responsibilities.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

National activities

- Technical coaching course (TCC) Level 1, Tipaza (ALG), 4-10 April
- Development of national sport structure (DNSS), Luanda (ANG), three site visits in February, June, September
- Development of national sport structure (DNSS), Saint Louis (SEN), three site visits in January, June, December
- Development of national sport structure (DNSS), Cairo (EGY), one site visit in November
- FISA Level 1 Course, Morocco, December

Continental and regional activities

- African FISA/Agitos Para Rowing Training Camp, Tunis (TUN), 22-27 January, with the participation of five countries: TUN, LBA, SUD, RSA, NGR
- All African Games, Rabat (MAR), 20-23 August. 11 countries participated in this successful event: ALG, BEN, CIV, DJI, EGY, KEN, LBA, MAR, NGR, TOG, TUN
- Technical course for National Coaches and Officials, Sal (CPV), 4-7 June. Six countries participated: CPV, CIV, NGR, NAM, SEN
- Continental Technical Course for Coaches and Training Camp, Sal (CPV), 08-11 June. Six countries participated: CPV, CIV, NGR, NAM, SEN, TUN
- Beach African Games, Sal (CPV), 12-16 June. 10 countries participated in this event: ALG, TUN, KEN, NGR, NAM, LBA, TOG, CIV, DJI, CPV.

- Olympic and Paralympic training camps and qualification regattas for Africa, Tunis (TUN) 10-12 October. A record number of 21 countries were represented in Tunis: 21 NFs in the OQR and 9 NFs in the PQR (ALG, ANG, BEN, CIV, EGY, KEN, LBA, MAR, MAW, NAM, NGR, SEN, SUD, TOG, TUN, UGA, ZIM; with CPV, GHA, GUI and NIG taking part in the exhibition races) with a total of 75 athletes (43 male and 32 female). In total, 14 African countries have qualified for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020: 13 at this continental qualification regatta plus South Africa which qualified a M2- in the 2019 World Rowing championships in Linz.

W1X	NAM	MAR	UGA	TOG	NGR
M1X	EGY	ZIM	BEN	CIV	LBA
LW2X	TUN				
LM2X	ALG				
PR1 W1X	KEN				
PR1 M1X	NGR				

- 13th African Championships, Tunis (TUN), 14-16 October. 12 countries participated in this championship: EGY, TUN, ALG, SUD, NAM, MAR, LBA, ZIM, ANG, CIV, BEN, ANG.
- Ordinary General Assembly for African Rowing Federation, 12 October.
This meeting was held during the African Olympic and Paralympic qualification regatta and the African championships, with the presence of FISA President, Mr. Jean-Christophe Rolland, FASA President Counsellor Khaled Zein Eldin and Daniela Gomes, FISA Development Manager in charge of Africa, and Mehdi Garidi the new FISA Continental Representative for Africa (effective 1 January 2020).
- Central East African Championships, FISA development training camp for coaches and umpires, Khartoum (SUD) 11-17 February. Three National African federations participated in this regatta: UGA, SUD, SOM.
- Regional TCC for rowing and beach Rowing, Senga Bay, Salima (MAW), 27 April-5 May. Four countries participated in this TCC: KEN, NAM, ZAM, UGA.

World activities

- 2019 World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT). Ten African countries participated in this event (BEN, EGY, LBA, MAR, NAM, NGR, RSA, SUD, TOG, ZIM) with a total of 35 athletes (22 male and 13 female).
- 2019 World Rowing Under 23 Championships, Sarasota-Bradenton (USA). Eight African countries participated in this event (ALG, CIV, EGY, KEN, NGR, RSA, TUN, UGA) with a total of 23 athletes (18 male and 5 female).
- 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo (JPN). Four African countries participated in this event (ALG, RSA, TUN, ZIM) with a total of 20 athletes (11 male and 9 female).

Meetings Attended in 2019

- FISA Council meeting in Lausanne (SUI).

Focus for 2020

Our greatest challenge in the coming years will be to further promote and develop African rowing. Our goals are to:

- Deliver a well-organised African championship to be held in Algeria in September 2020.
- Continue to implement the Olympic Agenda 2020 and the realisation of the FISA strategy.
- Further improve women's rowing, by increasing the number of female athletes and coaches and their competitive level.
- Assist the African Federations to participate in the international championships, providing assistance with lodging and boats where possible; encourage their attendance at the FISA Congress to participate in the decisions that are taken.
- Encourage and assist the African countries to develop para rowing.
- Encourage indoor rowing in the African countries which don't have a regatta course.
- Organise technical coaching courses and umpire seminars.

Summary

Our thanks to FISA and Olympic Solidarity who have supported the promotion and development of rowing in the African Continent.

Khaled Zein Eldin (EGY)

CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE AMERICAS

The role of the FISA Continental Representative, according to the Bye-Law to Article 47 in Appendix 5 to the FISA Rule Book, is to

- Represent FISA within their continent;
- Promote rowing and maintain close and regular contact with the member federations, continental rowing confederations and groupings of member federations, and regatta organisers in their continents;
- Promote and support FISA development initiatives and advise FISA on rowing development within their continent;
- Observe the major international regattas held within their continent;
- In case of non-observance of the Statutes and Rules of Racing in their continent, submit reports to the Executive Committee;
- Submit reports to the Ordinary Congress each year. For this purpose, they may request reports from the member federations within their continent; and
- Submit to the Executive Committee reports and minutes of meetings attended within their continent, where those meetings relate to their FISA responsibilities.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Copa America 2019, Nordelta (ARG). A total of 130 crews representing eight member federations and seven Argentine national clubs competed in 49 races, in preparation for the upcoming South American Championships.
- IV South American Beach Games, Rosario (ARG). La Florida Beach on the extensive Parana river was home to this third edition of the Games, offering men's and women's events in local coastal boat classes (1x, 2x and 4x+). It was very exciting environment and experience for all participating crews although the first day of competition was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.
- South American Rowing Championships, Juniors and U23, Rio de Janeiro (BRA). Seven MFs (ARG, BRA, CHI, ECU, PAR, PER, and URU) met on Olympic Lagoa Rodrigo das Freitas from 26-28 April. The venue served once again as a test event for the 2020 Continental Olympic Qualification Regatta.
- Pan American Games, Lima (PER). The Continental Games were held in Albufera del Medio Mundo, a rowing course running alongside the seashore. Despite its location, weather conditions were favourable on all racing days. The 20 qualified and participating NOCs included ARG, BER, BRA, CAN, CHI, CUB, DOM, ECU, ESA, GUA, HON, MEX, NCA, PAR, PER, PUR, TTO, URU, USA and VEN. A very friendly environment and exclusive Village 170 km from Lima, was home to the medallists from ARG, BRA, CAN, CHI, CUB, MEX, TTO, URU and USA.
- World Rowing Indoor Championships, Long Beach (USA). There was a large number of entries for the event which was held in combination with the USRowing Indoor National Championships where ARG, BRA, CAN, CHI, MEX, PER and USA participated in open, light-weight and para races.
- World Rowing Under23 Championships, Sarasota-Bradenton (USA). Warm Florida was again home to a World Rowing event with a total of 45 American MF entries from BAH, BRA,

CAN, ESA, MEX, PAN, PAR, URU, USA and VIN, all supporting the championships as representatives from the continent

- Participation of Americas crews at other World Rowing events included:
 - 2019 World Rowing Cups I, II and III (ARG, BRA, CAN, CHI, CUB, MEX, PAR, PUR and USA)
 - 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo, JPN (BRA, CAN, CHI, MEX, PAN, PER, and USA)
 - 2019 World Rowing Masters Regatta, Lake Velence, HUN (ARG, BRA, CAN, CHI, PAR, and USA)
 - 2019 World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim, AUT. A total of 14 member federations (ARG, BAH, BRA, CAN, CHI, CUB, ECU, GUA, MEX, PAR, PER, TTO, URU and USA). CAN and USA qualified spots for the Tokyo Olympic Games, while BRA and USA qualified for the Tokyo Paralympic Games.

Events and meetings attended in 2019

- Copa America, Nordelta (ARG), March
- South American Beach Games, Rosario (ARG), March
- South American Rowing Junior and U23 Championships, Rio de Janeiro (BRA), April
- World Rowing Cup III, Rotterdam (NED), July
- World Rowing Under 23 Championships, Sarasota-Bradenton (USA), July
- Pan American Games, Lima (PER), August
- World Rowing Championships, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT), September
- Joint Commissions Meeting, London (GBR), November

Focus for 2020

- Coastal rowing development activity, besides the current implementation and practice in BAH, BRA, CAN, PER, URU and USA.
- Increase the number of female coaches, athletes and umpires through seminars and strategic programmes.
- Identify and educate potential additional officials in the continent for future events.
- Facilitate network of all member federations across the Americas.
- Support and promote the organisation of rowing and para rowing training camps held by the Development team.
- Deliver member federations Workshops to disseminate information and build leadership platforms.

Victoria Aguirregomezcorta (ARG/ESP)

CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ASIA

The role of the FISA Continental Representative, according to the Bye-Law to Article 47 in Appendix 5 to the FISA Rule Book, is to

- Represent FISA within their continent;
- Promote rowing and maintain close and regular contact with the member federations, continental rowing confederations and groupings of member federations, and regatta organisers in their continents;
- Promote and support FISA development initiatives and advise FISA on rowing development within their continent;
- Observe the major international regattas held within their continent;
- In case of non-observance of the Statutes and Rules of Racing in their continent, submit reports to the Executive Committee;
- Submit reports to the Ordinary Congress each year. For this purpose, they may request reports from the member federations within their continent; and
- Submit to the Executive Committee reports and minutes of meetings attended within their continent, where those meetings relate to their FISA responsibilities.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Championships
 - Asian Rowing Indoor Championships I - held in Bangkok, Thailand from 27 March to 1 April.
 - World Rowing University Regatta - held in Xi'an, China from 26 to 28 August, attracting 331 athletes from 20 prestigious universities across 11 countries and regions.
 - Asian Rowing Coastal Championships - held in Pattaya, Thailand from 19 to 23 September.
 - Asian Rowing Championships - held in Chungju, South Korea from 20 to 24 October, attracting over 600 athletes from 21 countries and regions.
 - Asian Rowing Para Championships - held in Chungju, South Korea from 20 to 24 October.
 - FISA World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals - held in Shenzhen, China from 25 to 27 October, with the participation of 67 athletes from 12 countries and regions.
 - FISA World Rowing Coastal Championships - held in Hong Kong, China from 1 to 3 November.
 - Asian Rowing Junior Championships - held in Pattaya, Thailand from 16 to 22 December.
 - Asian Rowing Cup - held in Pattaya, Thailand from 16 to 22 December.
 - Asian Rowing Master Championships – held in Pattaya, Thailand from 16 to 22 December.
- Meeting, Conferences and Training Camps
 - ARF Ordinary Congress - held in Chungju city, South Korea on 26 October, at which the President and Vice President of ARF delivered annual reports and appointed new officials. The FISA President was invited and attended the Congress.

- World Rowing Youth Coaches Conference - held in Hangzhou, China from 7 to 10 November, offering a great platform for youth coaches across the world to learn from top experts in the rowing community and exchange ideas. A total of 113 coaches from 17 countries and regions attended the conference. FISA Executive Committee member Rosie Mayglothling attended the conference.
- Asian Rowing Para Training Camp - held in Chungju, South Korea from 12 to 19 October.
- Training Camp for ARF/FISA Junior Rowers and Women Coaching - in South Korea held from 11 to 17 November.

Meetings Attended in 2019

- FISA Council Meeting, Lausanne (SUI), February
- FISA Annual Congress, Linz (AUT), September
- FISA member federations' Conference and Joint Commissions' Meetings, London (GBR), November

Focus for 2020

- Events & Training Camps
 - Asian Rowing Indoor Championships - to be held in Manama, Bahrain in March.
 - FISA Asia & Oceania Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regatta - to be held in Chungju, South Korea in April.
 - Asian Rowing Coastal Championships and Beach Sprint - to be held at Waterfront, Singapore in June.
 - World Rowing University Regatta - to be held in Xi'an, China in July.
 - Asian Rowing Cup I – to be held in Bukit Merah Lake Town, Malaysia in September.
 - Asian Rowing Masters Regatta – to be held in Bukit Merah Lake Town, Malaysia in September.
 - Asian Rowing Junior Championships - to be held in Nanchang, China in October.
 - Asian Rowing Senior Championships – to be held in Bhopal City, India in November.
 - Asian Rowing Cup II & Para Training Camp - to be held in Pattaya, Thailand at the Royal Thai Navy Rowing Centre in December.
- Enhance the cooperation between ARF and FISA and other continental rowing confederations
- Promote the development of coastal rowing, laying a good foundation for Paris 2024 and beyond

After seven years serving as FISA Continental Representative for Asia, having been appointed in November 2012, I decided to step down from this position at the end of 2019. It has been an honour to serve FISA and I look forward to continued collaboration with FISA through my work with the Chinese Rowing Association and rowing initiatives in Asia. I wish my successor, Fay Ho, all the very best in her new role.

Liu Aijie (CHN)

CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR EUROPE

The role of the FISA Continental Representative, according to the Bye-Law to Article 47 in Appendix 5 to the FISA Rule Book, is to

- Represent FISA within their continent;
- Promote rowing and maintain close and regular contact with the member federations, continental rowing confederations and groupings of member federations, and regatta organisers in their continents;
- Promote and support FISA development initiatives and advise FISA on rowing development within their continent;
- Observe the major international regattas held within their continent;
- In case of non-observance of the Statutes and Rules of Racing in their continent, submit reports to the Executive Committee;
- Submit reports to the Ordinary Congress each year. For this purpose, they may request reports from the member federations within their continent; and
- Submit to the Executive Committee reports and minutes of meetings attended within their continent, where those meetings relate to their FISA responsibilities.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

- Successfully delivered four European Rowing Championships:
 - **European Rowing Indoor Championships, Copenhagen (DEN)** - This event was held in Copenhagen combined with the Danish National Indoor Rowing Championships. It was a well-attended event and was live-streamed with the support of Concept 2.
 - **European Rowing Junior Championships, Essen (GER)** - The Essen Organising Committee (OC) put great effort into the staging of the EJRC on Lake Baldeneysee. The championships were excellent with great conditions.
 - **European Rowing Championships, Lucerne (SUI)** - The Lucerne OC did a great job in stepping up to a Championships event and engaging the city and its stakeholders. The whole town was decorated with the ERCH branding creating a welcoming atmosphere. The opening ceremony in the centre of the town was innovative and very well attended. Conditions were excellent on the water and the event was broadcast in 42 countries with total broadcasting time of 85:30 hrs.
 - **European Rowing U23 Championships, Ioannina (GRE)** - The first European Rowing event in Ioannina was organised by the local rowing club with the support of the Greek Rowing Federation and local government. The social media coverage was exceptionally good.
- **General Assembly of the European Rowing Confederation (ERC)**, 1 June, Lucerne (SUI) - Under the transitional rules for the new ERC, Ryszard Stadniuk was elected as Chair for a two-year period and Eva Szanto was re-elected to the European Rowing Board (ERB). The General Assembly confirmed the nomination of three members appointed by FISA, Dusan Machacek, Algirdas Raslanas and Patrick Rombaut; and the appointment of Annamarie Phelps as Vice Chair and Eva Szanto as Secretary to the ERB. The General Assembly confirmed its willingness to continue to be involved in the multisport European Championships in 2022 and 2026.

- **Extraordinary General Assembly**, 1 September, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT) - European Rowing Championship events were attributed as follows:
 - European Rowing Championships 2021 to Varese (ITA) and 2023 to Bled (SLO);
 - European Rowing Junior Championships 2021 to Munich (GER), 2022 to Sabaudia (ITA), 2023 to Brive-la-Gaillarde (FRA) and 2024 to Minsk (BLR);
 - European Rowing Under23 Championships 2022 to Hazewinkel (BEL), 2023 to Rostov on Don (RUS) and 2024 to Duisburg (GER).
- **Joint Commissions Meeting**, London - The ERB met with the OCs to review progress on future Championship regattas, had a meeting with the FISA Executive Committee to discuss the European Championships and calendar and continued working with FISA through the cooperation agreement. The ERB continued to develop its strategic objectives and consider an application to the European Commission for Erasmus+ funding to support development activities on a national level.
- Organisation of a European National Federations Presidents' Meeting to discuss European Rowing strategy, approach to events, and attribution of ER events.
- Recognition of the ERC as the continental rowing confederation for Europe by the FISA Congress.

Focus for 2020

- Include para rowing events for the first time at the European Rowing Championships 2020, Poznan (POL).
- Develop a coastal rowing performance pathway for senior and junior athletes from European Federations and explore the possibility of inclusion of coastal rowing in the European Games.
- Finalise ERC Strategic Objectives including the Co-operation Agreement with FISA.
- Implement sustainability, safeguarding and environmental policies in line with FISA.
- Successful bid for Erasmus+ funding from EU to support the development of OVEP programme and a women's coaching and leadership network.
- Improve European Rowing corporate identity.

Summary

- This was a very important year for European Rowing, further developing our cooperation across the continent with member federations and presidents, and with FISA.
- Our mission statement: European Rowing aspires to be a leading continental confederation, adding value to rowing globally and supporting delivery of FISA's strategic objectives to make rowing a successful and sustainable sport, by supporting its member federations to work together for the sustainable future of our sport.

2019 ERB Members

Ryszard Stadniuk (POL), Chair

Algirdas Raslanas (LTU)

Nebojsa Jevremovic (SRB)

Patrick Rombaut (BEL)

Dusan Machacek (CZE)

Eva Szanto (HUN)

Annamarie Phelps (GBR)

Ryszard Stadniuk (POL)

CONTINENTAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR OCEANIA

The role of the FISA Continental Representative, according to the Bye-Law to Article 47 in Appendix 5 to the FISA Rule Book, is to

- Represent FISA within their continent;
- Promote rowing and maintain close and regular contact with the member federations, continental rowing confederations and groupings of member federations, and regatta organisers in their continents;
- Promote and support FISA development initiatives and advise FISA on rowing development within their continent;
- Observe the major international regattas held within their continent;
- In case of non-observance of the Statutes and Rules of Racing in their continent, submit reports to the Executive Committee;
- Submit reports to the Ordinary Congress each year. For this purpose, they may request reports from the member federations within their continent; and
- Submit to the Executive Committee reports and minutes of meetings attended within their continent, where those meetings relate to their FISA responsibilities.

Key activities and achievements in 2019

Oceania comprises eight FISA member federations – Australia, New Zealand, Vanuatu, Samoa, American Samoa, Kiribati, Fiji and Tonga.

Australia (Rowing Australia “RA”) - Australian rowing had further success in 2019 with the sport going from strength to strength in the year. Major achievements for the year included:

- The High-Performance Programme of Rowing Australia was awarded the HP Programme of the Year Award at the Australian Institute of Sport Performance Awards.
- The 2019 World Rowing Championships saw Australia qualify 36 Olympic quota places and six Paralympic quota places. The team finished with two World Champions in its midst: the Women’s Four and the PR2 Women’s Single Scull. Australia finished sixth on the medal table with two gold, three silver and three bronze medals.
- Australia had an extremely strong World Rowing Cup season, winning both World Rowing Cups II and III and for the first time being crowned the overall World Rowing Cup winners for 2019.
- RA’s Pathway Programme continues to deliver, with one gold medal at the Junior World Rowing Championships and two gold, one silver and one bronze medal at the World Rowing Under 23 Championships. Our U23s also competed once again in the Trans-Tasman Series against New Zealand and a select number of athletes from Canada.
- The Australian Indoor Rowing Championships saw increased participation once again, with venues across the country participating.
- Rowing Australia’s online education systems were further developed, with the launch of the Level 2 Online Coach Education Course which is being rolled out currently. In addition, the online education programme The Drive: Extended was launched, which has had a strong viewership across our digital channels educating rowers of all levels and ages of

the importance of nutrition, physiology, strength and conditioning, injury prevention and technique.

- The 2019 Aon Sydney International Rowing Regatta (SIRR) and Australian Masters Rowing Championships were staged successful, providing our elite rowers and masters rowers with quality pinnacle events and experiences.
- Continued work has occurred to diversify RA's revenue sources, including extending the relationships with significant commercial partners for post 2020.
- 'Riggers' Sporting Schools Programmes and also the 'Grow' Programme were successfully rolled out across schools and detention centres respectively.

The achievements of 2019 have been extremely pleasing for Rowing Australia and they are excited about the opportunities, both on and off the water, for the sport in 2020. RA's priorities in 2020 are obviously to support and grow rowing further using the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games as an opportunity to leverage the great sport of rowing. RA's strategic aims will be reviewed post Tokyo 2020.

New Zealand (Rowing New Zealand)

- World Rowing Awards - RNZ concluded 2019 with two prestigious awards in the recognition of the strong performance of our elite women's athletes. Gary Hay as Head Women's Coach and the Kerri Gowler and Grace Prendergast (W2-) were recognised by FISA as Coach of the Year and Female Crew of the Year respectively at the FISA awards in London. This was an indication of a very positive year. The 2019 season will be remembered for the RNZ Women's programme delivering outstanding results across the W2x, W2-, LW2x and W8+.
- The W8+ performance deserves a special mention – this is the first time in RNZ's 132 years as a National Federation that NZ has won this boat class. To have Kerri Gowler and Grace Prendergast double-up in 2019 and deliver two World titles will be a year they will never forget.
- Judith Hamilton started her role as GM Performance (formerly HP Director) and the appointment of Annika Wing to oversee our athlete and coach pathway review will ensure our evolution continues. RNZ is formally reviewing the current pathways but rather than drill-down on the current structures RNZ is looking at what the ideal pathway approach should be from 2020 through to LA 2028.
- Government funding is heading in a more stable and strategic direction. The Paris2024 plans have been written and a potential 80% funding commitment will be made prior to Tokyo even starting. This is a new approach for the NZ sport sector and one that will make a positive impact for Rowing.
- The Rowing NZ 'Legacy' programme, established to honour, celebrate and document the success of New Zealand's best rowing athletes continued with great success. The Auckland Rowing Club celebrated their 150th anniversary and utilised the legacy medals to recognise their NZ representatives inclusive of Alistair Dryden through to Nathan Twaddle. The recognition of our history is well placed against the success of 2019.
- In prior reports RNZ has acknowledged the sad passing of former NZ representatives and this year we are saddened to report the passing of Warren Cole, the gold medal winning stroke of the M4+ at the 1968 Olympics. Warren's international achievements have been well celebrated in NZ but he was also a constant supporter and a passionate volunteer for regattas at Lake Karapiro, including of the World Championships in 2010.

The Pacific Islands' Development Project

The Pacific Islands' Project seeks to build on the success of Vanuatu Rowing and assist Samoa, American Samoa, Kiribati and Tonga to develop a domestic rowing operation. As time and resources permit, attention will also be given to other Pacific Island nations. It is clear that coastal rowing provides the best means to develop rowing in most Pacific Island nations.

FISA and ORCON are fortunate indeed to have the assistance of Andrew MacKenzie who is engaged on a part time basis by FISA as the Pacific Islands' Rowing Development Officer. Andrew is based in Vanuatu and is actively involved in both coaching and providing general support to the Vanuatu rowing programme. However, he is also actively involved in developing rowing in American Samoa, as a stepping stone to developing rowing in other small Pacific Island countries. I remain grateful to Andrew for his hard work during the year.

In 2019, another milestone was reached with the hosting of a coaching clinic and training camp for coastal rowing in American Samoa. This was a culmination of two years of collaboration between FISA, ORCON, and the American Samoa Rowing Association (ASRA). As a result, a fleet of coastal rowing boats (solos and quads) were donated to ASRA to help them establish a coastal rowing programme in Pago Pago, the capital of American Samoa. Half of those boats are earmarked for Samoa for when a rowing programme is established in Samoa and also when there are suitable boat shed facilities. The training camp was held in September and attended by athletes from American Samoa and Vanuatu. John Parker (USA) conducted a FISA level one coaching clinic with eight participants from both nations achieving accreditation. The camp also doubled up as an event for Vanuatu and American Samoa to select teams to compete at the 2019 World Coastal Rowing Championships in Hong Kong.

American Samoa Rowing Association (ASRA).

ASRA selected their first ever national rowing team that participated at the 2019 World Coastal Rowing Championships. The ASRA men's coastal coxed quad scull competed in Hong Kong with a very commendable 13th place finish in the B final. The crews' performance at the event attracted considerable media attention and support from the rowing community, showcasing the significant work done by the FISA Development team especially in the promotion of coastal rowing to small island developing states.

Kiribati Rowing Association (KRA)

While a domestic rowing programme is not yet established in Kiribati, Martin Tamoaieta is a Kiribati national residing in NZ and a promising rower. Martin competed for Kiribati at the 2018 World Junior Championships in Linz-Ottensheim (AUT) in the JM1x performing credibly and with personal best times. Martin currently rows in the Senior Class at NZ domestic regattas for the Waikato Rowing Club working towards qualification for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Vanuatu Rowing Association (VRA)

The VRA continued to build on the achievements in 2018 in international training and competition.

- In January, Rio Rii was invited by Ben Southwell (Head Coach, Queensland) to attend a high-performance training camp with the Queensland Academy of sport rowing squad.
- In April, a men's double and men's single competed at the Sydney International Regatta with the double finishing 8th overall.
- In August, Rio Rii competed at the 2019 World Rowing Championships in Linz-Ottensheim (AUT) and won the H final with a personal best time and finished 43rd overall.

- In September a team of three female and two male athletes attended the FISA level one coaching course and training camp in American Samoa with all five athletes completing the level one course.
- In October, Rio Rii competed at the inaugural World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals in the men's solo finishing 8th overall.
- A week later in Hong Kong, the men's coastal double competed in the 2019 World Rowing Coastal Championships. The crew won Vanuatu's first ever international race (1st place in the heat of the men's double), finishing 11th overall in the A Final.

Meetings & events attended in 2019

- FISA Council, Lausanne (SUI), February
- FISA Council, Rotterdam (NED), May
- Rules Working Group, Tokyo (JPN), July
- World Rowing Championships, Linz (AUT), August, including the FISA Congress and Council meeting

Lee Spear (NZL)

CO-OPTED COUNCIL MEMBER

The Co-Opted member of Council is described in Article 42 and the role of the Co-Opted Council Member is defined by the *FISA Rule Book, Appendix 5, Bye-Law to Article 47*. "The President may assign specific duties to the Co-opted members as required."

Key activities and achievements in 2019

As a Co-opted Council Member, my mission is to actively work for the future of rowing through the Council's activities and in all the activities of FISA, with a specific focus on the preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

- 2019 was another valuable year planning for the future of rowing by working and communicating with many FISA members, member federations (MFs), the NOC, and local communities and sharing issues and ideas about the future of FISA and rowing.
- Preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games - The test event was held in Tokyo, the 2019 World Rowing Junior Championships, effectively utilising the valuable and short time we had left before the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and ensuring that the new competition venue, Sea Forest Waterway, would be fit for purpose. The preparations have required close cooperation and coordination between FISA, the IOC, the NOC, the MF, and the Tokyo 2020 organising committee (OC), as well as with the Government of Japan and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. Post-2020 Olympic Games legacy has also been a key consideration throughout.
- Preparations for the 2021 World Masters Games – this has required close cooperation and coordination with the 2021 OC and IMGA.
- As a representative of the FISA Council, I have actively contributed to sports activities and FISA, carried out my assigned tasks and participated in all meetings and the Commission meetings I was involved in and the FISA and local activities as necessary.

Meetings attended in 2019

- Council meeting, Lausanne (SUI), January
- European Rowing Championships, Lucerne (SUI), June
- World Rowing Cup III, including Council meeting, Rotterdam (NED), July
- World Rowing Junior Championships, Tokyo (JPN) August
- World Rowing Championships, including Council meeting and Congress, Linz-Ottensheim (AUT), September
- Asian Championships, Chungju (KOR), October
- Joint Commission Meeting, London (GBR), November

Focus for 2020

The environment surrounding sports and the Olympic and Paralympic Games is changing surprisingly quickly and dramatically. The diversity and continuity of sports will become more important in the future and will be of great importance for the future of rowing.

Tokyo 2020 this coming year is only one step, and it is also the starting point for the 2024 and 2028 Games. We shall continue to build on our strong relationship with the IOC. Additionally, we shall also:

- Prepare for and contribute to successful staging of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Prepare for the 2021 World Masters Games
- Continue to cooperate and coordinate with FISA, the IOC, the NOC, the MF, ARF, and the 2020 OC
- Consider the Olympic legacy
- Develop the sport of rowing and rowers in Asian countries
- Give active consideration to branding and marketing activities

In the future, we intend to further enhance the presence of rowing in society, work on environmental issues, and make efforts to further develop the sport and make it more attractive.

Summary

In 2019, we were able to hold the World Rowing Junior Championships, an Olympic Games test event, with the cooperation and support from many FISA members and the MF. I would like to thank all the parties concerned and participants. Looking towards the year 2020, through the cooperation and discussion with many people in the sports sector, I was also able to learn about sport's values and its many challenges, and I ask for the cooperation of all parties concerned in Tokyo 2020, for the future of rowing. Lastly, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to FISA Staff, Council, Executive Committee, all Commission members and the MF for their support of FISA. Thank you very much.

Masakuni Hosobuchi (JPN)

AGENDA ITEMS 8, 9, 10, 11

Financial Reports

Item 8

Accounts, financial report and auditors' report

- 2019 Financial Report
- 2019 Financial Statements
- Auditor's Report on the 2019 Statements

Item 9

Approval of the 2019 accounts

Item 10

Determination of entrance fee and annual subscription

- No proposals for changes

Item 11

Budget for the following year, 2021

- Due to difficulties with the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 to 2024 proposed budget will be included in the 16 September 2020 Circular

FINANCIAL REPORT

Introduction

The presentation of the accounts in the auditor's report and the updated 2017 – 2020 four-year financial plan was changed and re-ordered in 2018 compared to previous years in order to be better aligned with FISA's organisation of activities.

2019 Financial Result

At its March 2019 meeting, the Executive Committee approved additional funding for new projects that had not been included in the 2019 budget figures presented in the 2018 Ordinary Congress agenda papers. Therefore, the 2019 financial result, before exchange rate and provision on securities item, is a deficit of CHF 520'415. This result is largely offset by a significant positive performance (+10.54%) in the management of our securities portfolio resulting in a positive release of provision for securities of CHF 919'954, and a loss of CHF 44'115 due to exchange rate changes. The overall result is a surplus of CHF 355'424. With one year to go before the end of the four-year plan 2017-2020, the total reserves stand at CHF 8'936'587.

Income

All activities show more income than originally anticipated with a total of CHF 7'992'503 compared to a budget of CHF 5'897'571. In 2019 we launched the Strategic Event Attribution Process (SEAP) that resulted in unbudgeted income from bid fees of CHF 279'931 and hosting fees of CHF 410'550. For the first time the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals were staged in Shenzhen (China). This event brought unbudgeted income of CHF 141'811. FISA received a sanction fee of CHF 44'148 from the World Rowing University Regatta staged in Xian, China. In 2019, FISA registered additional income in the following areas: TV/Media rights CHF 77'544, commercial rights CHF 364'931 and marketing CHF 167'977. The valuation of the securities portfolio at 31.12.2019 allowed FISA to drastically decrease the provision for losses on bonds and shares; this had a positive impact of CHF 919'954 on the profit and loss figures.

Expenses

All expense line items report figures higher than budgeted and in line with increased income. The FISA Development Programme usually spends most of its four-year allocation of CHF 1'600'000 in the pre-Olympic year which was the case in 2019 with a total expenditure of CHF 1'203'950 as opposed to a budgeted CHF 470'000. This was partially offset by re-invoicing and other development income of CHF 307'121 as opposed to the budgeted CHF 86'000. The overall four-year plan for the Development Programme is in line with expectations. The unbudgeted Events Management costs regarding the World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals in Shenzhen amounted to CHF 278'455, of which CHF 187'050 was for TV production and creative costs. Additional financial participation from FISA in the Events Marketing & TV field was allocated to the broadcast services and TV Production/Distribution of the World Rowing Cup (CHF 129'996) and World Rowing Coastal events (CHF 92'091). Governance expenditures increased principally due to additional anti-doping activities in the year prior to the Olympic Games (+CHF 199'552 vs budget) and the Coaches Conference (+CHF 65'662) organised by FISA; this conference expenditure was mostly off-set by participation fees. External part-time assistance partially exceeded our Events (+CHF 43'439), Marketing (+CHF 46'301) and Development (+CHF 60'987) consultancy budgets. Some unpaid debts were cancelled and

reported as a loss (CHF 24'113). The increase in the payroll of the staff in Lausanne is partially offset by the re-invoicing of consultancy services linked to current and future rowing events in Asia (China/Japan). The costs generated by the increase of securities transactions in our portfolio amount to CHF 140'643.

Conclusion

The amount of FISA's reserves at 31.12.2019 is CHF 8'936'587 and was on target for a permanent reserve of approximately CHF 4'000'000 at the end of 2020.

Looking Forward

As a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic situation, all 2020 World Rowing events were cancelled or postponed to 2021, and the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo was also postponed to 2021. Therefore, the expected share of Olympic Games television rights has been delayed until the end of 2021. The FISA Staff was placed on 50 percent working status for six months taking advantage of temporary unemployment support from the Swiss government. Due to the current uncertainties in the financial markets, at the time of writing, FISA's reserves are valued at 15% less than purchase price which is a reduction in value of approximately CHF 1'000'000. FISA is, however, benefiting from a loan facility from the Swiss government and an advance on Tokyo TV rights from the IOC to sustain cash flow needs in 2021. Despite the financial uncertainties that this causes, we attach a sustainable four-year plan for 2021-2024 based on the information in our possession at the time of writing this report.

Four year financial plan 2017-2020

(amounts in Swiss Francs)

INCOME	2017 ACTUAL	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET
Events Management	1 236 419	1 130 899	520 930	1 610 649	340 435
Events Marketing and TV	1 403 547	1 199 234	771 250	1 170 675	160 000
Development Programme	407 659	291 844	86 000	307 121	86 000
Marketing	185 476	196 021	80 000	247 977	80 000
Governance	317 437	239 277	110 000	394 502	110 000
Contribution from reserves	3 952 326	3 780 116	4 131 626	4 131 626	4 652 601
Administration & Finance	532 373	633 925	197 765	129 953	108 965
TOTAL INCOME	8 035 237	7 471 317	5 897 571	7 992 503	5 538 001

EXPENDITURES	2017 ACTUAL	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET
Events Management	422 388	618 610	521 404	939 378	588 774
Events Logistitcs	794 544	734 772	791 000	648 043	601 000
Events Marketing and TV	730 082	1 185 306	524 127	1 051 709	343 647
Events Communications	98 766	83 092	48 335	82 507	46 485
Development Programme	991 729	860 491	470 000	1 203 950	470 000
Communications	155 577	152 996	208 950	210 595	205 450
Marketing	167 875	139 600	85 000	112 732	67 000
Governance	983 448	758 690	725 000	1 101 493	695 000
Adminstration & Finance	3 084 973	2 902 431	2 523 755	3 162 512	2 520 645
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	7 429 381	7 435 987	5 897 571	8 512 918	5 538 001
1st Result	605 856	35 330	0	-520 415	0
Exchange rate	-160 187	-48 650		-44 115	
Change in provision for unrealized loss on securities	-242 679	-722 919		919 954	
CHANGE IN RESERVES	202 991	-736 239		355 424	0
Total reserves from previous year	20 142 154	16 189 828		12 409 712	8 278 086
Release from reserves for actual expenditures	-3 952 326	-3 780 116		-4 131 626	-4 652 601
General result brought forward	836 326	1 039 316		303 078	658 502
TOTAL RESERVES	17 229 144	12 712 789		8 936 587	4 283 986

Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Avion (FISA)

Lausanne

Report of the auditor
to the Congress

on the financial statements 2019



Report of the auditor

to the Congress of Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron (FISA)

Lausanne

On your instructions, we have audited the financial statements of Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron (FISA), which comprise the balance sheet, statement of income and expenses and notes, for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Executive Committee's responsibility

The Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Executive Committee is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the existence and effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 comply with Swiss law.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA



Philippe Tzaud
Audit expert



Nicolas Daehler
Audit expert

Lausanne, 16 June 2020

Enclosure:

- Financial statements (balance sheet, statement of income and expenses and notes)

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA, avenue C.-F. Ramuz 45, case postale, CH-1001 Lausanne, Switzerland
Téléphone: +41 58 792 81 00, Téléfax: +41 58 792 81 10, www.pwc.ch

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA is a member of the global PricewaterhouseCoopers network of firms, each of which is a separate and independent legal entity.

**Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron, Lausanne
(International Rowing Federation)**

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

ASSETS	2019	2018
	CHF	CHF
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments	8'665'946	12'389'965
Cash and cash equivalents	1'059'252	1'589'883
Marketable securities	7'703'351	11'816'693
Provision for unrealised loss on marketable securities	-96'657	-1'016'611
Trade receivables	876'178	497'828
Accrued income and prepaid expenses	613'209	217'193
Total current assets	10'155'333	13'104'986
Non-current assets		
Fixed assets	58'397	56'906
Rent deposit	2'512	2'512
Total non-current assets	60'909	59'418
TOTAL ASSETS	10'216'242	13'164'404
 LIABILITIES AND FUNDS		
Short-term liabilities		
Accrued expenses	948'135	244'811
Account payables	331'520	206'804
Total short-term liabilities	1'279'655	451'615
Total liabilities	1'279'655	451'615
Funds		
Permanent Reserves	5'000'000	5'000'000
Reserves for future expenses	3'278'086	7'409'712
General surplus	658'501	303'077
General surplus brought forward	303'077	1'039'316
Surplus / loss for the year	355'424	-736'239
Total funds	8'936'587	12'712'789
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS	10'216'242	13'164'404

Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron, Lausanne
(International Rowing Federation)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR 2019 AND 2018

	2019		2018
INCOME	CHF		CHF
Income			
Events Management	1'610'649		1'130'899
Events Marketing and TV Rights	1'170'675		1'199'234
Development Programme	307'121		291'844
Marketing	247'977		196'021
Administration and governance	394'502		239'277
Contribution from reserves	4'131'626		3'780'116
Total Income	7'862'550		6'837'392
Expenditures			
Events Management	939'378		618'610
Events Logistics	648'043		734'772
Events Marketing and TV Rights	1'051'709		1'185'306
Events Communications	82'507		83'092
Development Programme	1'203'950		860'491
Communications	210'595		152'996
Marketing	112'732		139'600
Governance	1'101'493		758'690
Administration	2'857'414		2'545'575
Total Expenditures	8'207'820		7'079'131
Operational result before financial income/expenses	- 345'270		- 241'739
Financial income	370'572		633'925
Financial expenses	- 545'717		- 356'856
Exchange result	- 44'115		- 48'650
Change in provision for unrealized loss on securities	919'954		- 722'919
Surplus / loss for the year	355'424		- 736'239

**Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron, Lausanne
(International Rowing Federation)**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN GENERAL SURPLUS FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

	<u>2019</u> CHF		<u>2018</u> CHF
General surplus at the beginning of the year	303'077		1'039'316
to add/less :			
Surplus / loss for the year	355'424	-	736'239
General surplus at the end of the year	658'501		303'077

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN THE "RESERVES FOR FUTURE EXPENSES" AND
"PERMANENT RESERVES" FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018**

	<u>2019</u> CHF		<u>2018</u> CHF
Total Reserves at the beginning of the year	12'409'712		16'189'828
to add :			
Income allocated to General surplus - IOC contribution	-		-
less :			
Use of reserves for futures expenses	-	4'131'626	-
Total Reserves at the end of the year	8'278'086		12'409'712
General surplus at the end of the year	658'501		303'077
Total funds at the end of the year	8'936'587		12'712'789

**Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron, Lausanne
(International Rowing Federation)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2019

Preliminary note on the audit

Although only a "limited statutory examination" would be sufficient under the Swiss Law, the Executive Committee has decided to have an ordinary audit carried out.

1. Accounting principles applied in the preparation of the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of commercial accounting as set out in the Swiss Code of Obligations (Art. 957 to 963b CO). Significant accounting policies are stated as follows:

Basis of Accounting

FISA uses the accruals basis of accounting, with the exception of subscriptions, which are booked on a cash basis.

Marketable Securities

Marketable securities are stated at the lower of cost and market value, determined on an individual basis. Fluctuations are recognised in the statement of income and expenses for the year.

Non-current assets

Furniture and equipment is carried at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is calculated on the basis of the following useful lives and in accordance with the following methods:

Fixed assets	Useful life	Method
Furniture and equipment	5 years	20% linear
Inflatable advertising structure	5 years	20% linear
Computer Hardware	3 years	33% linear

Olympic Solidarity

Funds received from Olympic Solidarity (O.S.) in the form of grants for the purpose of the development of the sport are available for expenditure only on activities defined by O.S. Such funds are recognised as income only when expenditure in line with the defined purpose is incurred.

Taxation

FISA is exempt from Federal, Cantonal and Municipal taxation on its income and net assets.

Salaries and related expenses (included under administration)	2019	2018
Salaries and related expenses	1'718'528	1'452'183

Olympic TV Rights Allocation

FISA receives an allocation of television rights from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) following the Summer Olympic Games. These funds, which are received every four years, represent core financing of FISA. They are therefore allocated against operating expenditure in instalments over the subsequent four year period with the balance being credited to "Reserves for future expenses". The allocation from the 2016 Olympic Games was received in 2016 and in 2017, nothing in 2018 nor 2019.

Foreign currencies

Monetary and non-monetary items in foreign currency are translated into Swiss francs at the following exchange rates:

Foreign currency	2019	2018
EUR	1.0870	1.1269
USD	0.9709	0.9858
GBP	1.2735	1.2555

The exchange rates used for balance sheet items are the rates prevailing on December 31; the exchange rates used for transactions conducted during the course of the year and for items in the profit and loss statement are effective rates at the date of transaction.

Deviations from the principle of consistency in presentation

Certain prior year balances have been reclassified in order to conform with the presentation of the current year. In accordance with Swiss Code of Obligations, financial income and expenses have been presented separately from the operational result.

2. Analyses and explanations to the financial statements

2.1 Declaration on the number of full-time equivalents averaged over the year

The number of full-time equivalents did not exceed 50 on an annual average basis.

2.2 Collateral for third-party liabilities

	2019	2018
Bank rent deposit	2'512	2'512

2.3 Lease liabilities

	2019	2018
Vehicles	11'931	18'672

2.4 Fixed assets

	2019	2018
Furniture and equipment	35'080	37'286
Computer hardware	23'317	19'620
	58'397	56'906

Depreciation expense (included under administration)	20'619	59'178
Depreciation expense on the inflatable advertising structure (included under Marketing and TV)	9'538	9'538

3. Subsequent events

In light of the ongoing coronavirus outbreak that occurred in China and has now been spread to Europe and other regions, and after consultations with the medical experts, Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron (FISA) has taken the decision to postpone all international competitions planned to be held until the end of June 30, 2020. This is impacting the federation's business operation to a certain extent.

The actual financial impact, in particular linked to the postponement of the Olympic Games in Japan, will depend on the situation and duration of coronavirus outbreak, which is hard to estimate now. Nevertheless, the Executive Committee believes that there is no material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt upon the federation's ability to continue as a going concern.

Further to this decision the FISA Executive Committee will closely follow the situation and will review by end of June. FISA still focus to deliver the majority of the Rowing Events when possible.

AGENDA ITEM 12

Reports on future FISA events and Olympic & Paralympic regattas

1. 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Tokyo, JPN, July-August 2021
2. 2021 World Rowing events:
 - Americas Continental Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regatta (TBA)
 - Asia and Oceania Continental Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regatta (TBA)
 - European Continental Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regatta (Varese, ITA) 5-7 April 2021
 - World Rowing Cup I (Zagreb, CRO), 30 April-2 May 2021
 - Final Paralympic Qualification Regatta (Gavirate, ITA), 7-9 May 2021
 - Final Olympic Qualification Regatta (Lucerne, SUI), 16-18 May 2021
 - World Rowing Cup II (Lucerne, SUI), 21-23 May 2021
 - World Rowing Cup III (Saubaudia, ITA), 4-6 June 2021
 - World Rowing Under 23 Championships (Racice, CZE), 7-11 July 2021
 - World Rowing Junior Championships (Plovdiv, BUL), 11-15 August 2021
 - World Rowing Masters Regatta (Linz-Ottensheim, AUT), 1-5 September 2021
 - World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals (Oeiras, POR), 24-26 September 2021
 - World Rowing Coastal Championships (Oeiras, POR), 30 September-2 October 2021
 - World Rowing Championships (Shanghai, CHN), 17-24 October 2021

AGENDA ITEM 13

Place and date of the next Congress

1. The Council proposes that the 2021 FISA Ordinary Congress should take place on 25 October 2021, in Shanghai, China.

AGENDA ITEM 14

Attribution of future World Rowing Championships in accordance with Rule 6

There are no World Rowing Championships to be attributed at this Congress.

AGENDA ITEM 15

Reports of Continental Rowing Confederations and other Member Groupings

Continental Rowing Confederations, recognised in accordance with Article 18:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|
| 1. | COPARE - Americas | 91 |
| 2. | ERC - Europe | 92 |
| 3. | ORCON - Oceania | 93 |

Member Groupings, recognised in accordance with Article 19:

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|
| 4. | Commonwealth Rowing Association | 94 |
| 5. | Coupe de la Jeunesse | 95 |
| 6. | CSAR | 97 |

AMERICAS ROWING CONFEDERATION (COPARE)

The year 2019 was a year of intense activities, where COPARE was present at various events, collaborating with the countries of the continent and fulfilling its objectives. The main events and activities during 2019 were:

- Copa América, Tigre, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 15-16-17 March.
- ODESUR BEACH GAMES, Rosario, Argentina, 18-21 March.
- South American Championship, Junior and Under 23, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 26-28 April.
- Centro-American and Carribean Cup, San Salvador, El Salvado, 1-2 June.
- COPARE Extraordinary Assembly, with approval of Statute Reform, Huacho, Peru, 5 August.
- COPARE Ordinary Assembly, Approval of Annual Report and Balance 2015 - 2019 and Election of Authorities, Huacho, Peru, 9 August.
- LIMA Pan American Games 2019, 6-10 August.

Fernando Ucha Martinez (URU), President

EUROPEAN ROWING CONFEDERATION (ERC)

On 27 May 2006, it was agreed to re-start an annual European Rowing Championship regatta in September 2007 as a cooperative arrangement between FISA and the European member federations (MFs). An annual General Assembly of the European MFs was established, to consider all matters relating to the development of rowing competitions across the European MFs of FISA and a European Rowing Management Board was established to manage the events.

Following the 2017 FISA Extraordinary Congress in Tokyo decision to officially recognise Continental Confederations (Art. 18 of the FISA Statutes), the delegates of the European MFs agreed to form a Continental Confederation for Europe at an Extraordinary General Assembly on 22 November 2018. Ryszard Stadniuk was elected Chair at the same General Assembly. At the 2019 General Assembly of the European Rowing Confederation in Luzern, Annamarie Phelps was appointed Vice Chair, and Eva Szanto Secretary, of the European Rowing Board (ERB), the Executive body of the European Rowing Confederation (ERC). The ERC was formally recognised by FISA at the 2019 FISA Ordinary Congress in Linz, Austria.

Membership of the ERC is open to all European MFs of FISA and Israel, which meet the terms of membership.

There are currently four annual European Championship events: Senior, U23, Junior and Indoor Rowing championships. A cooperation agreement with FISA sets out how these events will be delivered by FISA and the ERB.

The European Rowing MFs come together each year at a General Assembly and a Presidents' Meeting, or forum, to discuss strategy and specific projects, and to share information and best practice. In 2019 the Presidents' Meeting took place in Amsterdam (NED) with representatives from 20 MFs attending.

Mission statement: European Rowing aspires to be a leading continental confederation, adding value to rowing globally and supporting delivery of FISA's strategic objectives to make rowing a successful and sustainable sport, by supporting its member federations to work together for the sustainable future of our sport.

2019 ERB Members

Ryszard Stadniuk (POL), Chair

Nebojsa Jevremovic (SRB)

Dusan Machacek (CZE)

Annamarie Phelps (GBR), Vice Chair

Algirdas Raslanas (LU)

Patrick Rombaut (BEL)

Eva Szanto (HUN), Secretary

Ryszard Stadniuk (POL), Chair

OCEANIA ROWING CONFEDERATION (ORCON)

The Oceania Rowing Confederation (ORCON) was formed in 2010 by the three active rowing federations in Oceania at the time - Rowing Australia, Rowing New Zealand and the Vanuatu Rowing Association. ORCON was formally recognised by FISA as the Continental Confederation for Oceania at the FISA Congress in 2017 – the first continental confederation to be so recognised pursuant to the Bye-laws to Article 18 of the FISA Statutes.

Membership of ORCON is open to all national rowing federations in Oceania that are members of FISA, that are members of their respective national Olympic association and who otherwise meet the terms of membership.

Membership of ORCON currently consists of the following eight members of FISA: Rowing Australia, Rowing New Zealand, the Vanuatu Rowing Association, the Samoa Rowing Association, the American Samoa Rowing Association, the Kiribati Rowing Association, Fiji Rowing Association and Tonga Rowing Association; the rowing associations of Tonga and Fiji are not currently active.

The first and primary objective of ORCON is to, *“Develop and promote rowing within the Oceania region in cooperation with FISA”*

ORCON is working closely with FISA to promote and develop the sport of rowing in the smaller Pacific Island countries.

Lee Spear (NZL), President

COMMONWEALTH ROWING ASSOCIATION (CRA)

The Commonwealth Rowing Association was recognised as a Member Grouping of FISA in 2019. The objectives of the CRA are to foster cordial relations between its members and to encourage partnership working between the national rowing federations of the Commonwealth, for the benefit of Commonwealth athletes, citizens and communities.

At the end of 2019, there were 34 members of the CRA as follows: Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bermuda, Canada, Cyprus, England, Fiji, Ghana, Gibraltar, India, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Jersey, Kenya, Kiribati, Malta, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Pakistan, Samoa, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Vanuatu, Wales, Zambia.

In 2019, 19 of the 34 CRA members competed in at least one major World Rowing outdoor event.

2019 WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS	2019 UNDER 23 WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS	2019 JUNIOR WORLD ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS	2019 WORLD ROWING BEACH SPRINT FINALS	2019 WORLD ROWING COASTAL
AUS	AUS	AUS	CAN	AUS
BAH	BAH	CAN	GBR	CAN
CAN	CAN	CYP	VAN	CYP
GBR	CYP	GBR		GBR
IND	GBR	IND		VAN
NAM	KEN	KIR		
NGR	NGR	NZL		
NZL	NZL	RSA		
RSA	RSA	SGP		
SGP	UGA			
TTO	VIN			
VAN				

Executive Committee members

President:	Peter Cookson, Canada
Executive Member:	Dorothy Roberts Blackie, Scotland
Executive Member:	Ian Robson, Australia
Executive Member:	Girish Phadnis, India (term expired, 2019)
Secretary-General:	Christa Diekmann, Namibia (co-opted until 2020)

Peter Cookson (CAN), President

COUPE DE LA JEUNESSE

The Coupe de la Jeunesse is an organisation that has as its main goal the annual organisation of the Coupe de la Jeunesse regatta. This is an international junior regatta for European rowing federations by invitation. The Coupe de la Jeunesse provides friendly competition whilst respecting others and offers an environment which enables all to perform to their highest potential. For many rowers, attendance at the Coupe de la Jeunesse is the start of their international rowing careers. The regatta offers an event programme with two separate days of racing with event prizes and a team competition for the annual award of the Coupe de la Jeunesse trophy.

2019 Coupe de la Jeunesse, Lake Comabbio, Italy

The 2019 Coupe de la Jeunesse took place on Lake Comabbio, Italy from 2 to 4 August, and was organised by Canottieri Corgeno. The Organising Committee (OC), led by Giovanni Marchettini, provided excellent facilities in a beautiful setting and an army of friendly and enthusiastic volunteers to support the performance of the 280 entries. The junior rowers from 14 nations enjoyed excellent racing conditions throughout the weekend and provided a high level of performance and exciting racing we have come to expect at the Coupe de la Jeunesse. Congratulations go to all of the competitors and their coaches for these performances and our thanks go to the member federations for their commitment to the event.

The Italian team won the Coupe de la Jeunesse trophy at this 35th edition of the event, recording 297 points in the combined boys and girls events total. Great Britain came second with 276 points and the Netherlands third with a score of 251 points.

The Executive Committee, on behalf of the members of the Coupe de la Jeunesse, thank the OC of Corgeno for this successful presentation of the Coupe. The support of the Federazione Italiana Canottaggio, the Comune di Vergiate and the following regional and provincial bodies was essential for the staging of the regatta and we thank them all very much.

Regione Lombardia, Camera di Commercio di Varese, Provincia di Varese,

Varese Sport Commission, Parco del Ticino, FIC Lombardia, CONI Lombardia

The Members of the Coupe de la Jeunesse are Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland. By invitation, Norway and Sweden sent small teams to gain experience racing as guest entries at the Coupe in preparation for joining as member federations in 2020.

Governance

The Coupe de la Jeunesse Executive Committee in 2019 consisted of the President Gary Harris (GBR), the Secretary General Christian Stofer (SUI) and the Technical Advisors Gwenda Stevens (BEL) and Bas Labordus (NED).

During the winter meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting in February 2019, held in Corgeno, the delegates from the 14 member federations supported the work of the Executive Committee and the Corgeno OC to produce a new logo design for the Coupe. The existing design was distinctive and valued by the members but, with the recent increase in membership, it was proving to be a design which is expensive to update. The new design which was used for the first time during the Coupe at Corgeno is one which will not need to be revised

each time there is a change to the membership. Our thanks go to the Corgeno OC for helping with the design of this fresh and modern logo and for providing a new flag for the Coupe.

Christian Stofer (SUI) came to the end of his third and final term of office as Secretary General at the end of the regatta. Christian was thanked by the members for his twelve years' service in the office to which he brought extensive experience in international rowing, an insistence on high standards and sympathy for junior athletes. Gwenda Stevens (BEL) was elected to succeed Christian as Secretary General at the February meeting and assumed the office at the end of the regatta in August. In doing so, a casual vacancy in the post of Technical Advisor (facilities and race control) was created and Judit Mezaros (HUN) was elected to serve the final year of the term at the Delegate Assembly in August.

The August Delegate Assembly attributed the 2022 Coupe de la Jeunesse to Amsterdam (NED).

Future events

1. 2020 Linz-Ottensheim (AUT)
2. 2021 Castrelo de Mino (ESP)
3. 2022 Amsterdam (NED)

At the time of writing this report the disruption to everyday life across Europe in response to the pandemic of Covid-19 has resulted in the cancellation of the 2020 Coupe in Linz-Ottensheim. The schedule for future editions of the Coupe is being consulted on and notification of a revised schedule will be issued in due course

Gary Harris (GBR), President

SOUTH AMERICAN ROWING CONFEDERATION (CSAR)

CSAR was founded 28 July 1945 and was recognised by FISA on 11 January 2013. On 2 October 2017, CSAR was recognised as a Member Grouping of FISA (Art. 19). CSAR is also recognised by Organización Deportiva Sudamericana (ODESUR), Organización Deportiva Bolivariana (ODEBO), Asociación de Confederaciones Deportivas Sudamericanas (ACODESU) and Confederación Panamericana de Remo (COPARE).

CSAR Members: Argentina Rowing Association, Brazilian Rowing Confederation, Federation Rowing Bolivia, Chile Rowing Federation, Rowing and Canoe Federation of Colombia, Rowing Federation of Ecuador, Paraguay Rowing Federation, Rowing Federation of Peru, Uruguay Rowing Federation and Rowing Federation of Venezuela.

2019 Events

- The Senior, Junior and U23 Championships were held in April in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, organised by the Brazilian Rowing Confederation with the participation of eight countries. Chile finished in first position, winning the largest number of trials.

The CSAR Ordinary Congress took place at the above event. Locations for South American events were confirmed up to 2022. It was also agreed to include four women Senior and Junior categories in an effort to address equal gender opportunities.

- The Masters Event took place in May in Asuncion, Paraguay, with the attendance of 700 rowers from South America sport clubs. For two days, more than 150 competitions were held, one every five minutes.
- IV South American Beach Games in Rosario, Argentina – ODESUR agreed to include rowing competitions for the first time and after several years of intense work. The format was coastal rowing for men and women, with a distance covering 6000m on the Paraná River. Argentina was the winner of this event.

These competitions, on a mighty river, are the innovation in our activity. As a result of the success of this event, coastal rowing will definitely be included in the 2023 Games.

- XVIII Pan-American Games, Lima, Peru - After arduous tasks, the building of a Rowing course in the town of Huacho was finally achieved.

Fourteen tests were held. Argentina (4) and Chile (4) won eight out of the fourteen. These results are encouraging with regard to the evolution of high competition rowing in South America.

- The Pan-American Rowing Confederation recognised the South America Rowing Association in its Statutes, awarding the Vice-Presidency.

Raúl R. Poletti (ARG), President

Gerd Hellmuth Thiede Friesen (PAR), Secretary-Treasurer

AGENDA ITEM 16

Reports on applications for affiliation and voting consequent thereon

No requests for FISA membership were received by the due date.

AGENDA ITEM 17

Reconsideration or confirmation of decisions (ref. Art. 31) taken by the Council, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 33 and paragraph 4 of Art. 46, or by the Executive Committee, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of Art. 52.

No requests for reconsideration or confirmation of decisions were received by the due date.

AGENDA ITEM 18

Council and Executive Committee elections in accordance with Art. 40 and 50.

With Fay Ho's recent appointment as FISA's Continental Representative for Asia, in accordance with Article 54 – Casual Vacancies, an election will take place at the 2020 Ordinary Congress for the following position on the Council, to complete the mandate ending 31 December 2022:

1. CHAIR OF THE PARA ROWING COMMISSION

Candidate	Simon Goodey (GBR)
	Paola Grizzetti (ITA)

Nomination Forms and Motivation Letters can be found on the following pages.



Nomination Form for the Council Election at the 2020 FISA Ordinary Congress

16 October 2020, Virtual Meeting

Our member national federation, British Rowing (GBR), would like to make a nomination for:

Υ Chair of Para Rowing Commission

Information on the candidate:

First and Last name: Simon Goodey

Gender: Male

Birth year: 1958

Nationality: British

Languages: English

Education History: Royal Dental Hospital, School of Dental Surgery - Cert Ed, LIBST

Professional History:

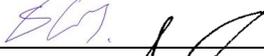
- Lecturer in Dental Technology 1988 - 1999 London teaching hospitals including the Royal Dental Hospital, Guy's & St Thomas's, University College London, Eastman Dental Institute
- Director of Adaptive Rowing, Royal Albert Dock Trust 2001 - 2007
- Chief Operations Officer, Royal Albert Dock Trust 2007 - Present
- British Rowing Head of Classification, Coach Ed Consultant, 2007 – Present
- FISA Para-Rowing Commission 2006 – Present
- FISA International Technical Classifier (level 2) 2008 – Present
- IPC International Technical Officer - 2008, 2012, 2016
- FISA Classification Advisory Panel (CAP) 2018 – Present
- FISA Paralympic Coach Education Director – 2019 – Present

Sport History:

- GB Para-Rowing Coach 2003-2006
- Mix LTA 4+ Gold, World Rowing Championships 2003, 2004, 2005
- AS Men's 1x Silver, World Rowing Championships 2003, 2004
- AS Men's 1x Bronze, World Rowing Championships 2006
- AS Women's 1x Gold, World Rowing Championships 2006

I, the above-mentioned candidate, confirm that the information provided in this form is complete and accurate and that, if elected, I will carry out the related duties to the best of my ability.

Place, date: London, 9 July 2020

Signature of candidate: 

Name and Signature of Federation Secretary General: _____


TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE CONGRESS AGENDA PAPERS

Please submit this completed Nomination form to FISA before **16 July 2020**

FISA, the World Rowing Federation
Av. De Rhodanie 54, 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland
Fax +41-21-617 83 75 or Email: info@fisa.org



Simon Goodey

Candidate for Chair of the Para-Rowing Commission

I feel privileged to be a candidate for the role of Chair of the Para-Commission, with only a few months to go until the start of the postponed Tokyo Paralympic Games.

I was first elected to the Para-Rowing (formerly Adaptive) Commission in January 2006. During this time, I have qualified as a FISA level 2 International Technical Classifier and carried out additional roles within FISA and the IPC:

Para-Rowing Coach Education Director

Working closely with the FISA Development Director and other colleagues, I have helped to produce a series of level 1 Para coach education modules which are now being delivered in each continent as part of the World Rowing coach education framework.

Classification Advisory Panel (CAP)

In 2018 I was elected as one of four experienced international classifiers who shall be responsible for providing medical and technical expertise for the purpose of informing and guiding FISA classification matters.

International Paralympic Technical Officer (ITO)

Beijing 2008, London 2012, Rio 2016

During the past 14 year, I have help deliver over 30 coaching and classification workshops worldwide. I share FISA's vision and mission to see Para-Rowing develop across all continents as a global sport.

World Rowing Vision - To encourage the development of the Para-Rowing and strengthen the bonds that unite those who practice it.

World Rowing Mission - To make Para-Rowing a universally practised and globally relevant sport; grow the sport in all its forms.

World Rowing Coach Development Programme Vision - To develop all levels of global rowing coaching expertise in alignment with the FISA Values.

I feel that I am well placed to help achieve this with my commitment to coach education, ensuring that the standard of Para coaching and Para coach education materials are universally available and further development of the classification system with my CAP colleagues.

I am further committed to ensure that Rowing remains within the Paralympic Games and to see more NFs develop Para-Rowing programmes across all continents.

Related Experience

University of East London & Royal Albert Dock Trust Adaptive Sports Interest Group

To raise monies to contribute to research and development in recreational or competitive sports for individuals with physical disabilities

To engage in projects aimed at increasing participation and coaching to individuals with a disability, promoting adaptive sports to the wider community

To enhance the development of undergraduate students in areas related to adaptive and disability sports

To enable undergraduates and members of the University of East London Boat Club to deliver adaptive rowing sessions at Royal Docks Adventure

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital

Honorary contract with Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Centre for Disability Research and Innovations (CDRI), the Institute of Human Performance and the Centres for Biomedical Engineering, in association with the Institute of Orthopaedics and Musculoskeletal Science, University College London. (Research into Functional Electrical Stimulation Assisted Rowing).

Publications

A Rowing Guide - Widgeit Integrated Text & Graphics

publication date 2013 publication description © Royal Albert Dock Trust & London Youth Rowing

Symbols are a method of communication, which can be used to deliver effective rowing coaching practice, through use of integrated text and graphics, for individuals from the following groups:

People learning English as a second language

People with memory difficulties, brain injury

People with dyslexia, dyspraxia or spatial/time/organisational difficulties.

People who are deaf or hearing impaired

Young children who have not yet started to read.

People with Autistic Spectrum Disorders

Adaptive Rowing: A Guide 2012 © British Rowing

The Guide is a comprehensive resource for coaches, schoolteachers and individuals with a disability who wish to access the sport of rowing. It is published by British Rowing and is one of the first books of its kind to cover the topic of adaptive rowing in detail.

This practical resource covers everything from classification, equipment and rigging and coaching considerations through to injury management and prevention and competition.

Awards

Royal Society for Public Health - Certificate of Merit 2007

The Royal Society for Public Health is an independent, multi-disciplinary organisation, dedicated to the promotion and protection of collective human health and wellbeing. I was given this award for

Awarded for - *"work in promoting physical activity and mental health among young people"*

Torch Trophy Award (Sport & Recreation Alliance) 2005

Torch Trophy Trust is a charity that rewards, recognises and supports volunteers in sport and recreation

"Outstanding voluntary service to Rowing"

British Rowing Medal of Honour 2009

"Outstanding Services to Rowing"



Nomination Form for the Council Election at the 2020 FISA Ordinary Congress

16 October 2020, Virtual Meeting

Our member national federation, (name of federation): Italian Rowing Federation, would like to make a nomination for:

Chair of Para Rowing Commission

Information on the candidate:

First and Last name: PAOLA GRIZZETTI

Gender: Male Female Birth year: 1965 Nationality: Italian

Languages: Italian, English

Education History:

- Diploma at School of Economics - Varese 1987
- Studies in Company administration and organisation
- English School Master Certification completed
- Cambridge English Language Assessment in process

Professional History:

Professional Credits

- LEVEL 1 National Coach Certificate 1984
- LEVEL 2 National and International Coach Certificate 1988
- LEVEL 3 National and International Head Coach Certificate 2014
- Level 1 – Italian weight lifting Federation, Strength and conditioning Oct 2014 Working experience in organization of events:
- Italian Rowing Federation - World rowing championships – events organized in Italy: 1988 – 1990 - 1997 – 2003
- International Event: Memorial Paolo D'Aloja – Piediluco (TR): 1990-1991-1992-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998
- International Para-rowing Event Gavirate – Technical Chief Organizer: Since 2006
- Global Games, Genova - Technical Chief Organizer for the sport of rowing 2011
- FISA World Cup, Varese – Technical Chief Organizer for the para-rowing events: Since 2014

Working experience in rowing

Varese rowing club

- First experience in coaching with kids age 9 to 14. From 1984
- First experiences in coaching juniors age 15 to 18. From 1986

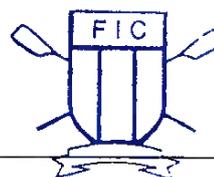
Messina rowing club

- Coaching all categories from novice to elite rowers Autumn 1989

Milazzo rowing club - Coaching kids and novices 1999 to 2000

Gavirate Rowing Club

- Developing a rowing program with novices and kids from 10 years of age 2000 - 2003
 - Introducing the project with the para-rowing: since 2003
 - Promoting rowing at school for disabled
 - Implementing the club facilities accessible for disabled
 - Recruiting new potential athletes
 - Developing a school project both with able-body rowers and para-rowers
- Since 2004 responsible:
- Kids,
 - Women (all categories)



- Para-rowers (physical and intellectual disabled)
- The club owns the record of disabled athletes among all the rowing clubs in Italy: from 2008 the number of affiliated disabled is 60-65, the 60% of the disabled rowers

Italian Rowing Federation - Technical National Centre – Piediluco

- Organization of national teams technical activity
- (training camps, physiological tests, regattas)
- Athletes database (races, trials, etc) from 1993 to 1998

Italian Rowing Federation – Roma

- Head coach of the Italian Para-rowing Team: from 2003 to 2012
- ❖ Developing adaptive rowing in Italy
- ❖ Special project inside schools and institutes with disabled
- ❖ Promote para-rowing among young disabled
- ❖ Visiting rowing clubs to recruit potential athletes
- ❖ Lectures at Coaching workshop and conference
- ❖ Training programs and plans for national and international level
- ❖ Managing training camp
- ❖ Managing yearly budget for the international activity
- ❖ Qualification of crews for Paralympic Games

Lugano Rowing Club .Head Coach

Israeli Rowing Federation – Tel Aviv

- Head Coach of the Israeli Para-rowing team from 2014
- CIP (NPC) – FISDIR Italy
- Head coach for the sport of rowing both for physical and intellectual disabled since 2006

FISA

- Member of the para-rowing commission Since 2005
- International technical classifier Since 2006

INAS

- Director of rowing Since 2013

Sport History:

- Started rowing at 15 years old
- Rower for the National Team from 1981 to 1984 and from 1991 to 1993
- Bronze medal at junior world championship in Vichy 1983
- 3 time gold medal at European championship 1982-1983-1984
- 6th place at 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games in the women's quadruple sculls
- 17 gold medal at national championships

I, the above-mentioned candidate, confirm that the information provided in this form is complete and accurate and that, if elected, I will carry out the related duties to the best of my ability.

Piediluco, Italy 16/7/2020: Signature of candidate:  Paola Grizzetti

Name and Signature of Federation President:  Giuseppe Abbagnale

TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE CONGRESS AGENDA PAPERS

Please submit this completed Nomination form to FISA before **16 July 2020**

FISA, the World Rowing Federation
Av. De Rhodanie 54, 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland
 Fax +41-21-617 83 75 or Email: info@fisa.org



PAOLA GRIZZETTI

Dear rowing friends.

Since the beginning of 2000, I have been involved as a national coach in para-rowing.

In 2005 the Italian Rowing Federation decided to nominate me for a position as member of the Para-rowing Commission. I was very honored and from the first day I had in my mind that to be part of this commission it is a mission.

To give the chance to a disabled person to enjoy our sport, train, compete and feel part of our rowing world, because whilst respecting their disabilities and needs, we teach that rowing is adaptable to everyone.

In 2005 I organized the first international para-rowing regatta in Gavirate, and today after 14 years it is one of the most successful competitions.

The first Fisa Para Rowing development camp was supported from myself, the Gavirate club, together with John Boulton and the Australian Institute of Sport.

And with the great work with Fisa, the Club and the Institute and the support of the Italian Rowing Federation the project started in 2015 and it is still going on with great success.

During all these years I had the opportunity to better understand the duties of the commission and how to develop and spread out our sport in the whole world.

And today after 15 years as member of the commission, with the support of the Italian Federation, I am again very honored to be candidate as Chair to succeed to my friend Fay Ho.

Motivation and passion are highlighted in me and will help me to promote and make para rowing more visible, attractive and inclusive.

Thank you for your trust and support.

Paola Grizzetti

Email: paola.grizzetti@libero.it

Head Coach of the Israeli Paralympic Rowing Team
Head Coach of Club Canottieri Lugano (SUI)
Member of Fisa Para-rowing commission

AGENDA ITEM 19

Specific proposals to an existing agenda item from the member federations, the Council or the Executive Committee

No proposals were received by the due date.

AGENDA ITEM 20

Other additional agenda items proposed by the member federations, the Council or the Executive Committee

1. Article 18 – Continental Rowing Confederations

A request for recognition has been received from:

(i) African Rowing Confederation (FASA)

The Council has received an application for recognition from FASA and is currently reviewing the submitted documentation.

AGENDA ITEM 21

Any other business