



6 January 2021
Lausanne, Switzerland

To: Member Federations
Council and Commission Members
Recognised Continental Confederations
Recognised Groupings of Member Federations
Organisers of World Rowing Events
National Rowing Magazines
Partners

World Rowing Circular No. 1 of 2021

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Circular covers the following items:

1. IOC Decision on the 2024 Paris Olympic Games Rowing Programme
2. Commission, Working Group and Committee Vacancies
3. World Rowing Event Confirmation Timeline for 2021
4. 2021 Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes
5. 2021 World Rowing Event International Juries Announced
6. 2021 World Rowing Ordinary Congress to be Virtual

1. IOC Decision on the 2024 Paris Olympic Games Rowing Programme

The IOC Executive Board has announced the event programme of the 2024 Paris Olympic Games and announced decisions on quotas for the 28 core sports so that the total athlete quota is 10'500 including the four additional sports to be staged in Paris. The full IOC press release is found here:

<https://www.olympic.org/news/gender-equality-and-youth-at-the-heart-of-the-paris-2024-olympic-sports-programme>

The IOC communicated the following message to World Rowing:

It should be noted that the IOC Executive Board reviewed the request from World Rowing to change the event programme for Paris 2024 to include the new discipline of Coastal Rowing to replace the Lightweight Rowing events.

The IOC Executive Board praised the strong case put forward by World Rowing regarding the added value of this discipline to the Olympic programme, flexibly adapting to most coastal and open water areas and adding a new accessible development opportunity for island and coastal nations around the world. These strong arguments were indeed the basis for its successful introduction to the Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026.

However, in light of the impact of the COVID19 pandemic and the need to reduce costs and complexity for Paris 2024 specifically highlighted by IOC Executive Board, the Commission concluded that no new disciplines could be added across any sport. Therefore, for Paris 2024, the Commission proposed to continue with the existing rowing programme of 14 events.

In view of Los Angeles 2028, the Olympic Programme Commission and the IOC Executive Board highlighted how the beach nature of the Coastal Rowing events could represent a very strong fit with the vision and venue landscape of Los Angeles and, following the definition of the LA2028 Sport Programme due in 2021, look forward to positively considering the inclusion of Coastal Rowing in the event programme for Los Angeles 2028.

In addition, the IOC's decision on the athlete quota for rowing is to reduce by 24 positions, from 526 to 502 athletes. The reduction in quota and the new qualification system for Paris 2024 will be the subject of MF meetings and consultations during 2021, leading to a Council decision on the proposal to present to the IOC in November.

The full World Rowing statement on this decision can be found at this link: <https://worldrowing.com/2020/12/08/world-rowing-2024-paris-event-programme-athlete-quota-decision-ioc/>

2. Commission, Working Group and Committee Vacancies

a. Athletes Commission

Due to two casual vacancies, Member Federations are invited to submit nominations to serve as members of the Athletes Commission and complete a term which will run until 31 December 2022. MFs are asked to propose candidates, one representing Open Men and one representing Lightweight Women, who could positively contribute to this commission. MFs nominating candidates are expected to commit themselves to provide financial support for the travel and work of the Commission member.

The MF should send a letter of nomination and a completed Commission Member Nomination Form for each candidate which must be received by 15 January 2021.

The Nomination Form can be found at this link: <https://worldrowing.com/about/organisation/governance/official-communications-world-rowing-circulars/>

In accordance with Bye-Law to Article 54, appointments to fill casual vacancies are made by the Executive Committee.

b. Para Rowing Commission

Due to the election of the new Chair, Member Federations are invited to submit nominations for one member to fill this casual vacancy and complete a term which will run until 31 December 2022. MFs are asked to propose candidates who could positively contribute to this commission. MFs nominating candidates are expected to commit themselves to provide financial support for the travel and work of the Commission member.

The MF should send a letter of nomination and a completed Commission Member Nomination Form for each candidate which must be received by 15 January 2021.

The Nomination Form can be found at this link:

<https://worldrowing.com/about/organisation/governance/official-communications-world-rowing-circulars/>

In accordance with Bye-Law to Article 54, appointments to fill casual vacancies are made by the Executive Committee.

c. Indoor Rowing Commission

Member Federations are invited to submit nominations to serve as interim members of the Indoor Rowing Commission, to complete an interim term which will run until 31 December 2021. MFs are asked to propose candidates who could positively contribute to this commission. MFs nominating candidates are expected to commit themselves to provide financial support for the travel and work of the Commission member. The duties of the new commission are found in this document:

https://d2cx26qpfwuhvu.cloudfront.net/worldrowing/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/04131639/AppendixS9former6-DutiesofCommissionsat160920_Neutral.pdf

The MF should send a letter of nomination and a completed Commission Member Nomination Form for each candidate which must be received by 15 January 2021.

The Nomination Form can be found at this link:

<https://worldrowing.com/about/organisation/governance/official-communications-world-rowing-circulars/>

In accordance with Bye-Law to Article 54, appointments of these members are made by the Council.

The election of the Chair of the newly created Indoor Rowing Commission will be held at the 2021 Ordinary Congress. In accordance with Article 53, the Executive Committee will appoint a Chair to fill the current vacancy. A process will start after the election of the Chair of the Commission by the 2021 Congress to appoint Commission members for the term running until 31 December 2023.

d. Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group

Member Federations are invited to submit nominations for this working group. Candidates should have demonstrated expertise or experience in this domain. The role of the Working Group will be to develop the following:

1. Proposed GEDI Position Statement;
2. Proposed GEDI Strategy;
3. Proposed Commission Duties;

which will be presented to the Council in August 2021 and then to the Congress in October 2021 for implementation of a cross-commission starting in January 2022.

Nominations should be submitted by 15 January 2021 using the following electronic form:

<https://worldrowingforms.wufoo.com/forms/gojqctz1ot6sh4/>

In accordance with Article 54, the Council is responsible for making these appointments.

e. Internal Audit Committee

Member Federations are invited to submit nominations for this committee. Candidates should have demonstrated expertise and experience in this domain. The duties of this new committee are found in this document:

https://d2cx26qpfwuhvu.cloudfront.net/worldrowing/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/04131449/AppendixS6new-InternalAuditCommitteeat150820_Neutral.pdf

Nominations should be submitted by 15 January 2021 using the following electronic form:

<https://worldrowingforms.wufoo.com/forms/internal-audit-committee-call-for-nominations/>

In accordance with Article 45, the Council is responsible for appointing the members of this committee.

3. World Rowing Event Confirmation Timeline for 2021

The World Rowing Executive Committee has announced the 2021 World Rowing Event Confirmation Dates. Given the uncertainty and unpredictability during this pandemic period, Member Federations are asked not to book any non-refundable flights until specific directions have been received from the World Rowing Executive Committee for each event and only after the “confirmation date” indicated. A Member Federation “Zoom” call will take place on the day following the confirmation announcement for each event, one at 9:00 hrs CET and a second at 17:00 hrs CET.

The key dates can be found at this link:

<https://worldrowing.com/about/organisation/governance/official-communications-world-rowing-circulars/>

4. 2021 Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes

Following consultations with organising committees and television broadcasters, the 2021 current Provisional World Rowing Event Programmes, subject to entries and Member Federation comments, are published for the following events:

1. European Olympic and Paralympic Continental Qualification Regatta, Varese, ITA (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/d52d1147-e2b8-4bc3-9f9b-e6f24cfa41ea>)
2. World Rowing Cup I, Zagreb, CRO (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/29e8cacb-615a-43d1-ad8c-bd6569fe6289>)
3. Final Paralympic Qualification Regatta, Gavirate, ITA (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/feef7ef3-def4-4546-a840-a5d1f7a812e0>)
4. Final Olympic Qualification Regatta, Lucerne, SUI (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/c2210936-0d5f-4c5e-95dc-d23d3e7076eb>)
5. World Rowing Cup II, Lucerne, SUI (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/5dd7837a-7776-4038-a3fc-0ffa2ee57b39>)
6. World Rowing Cup III, Sabaudia, ITA (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/ccb6e115-c342-4948-b8e6-4525ff6d7832>)

7. World Rowing Under 23 Championships, Racice, CZE (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/ff965f00-32ff-4c83-bc22-e7d28e43c4c8>)
8. World Rowing Junior Championships, Plovdiv, BUL (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/b833cc4b-2875-4237-89ec-ca6999acc0b9>)
9. World Rowing Championships, Shanghai, CHN (found at: <https://worldrowing.com/event/770beb55-9b39-4984-9ec1-e11d13bbbcf8>)

Please note that the provisional event programme for the Americas Olympic and Paralympic Continental Qualification Regatta, scheduled for early March in Rio de Janeiro, BRA, will be published after the event decision deadline on 11 January. Additionally, the provisional event programme for the Asia/Oceania Olympic and Paralympic Continental Qualification Regatta will be published when a host venue and date are confirmed for the event.

The event programmes will be finalised at the meeting of the World Rowing Council in late January 2021. If an MF has any comments on a provisional event programme please send them to daniela.oronova@worldrowing.com by Friday, 15 January 2021.

5. 2021 World Rowing Event International Juries Announced

The World Rowing Executive Committee is pleased to announce the members of the International Juries for the 2021 World Rowing Events. Given the uncertainty and unpredictability during this pandemic period, jury members are asked not to book any non-refundable flights until specific directions have been received from the Event Manager of each event and only after the “confirmation date” indicated.

Please note: the Jury for the Asia/Oceania Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Regatta will be announced if and when the regatta is confirmed.

The Juries can be found at this link:

<https://worldrowing.com/about/organisation/governance/official-communications-world-rowing-circulars/>

6. 2021 World Rowing Ordinary Congress to be Virtual

Due to the continuing uncertainty of global travel and budgets, the World Rowing Executive Committee has decided to stage the 2021 World Rowing Ordinary Congress virtually in late 2021 (date to be confirmed later). There will be no physical congress held in Shanghai at the time of the 2021 World Rowing Championships.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Christophe Rolland
President



Matt Smith
Executive Director

Attachments