



TO THE UMPIRES

UMPIRES NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2023



Dear Umpires, welcome to the latest World Rowing Umpires Newsletter.

Needless to say the past three years have thoroughly shaken our world in terms of day-to-day and recurring activities. Unfortunately, our national, regional, continental and global rowing world is no exception. Fortunately, the pandemic seems to be clearing up at the start of 2023 and we hope that everything will run smoothly and without any problems as

we go forward.

So, it's time to restart the publication of our quarterly newsletter. Here we will try to inform you about recent events related to our sport in general and umpiring in particular. It is our utmost wish that information not only come from the Umpiring Committee but that also the feedback from the umpire world flow back to our committee. This allows us to incorporate your feedback not only in the Commissions discussion but also in the work to develop it within our umpire community.

The implementers of the regulations need be more involved in drawing the regulations up. Universal rowing is experiencing challenging times on many levels. Some aspects reach beyond the boundaries of our single sport. Others are within our own responsibility. Some of these are, for example, our regatta calendar, the content of our regattas, the new forms of rowing and the ways to promote them. They also include new presentation technologies to be incorporated in the way we work. We are launching a call for your ideas, your feedback, your experience.

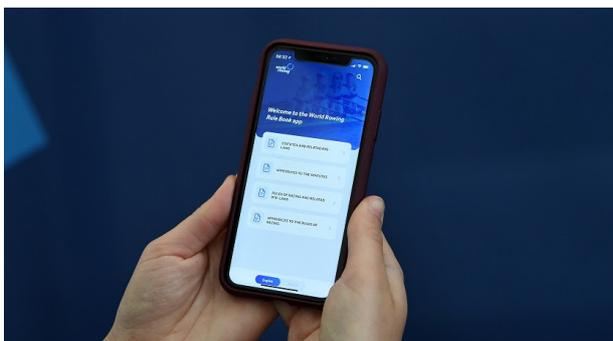
We wish you a prosperous rowing season 2023!

On behalf of the WR Umpiring Commission, Patrick ROMBAUT

ATHLETE LANE SELECTION

One of our newest innovations at World Rowing Events is Athlete Lane Selection (ALS). The ALS process allows crews to choose the lanes that they will use for racing. While it was first tested at a World Cup in 2019, a fuller test was scheduled for this year. The first plan was to use the Poznan World Cup 2 as a trial for ALS. After success in Poznan, the decision was made to further test ALS at World Cup 3 in Lucerne. World Rowing is now gathering feedback on these trials to determine the future of ALS.

[Click here for full details](#)



RULES UPDATE - 2023

World Rowing has a standing Rules Working Group (RWG) that is tasked with maintaining the Rules of Racing, the Bye-Laws and Rules related Appendices. There is another working group, the Governance Working Group that is responsible for the Statutes and their related

Appendices.

The initial 2023 update of the Rules, Bye-Laws and Regulations was approved by the World Rowing Council earlier this year and the website and World Rowing Rules App has now been updated.

Later this year, the Umpiring Commission will be introducing an on-line, on-demand education network. The initial module will cover the 2023 Rules Updates. More information will be made available when the system becomes available.

[Click here for the rules update details](#)

JURIES REVISITED

As Umpires, we learn to value the friendships that we formed as we serve on the juries at different events. Beginning with this newsletter, we are going to revisit some of the past juries through the jury photographs - you can see below the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games Jury.

For future editions, if you have a particular Jury that stands out in your mind, please send us the name of the event and the reasons why it was special to share in future newsletters. Please contact Kris Grudt - krisgrudt@rowpnra.org.



[1992 Barcelona Olympic Games Jury](#)

[1996 Atlanta Olympic Games Jury](#)

UMPIRE UPDATES

Since the last edition of the World Rowing Umpiring newsletter, we have a number of events to report regarding our colleagues. We will attempt to report on them here but apologize in advance if we have missed something.



IN MEMORIAM

- [Borge Kaas Andersen](#)
- [Karl Heinz Becker](#)
- [John Garnjost](#)
- [Freek Meijers](#)
- [Gerd Scheiner](#)
- [Gerhard Meyboden](#)

[See also here](#) for Jean-Paul Renard (FRA), Jiri Klemes (CZE) and Allison Mulder (RSA).



RETIREMENTS AND NEW UMPIRES

The 5 year hiatus in Umpire retirements due to age when the retirement age was increased to 70 ended in 2022. In 2022 14 of our World Rowing Umpire colleagues celebrated the 70th anniversary of their birth and thus the age of retirement after active careers as World Rowing Umpires.

Since 2019, we have also added a number of new Umpires to our ranks.

[Click below to find the list of retired and new umpires.](#)



FABIO BOLCIC REPLACED BY MORTEN JUEL HANSEN IN THE UMPIRING COMMISSION

World Rowing's mandatory retirement at age of 70 affects not only Umpires but also those serving on the World Rowing Council and Commissions. At the end of 2022, this

affected the Umpiring Commission as Fabio Bolcic marked his 70th birthday in October 2022. And while Fabio is no longer officially a member of the Umpiring Commission, we know he will continue in the tradition of Michelle Doutre, Guylaine Bernier and continue to support the work of the Commission and Umpiring in "retirement". Fabio's retirement also provided the opportunity to add Denmark's Morten Juel Hansen to the Commission.

[Click here to read more about Fabio.](#)

AND ALSO....

Exams and Seminar Schedule

Click [here to find out](#) the dates and locations of the 2023 World Rowing Exams and Seminar Schedule.

2023 Coastal and Beach Sprint Juries

Click [here to find out](#) the list of juries for the 2023 World Rowing Beach Sprint Championships and Coastal Championships in Barletta, Italy.



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