



# Fairness Committee

*This presentation reflects the World Rowing Statutes, Rules of Racing and interpretation of them in effect on Jan 31, 2022.  
World Rowing is not responsible for providing updates to this material.*



## Bye-Laws to Rule 37 – World Rowing – Roles at Regattas

### e. **Fairness Committee**

For World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas, the Executive Committee shall appoint a **Fairness Committee** consisting of three persons with appropriate experience and ability to take the appropriate measures in accordance with the Bye-Law to Rule 63 if the weather has created, is about to create, or is likely to create unfair or unrowable conditions.

## **Rule 63 – Adverse Weather Conditions**

1. At International Regattas, when unfair or unrowable conditions prevail or are predicted, and after consultation with appropriate members of the Jury and the organizing committee, the President of the Jury may decide to apply provisions as described in the Bye-Laws to this Rule.

## Rule 63 – Adverse Weather Conditions

2. For World Rowing Championship, Olympic, Paralympic, Youth Olympic and relevant qualification regattas and World Rowing Cup regattas, when unfair or un-rowable conditions prevail or are predicted, the **Fairness Committee** or Executive Committee respectively may decide to apply provisions as described in the Bye-Laws to this Rule. The President of the Jury shall implement the decisions.

- Fairness Committee composition
  - 3 persons.
  - Usually including a member of the Competitive Commission.
  - 2 other experienced people.

- Responsibilities
  - Determine if weather has created or is about to create unfair or unrowable conditions.
  - Adopt the most appropriate alternatives.
  - Communicate their decision to the President of the Jury for implementation.
  - Communicate decisions to the Team Managers.

## Options for the Fairness Committee

1<sup>st</sup>  
options  
to  
consider

1. To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions.
2. To recommend to the EC to change the timetable.
3. To suspend racing and recommend alternative times.
4. To prioritise the lanes for each individual race using the placings from the previous round;
  1. Crews with similar placings from the previous round into adjoining lanes.
  2. Giving the crews having achieved better placings better lanes (same placing will need a draw).

Do not use option 4 for heats or finals with less than 7 crews without preliminary race.

If the Fairness Committee determined that none of these Options provide an appropriate solution

The Executive Committee, in consultation with the FC, decides to implement the following solutions:

With each scenario, crews must be given adequate notice to prepare, and information communicated promptly to Team Managers

# Fairness Committee Executive Committee decisions

1. To start racing earlier.
2. Resume racing at a later time when conditions have improved.
3. To omit rounds of the event where adverse conditions have prevented racing for a significant period and no improvement is forecasted.
  - Composition of next round will be based on completed rounds and may necessitate more than 6 crews in each race.
  - Where possible crews' rankings from the previous rounds will be used
4. Implement Time-Trial System for each individual race.
5. Reduce the length of a race to no less than 1000 meters.

## New Development – Athlete Lane Selection (ALS)

- Under ALS, the crews would select the lanes that they will row in approximately 40 minutes before the race.
- Order of selection will be based on the previous results or the draw for the heats

The ALS procedures are still being determined but in theory ALS would replace option 4

Still  
Possible  
Under  
ALS

1. To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions.
2. To recommend to the EC to change the timetable.
3. To suspend racing and recommend alternative times.
4. **To prioritise the lanes for each individual race using the placings from the previous round;**
  1. Crews with similar placings from the previous round into adjoining lanes.
  2. Giving the crews having achieved better placings better lanes (same placing will need a draw).

Questions?