

WR Article 4 -No Demonstrations or Propaganda Guidance

World Rowing will follow the principles of the IOC Guidance on demonstrations and protests and freedom of expression at events.

The focus at a World Rowing event must remain on athletes' performances, sport and the international unity and harmony.

It is a fundamental principle that sport is neutral and must be separate from political, religious or any other type of interference. Specifically, the focus for the field of play and related ceremonies must be on celebrating athletes' performance and showcasing sport and its values.

These guidelines are applicable to any accredited person (athletes, trainers, coaches, officials, OC and WR staff etc.).

While respecting local laws, athletes and accredited persons have the opportunity to express their opinions, including:

- During press conferences and interviews, e.g. in the mixed zones
- At team meetings
- On digital or traditional media, or on other personal platforms.

Where are protests and demonstrations not permitted during the World Rowing Events?

- At competition venues, including:
 - On the field of play
 - In the restricted accredited area (boat park...)
- During medal ceremonies
- During Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Any protest or demonstration outside the event venue must obviously comply with local legislation wherever local law forbids such actions.

Here are some examples of what would constitute a protest, as opposed to expressing views (non- exhaustive list):

- Gestures of a political nature
- Displaying any political messaging, including signs or armbands, like a hand gesture or kneeling
- Refusal to follow the Ceremonies protocol.

If an athlete or participant is in breach of this guidance each incident will be evaluated by their respective MF and World Rowing, and disciplinary action will be taken on a case-by-case basis as necessary.

In conclusion, these guidelines have been developed with the aim that everyone can enjoy the experience of a World Rowing Championships event without any divisive disruption.