



10 October 2025
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. 8 of 2025

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Circular covers the following items:

- 1. 2025 Ordinary Congress**
 - 2. Anti-Doping IF Webinar Series 2025**
 - 3. 2025 World Rowing Awards – all nominations are now open**
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1. 2025 Ordinary Congress

The World Rowing Ordinary Congress was held on Monday, 29 September 2025, in Shanghai, China, in a hybrid format with 58 Member Federations participating either in person or online.

Elections

Jean-Christophe Rolland from France was re-elected as President of World Rowing for a four-year term, receiving 115 votes out of the 115 valid votes cast.

Annamarie Phelps of Great Britain was elected as Vice-President for a four-year mandate, succeeding long-serving Tricia Smith, who has been awarded the title of Honorary Council Member, in recognition of her contributions.

Gerritjan Eggenkamp from the Netherlands will continue in his role as Treasurer.

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Delegates also voted for the three Council member positions on the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 47. Lenka Dienstbach-Wech from Germany, Eva Szanto from Hungary, and Mathias Binder from Switzerland were recommended by Council and elected for a four-year term.

Mandates will start on 1st January 2026 until 31st December 2029.

Dr Michael Wilkinson of Canada was elected Chair of the World Rowing's Sports Medicine Commission, to complete the mandate of Dr Juergen Steinacker of Germany, who will step down at the end of 2025, having reached the statutory age limit. Mandate will start on 1st January until 31st December 2027.

Events

Delegates approved the Council recommendation to stage the 2028 World Rowing Senior, U23 & U19 Championships in Sarasota, United States.

The Congress was presented with updates about the 2025 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals in Antalya, Türkiye; the 2026 World Rowing Championships in Amsterdam, the Netherlands; the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal; the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Governance

Following the decision made at the Quadrennial Congress to grant authority to the 2025 Ordinary Congress to amend Article 47 of the Statutes based on the proposal received by AUS, CAN, NZL and USA, the Council's proposal to enhance geographical diversity at the Executive Committee level was circulated with the Agenda Papers ahead of Congress. The amendment to Article 47, as proposed by Council, was approved by Member Federations with a two-thirds majority, with immediate effect.

The delegates also decided to follow the Executive Committee's recommendation to expel the Bahamas Rowing Federation due to non-compliance with the World Rowing Statutes. World Rowing currently recognises 158 MFs.

All voting results and the slides presented during Congress can be found on the [website](#). The recording of the Congress is available on the same page.

Strategic projects

The afternoon session was dedicated to updates from the different Council members regarding several ongoing strategic projects, including the Strategic Event & Calendar Review and the Teams / Athletes Ranking system, the Shanghai legacy initiatives, the Confederations Collaboration project, and the Healthy Waters Alliance, amongst others.

All presentations are available on the [World Rowing website](#) under the heading World Rowing Strategic Framework.



2. Anti-Doping IF Webinar Series 2025

As in previous years, we are pleased to share information about the upcoming IF Webinar Series, starting on Wednesday, 29 October.

World Rowing and the International Testing Agency (ITA) are inviting MFs to promote the IF Series among their communities to learn more about the values of clean sport.

Schedule of the webinars:

Title and topics covered	Date and time (CEST)
1. Introduction to anti-doping <i>Overview of the Rights and Responsibilities, Anti-Doping Rule Violations, Consequences of Doping, and Proactive Reporting</i>	Wednesday 29 October, 14:00-15:00 CET
2. The Prohibited List, Medications, TUEs and Supplements <i>Includes the principle of Strict Liability</i>	Wednesday 5 November, 14:00-15:00 CET
3. Testing <i>Includes the Testing Procedures and the ABP, Testing Pools, and Whereabouts</i>	Wednesday 12 November, 14:00-15:00 CET

These interactive sessions for athletes and athletes support personnel have been designed to cover key anti-doping rights and responsibilities. The webinars will be delivered in English, with simultaneous translation into Arabic, French, Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Spanish, with automated translated captions enabled.

Participants will receive a certificate upon completion, and we encourage Member Federations to collect those certificates from their respective communities.

Register now and share the registration link : [Click here to register!](#)

We count on your support to enhance your athletes' understanding of the principles and values of clean sport!

3. 2025 World Rowing Awards – all nominations are now open

The World Rowing Awards are an annual celebration of the best in international Rowing.



Hosted virtually since the pandemic, the 2024 World Rowing Awards were awarded live on-stage in a festive evening environment, in the city centre of Seville. Following on the success of that ceremony, the 2025 World Rowing Awards will again be staged live, in the Olympic Capital of Lausanne, Switzerland.

The 2025 World Rowing Awards ceremony, set to be held on Saturday, 24 January 2026, will see eight awards be presented. Nominations are now open for all eight awards : Men's Crew of the Year, Women's Crew of the Year, Para Crew of the Year, Coach of the Year, Distinguished Services to International Rowing Award, Thomas Keller Medal, Artistic Contribution to Rowing, Rowing Programme of the Year.

To find more information and to nominate, click on the link here: [Awards - World Rowing](#) .

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Jean-Christophe Rolland, written in a cursive style.

Jean-Christophe Rolland
President

A blue ink signature of Vincent Gaillard, written in a cursive style.

Vincent Gaillard
Executive Director