



30 June 2026
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. 5 of 2026

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This Circular covers the following items:

1. 2026 World Rowing Ordinary Congress – Agenda Papers online now
2. 2026 Athletes Commission Election
3. Council Events attributions
4. LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Continental Qualification Events – Call for Bids
5. LA28 Olympic Provisional Programme - ROW
6. 2026 WRU19CH and 2026 WRU23CH - Rule 50 exception for Coxswains
7. Anti-doping activation
8. What's Next to Rowing Forum 2026
9. Para Rowing Athlete Eligibility – Initial Screening Form

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1. **2026 World Rowing Ordinary Congress – Agenda Papers online now**
The 2026 World Rowing Ordinary Congress will be held in a hybrid mode, on **Monday, 31 August 2026 08:30hrs - 16:30hrs CEST**, at [Sheraton Amsterdam Airport Hotel and Conference Center](#), Magnolia Hall, Schiphol Boulevard 101, 1118 BG, following the 2026 World Rowing Championships in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

a) **Reminder: Registration to attend the Congress**

Member Federation's delegates, Recognised Continental Rowing Confederation (CRC), Member Groupings (MG) and Observers are reminded that **Sunday, 5 July 2026 CEST**, is the registration deadline for the upcoming congress. If you have not registered yet and wish to participate, please do so by using the following link:

[2026 Ordinary Congress Registration Form](#)

- *Member Federations are reminded that, per Article 22, to accredit **more than one delegate to the Congress, both genders must be represented...***
- *Please make one submission per Federation/participants.*

- *The information submitted in the Congress Attendance Forms will be used to provide delegates with all relevant Congress information and to provide access to the online meeting and voting platform, as applicable, for those registered delegates and observers attending by video conference. Please ensure the information submitted is accurate.*

For any specific Congress-related questions, please contact congress@worldrowing.com

- For queries regarding VISA process, please contact the Netherlands Rowing Federation, info@knrb.nl
- Member Federations wishing to book accommodation at the Congress venue can book through the following link: [Book Sheraton Hotel](#)
Please note that accommodation is not provided by World Rowing; all costs must be covered by the MF directly, and reservations are managed directly by the Hotel. World Rowing is not involved in the booking process and cannot assist with accommodation reservations.
- For any queries regarding accommodation, please contact hotels@tigevents.nl

b) Congress Agenda Papers and Minutes

- *Final Agenda Papers of the Congress can be found [here](#). Member Federations are encouraged to review the documents in advance.*
- *The 2025 Ordinary Congress Minutes can also be found [here](#).*

Member Federations' conference calls in preparation for Congress will be scheduled in due course. Further information will be provided.

2. 2026 Athletes Commission Election

The final candidate list for the 2026 Athletes Commission has been approved by the World Rowing Executive Committee and can be found [here](#).

Information regarding,

- *The promotion of candidates*
- *Election and appointment process and*
- *Related guidelines*

can be found [here](#).

Elections will take place during the 2026 World Rowing Championships, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (4 elected positions, for classic rowing, including para rowing) and at the 2026 World Rowing Beach Sprint Finals, Qingdao, China (1 elected position, for coastal rowing).

Election dates will be announced in due course.

The full announcement is available on [the World Rowing Website](#).

If you have any questions regarding the 2026 Athletes' Commission Election, please contact Ludovica Caprino, Governance & Integrity Manager, at ludovica.caprino@worldrowing.com.

3. Council Events attributions

During its last meeting, the Council reviewed the bids received for various events, and the following events have been attributed as follows:

- *The 2027 World Rowing Cup III- Racice, CZE*
- *The 2028 World Rowing Cup III – Duisburg, GER (1'500m distance)*
- *2027 Combined WRU19&U23CH– provisionally attributed to Plovdiv, BUL*

The full 2027 and 2028 World Rowing Cup calendars are expected to be announced at the 2026 World Rowing Congress, taking place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in late August.

4. LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Continental Qualification Events – Call for Bids

World Rowing is pleased to announce that the bidding process for the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Qualification Events for classic rowing is open.

Member Federations interested in hosting one of the continental qualification events for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games are invited to submit their intent to World Rowing

The qualification events open for bid are the Continental Qualification Regattas (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe) for classic rowing. Detailed bidding documentation, including event requirements, timelines, is available from World Rowing upon request.

Interested Member Federations are encouraged to contact Nathalie Phillips nathalie.phillips@worldrowing.com

5. LA28 Olympic Provisional Programme - ROW

The LA28 Olympic provisional programme for classic rowing has now been confirmed and can be found:

[2028 Olympic Games Classic Rowing - World Rowing](#)

6. 2026 WRU19CH and WRU23CH - Rule 50 exception for Coxswains

Under Rule 50 – Crew Change for Medical Reason - substitutions after first rounds of racing are permitted only for medical reasons. In order to help facilitate participation at the 2026 World Rowing Under 19 Championships and 2026 World Rowing Under 23 Championships in the M8+, W8+ and Mix8+ events (where the Finals A, B etc..are scheduled very close to each other), the World Rowing Executive committee has decided to allow substitution of coxswains for non-medical reasons. This decision has been made acting under the provisions of Rule 87 – Exceptional Cases. This decision holds no precedent for any other events or any future events.

7. Anti-Doping activation

In collaboration with the International Testing Agency (ITA), World Rowing will run an on-site activation at the 2026 World Rowing Under 23 Championships in

Duisburg, Germany, on 22 and 23 July 2026. ITA ambassadors will be present to raise awareness on Anti-Doping matters.

Member Federations are kindly invited to encourage the participation of athletes and athletes support personnel.

Further information will be provided on site. If you have any questions, please contact Ludovica Caprino, Governance & Integrity Manager of World Rowing at ludovica.caprino@worldrowing.com.

8. What's Next to Rowing Forum 2026

World Rowing is pleased to invite Member Federations to an information and joint creation moment in the *What's Next to Rowing Forum 2026*, which will take place on **Friday 28 August 2026 from 09:30 to 12:00 CEST** during the World Rowing Championships in Amsterdam, Netherlands

The Forum will bring together Member Federation leaders, coaches, administrators and emerging leaders to explore key strategic priorities shaping the future of rowing. Through presentations, case studies and interactive discussions, participants will examine practical actions that can strengthen coaching pathways, promote inclusion, and expand para rowing opportunities within their national programmes.

a) Theme:

Reflection on how to strengthen the Future of Rowing through Coaching, Inclusion and Para Rowing Development.

b) Programme:

- *GEDI Cross-Commission Update*
- *GEDI within the Olympic Movement - IOC Perspective*
- *World Rowing Coaching Toolkit: Supporting the Recruitment, Development and Retention of Coaches*
- *Coffee Break & Roundtable Discussions - What Can Member Federations Do?*
- *Para Rowing Development: Building Sustainable Opportunities & Pathways*
- *Questions and Answers*

c) Registration:

Please register no later than 31 July 2026 using the following link:

<https://worldrowingforms.wufoo.com/forms/whats-next-to-rowing-forum-2026/>

The Forum aims to encourage participation that brings together Member Federation decision-makers and future leaders who are committed to building a stronger, more inclusive and sustainable future for rowing.

Coffee and refreshments will be provided throughout the Forum, followed by a light lunch.

For further information, you can contact anna.mguni@worldrowing.com

9. Para Rowing Athlete Eligibility – Initial Screening Form

The World Rowing Para Rowing Commission and World Rowing Classification Advisory Panel are pleased to share that a new feedback process has been established to allow Member Federations without National Classifiers to understand whether an athlete may be eligible for Para Rowing Classification.

Member Federations should make their request by completing the following form: [Para Rowing Athlete Eligibility - Initial Screening Form](#). Submissions will be reviewed by the World Rowing Classification Advisory Panel on a monthly basis.

Sincerely,



Jean-Christophe Rolland
President



Vincent Gaillard
Executive Director