Referee Committee

Minutes of Meeting
November 2, 2017
Telephone Conference

Attendance

Referee Committee:
- Andrew Blackwood – Chair
- Ruth Macnamara – Vice Chair, Secretary
- Bob Appleyard – Referee College
- Rachel Le Mieux – Trials Coordinator
- Terese Friel-Portell – Safety/Referee Utilization
- Marcus McElhenney – Athlete Representative
- Gevvie Stone – Athlete Representative

Regional Coordinators:
- Howard Meisner, NE
- Mike Rosenbaum, SW
- Jorge Salas, SE

USRowing Staff:
- John Wik – Director of Referee Programs

Absent:
- John Musial - Regional Coordinator Representative to Committee (family emergency)
- Dee McComb, NW (family emergency)
- Derek Blazo, MW
- Jean Reilly – FISA – traveling to Head of the Hooch

Andy called the meeting to order at 8:34PM EST.

John Wik shared that the scheduled visit from the USRowing, CEO, Patrick McNerney will be delayed until next week at our monthly call, Wednesday November 8th.

1. Proposed Rule Changes discussion – Ruth Macnamara
   a. Propose postponing the suggestion to remove the word "advisory" from the definition of Novice until the 2018 Rule Change process. All in favor.
   b. Propose voting on the list of proposed Rule Changes that are administrative in nature to include:

   Proposed Rule Changes that are Administrative and or Clerical in nature proposed to be considered as a group:
   - 1-202 Other Definitions

4-103 Eligibility to Compete in Events
4-104.4 Adaptive Rowing and Para-Rowing
4-105 Coxswains
10-102 Fairness
10-201 Adaptive Rowing Sport Classes
10-202 Adaptive Rowing Boat Classes
10-203 Para-Rowing Boat Classes
10-301 Adaptive Rowing Boats
10-302 Elite Par-Rowing Boats
10-303 Standard AS1x
10-304 Standard TAMix2x
10-305 Strapping
10-306 General Strapping Requirements
10-308 Eyewear for Visually Impaired Rowers
10-309 Boat Weights
10-310 Minimum Weight of Boats
10-401 Safety of Rowers
10-501 Starting Commands
10-503 Finish of the Race
Referee Procedure Manual II-3 Control Commission
Referee Procedure Manual II-3-c-5 Procedure - Boat Launching – Safety Checks
Referee Procedure Manual II-4-c-4 Procedure
Referee Procedure Manual II-5-7 Procedure – Finishing the Race
Referee Procedure Manual II-5-11 Procedure – A Hand is Up
LOC Guidance Manual I-4-a Regattas with Adaptive or Para Rowing Events - Schedule

See Attachment 1

Rachel made a Motion to accept the above list of Proposed Rule Changes as written; all are administrative in nature.
Marcus seconded the Motion.
No further discussion.
The Motion was approved to ACCEPT the proposed Rule changes as written, that are administrative in nature, with a vote of 7-0 in favor. (2 votes were made with proxies, Rielly and Musial)

Recommendation to the Board: Accept the above list of proposed Rule changes as written.

2. Discussion of the remaining proposed Rule changes and comments received from the general membership.

Next scheduled Rule Changes meeting is Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 8:30PM EDT.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Macnamara
Vice Chair, Secretary
USRowing Referee Committee
carczar01@aol.com
703-201-4547

1-202 Other Definitions [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

(x) "Para-Rowing," a term coined by FISA, shall mean rowing or sculling for participating Rowers who have been classified by a national or international Classification Panel and have been placed into a sport class according to how much their physical impairment impacts the core functionality of the rowing stroke.

Proposed Change:

(x) "***Para Rowing***," a term coined by FISA, shall mean rowing or sculling for participating Rowers who have been classified by a national or international Classification Panel and have been placed into a sport class according to how much their physical impairment impacts the core functionality of the rowing stroke.

Reason:

(a) Updated name of Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.

4-103 Eligibility to Compete in Events [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

4-103 Eligibility to Compete in Events

(a) Rowers may compete in a higher skill class but not a lower skill class. For example, a Senior athlete may compete in an Elite Event but not an Intermediate Event.

(b) A Coxswain may compete in any of those categories regardless of his or her classification by skill, except that a Coxswain who is not an amateur shall not compete in Events classified by skill as Intermediate or Senior or classified by age as Youth.

(c) A Rower who does not comply with Rule 4-104.3 ("Lightweights") and Rule 4-106 ("Weighing of Competitors") shall not compete in a lightweight Event. Any Coxswain who otherwise complies with applicable rules may participate in a lightweight Event.

(d) A Coxswain who does not comply with Rule 4-105.1 ("Coxswain's Weight") and Rule 4-106 ("Weighing of Competitors") shall not compete.

(e) A Competitor, including a Coxswain, who does not comply with Rule 4-104.1(a) ("Classification by Age") shall not compete in a Youth Event.

(f) A Rower who does not comply with Rule 4-104.1 ("Classification by Age") shall not compete in a Masters Event, or in an inapplicable Masters age category Event as described in Rule 4-104.1("Classification by Age"). A Coxswain may compete in any Masters Event regardless of age.

(g) A Rower may compete in an Adaptive or Para-Rowing Event if his or her disability meets the criteria set out in the Adaptive Rowing Classification Regulations and has been classified by a national or international Classification Panel into an eligible sport class. A Rower without a sport class or whose sport class has been withdrawn may not compete in Adaptive or Para-Rowing Events.

(1) In Inclusive Events, the sport class eligibility requirement pertains only to the Rower who has been classified.

(h) A female Rower shall not compete in Events for men, and a male Rower shall not compete in Events for women. A Crew competing in a mixed Event must be 50% male and 50% female, not including the Coxswain.

(i) A Competitor's gender is considered to be that indicated on the athlete's driver's license or other government issued ID.

(j) A Competitor shall know their eligibility, including their sport class if rowing in an Adaptive or Para-Event, and shall not compete in an Event for which they are not eligible.

(k) Other sanctioning bodies may have additional eligibility requirements.

Proposed Change:

4-103 Eligibility to Compete in Events

(a) Rowers may compete in a higher skill class but not a lower skill class. For example, a Senior athlete may compete in an Elite Event but not an Intermediate Event.

(b) A Coxswain may compete in any of those categories regardless of his or her classification by skill, except that a Coxswain who is not an amateur shall not compete in Events classified by skill as Intermediate or Senior or classified by age as Youth.

(c) A Rower who does not comply with Rule 4-104.3 ("Lightweights") and Rule 4-106 ("Weighing of Competitors") shall not compete in a lightweight Event. Any Coxswain who otherwise complies with applicable rules may participate in a lightweight Event.

(d) A Coxswain who does not comply with Rule 4-105.1 ("Coxswain's Weight") and Rule 4-106 ("Weighing of Competitors") shall not compete.

(e) A Competitor, including a Coxswain, who does not comply with Rule 4-104.1(a) ("Classification by Age") shall not compete in a Youth Event.

(f) A Rower who does not comply with Rule 4-104.1 ("Classification by Age") shall not compete in a Masters Event, or in an inapplicable Masters age category Event as described in Rule 4-104.1("Classification by Age"). A Coxswain may compete in any Masters Event regardless of age.

(g) A Rower may compete in an Adaptive or ***Para Rowing*** Event if his or her disability meets the criteria set out in the Adaptive Rowing Classification Regulations and has been classified by a national or international Classification Panel into an eligible sport class. A Rower without a sport class or whose sport class has been withdrawn may not compete in Adaptive or ***Para Rowing*** Events.

(1) In Inclusive Events, the sport class eligibility requirement pertains only to the Rower who has been classified.

(h) A female Rower shall not compete in Events for men, and a male Rower shall not compete in Events for women. A Crew competing in a mixed Event must be 50% male and 50% female, not including the Coxswain.

(i) A Competitor's gender is considered to be that indicated on the athlete's driver's license or other government issued ID.

(j) A Competitor shall know their eligibility, including their sport class if rowing in an Adaptive or Para-Event, and shall not compete in an Event for which they are not eligible.

(k) Other sanctioning bodies may have additional eligibility requirements.

Reason:

1) Updated name of Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.

4-104.4 Adaptive Rowing and Para-Rowing [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

4-104.4 Adaptive Rowing and Para-Rowing

(a) A Rower's sport class for Adaptive Rowing and Para-Rowing shall be determined through a national or international Classification Panel, placing each Rower into a sport class according to how much their impairment impacts on the core determinants of success in rowing.

(b) The purpose of classification is to minimize the impact that eligible impairment types have on the outcome of competition.

Proposed Change:

4-104.4 Adaptive Rowing and ***Para Rowing***

(a) A Rower's sport class for Adaptive Rowing and ***Para Rowing*** shall be determined through a national or international Classification Panel, placing each Rower into a sport class according to how much their impairment impacts on the core determinants of success in rowing.

(b) The purpose of classification is to minimize the impact that eligible impairment types have on the outcome of competition.

Reason:

1) Updated name of Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.

4-105 Coxswains [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

4-105 Coxswains

(a) A Coxswain is a member of the Crew and subject to all rules governing Competitors unless specifically excepted.

(b) A male Coxswain may compete in Events for women, and a female Coxswain may compete in Events for men.

(c) Rules relating to USRowing National Team Trials Regattas and Regattas governed by FISA may vary.

(d) For Adaptive Rowing or Para-Rowing Events, there is no restriction on Coxswains in respect to Adaptive Rowing or Para-Rowing eligibility, gender, or age.

Proposed Change:

4-105 Coxswains

(a) A Coxswain is a member of the Crew and subject to all rules governing Competitors unless specifically excepted.

(b) A male Coxswain may compete in Events for women, and a female Coxswain may compete in Events for men.

(c) Rules relating to USRowing National Team Trials Regattas and Regattas governed by FISA may vary.

(d) For Adaptive Rowing or ***Para Rowing*** Events, there is no restriction on Coxswains in respect to Adaptive Rowing or ***Para Rowing*** eligibility, gender, or age.

Reason:

1) Updated name of Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.

10-102 Fairness [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-102 Fairness

(a) At all times when on the water during practice, warm up, cool down, and competition from the opening day of the Course until completion of the final Race of their competition, all Rowers who row in Adaptive Rowing Races must row with the prescribed equipment which must be used according to the boat and sport class. Equipment in this context refers to eyewear, strapping, and pontoons.

(b) Failure to comply with these requirements may lead to a penalty being imposed on the Crew in accordance with these Rules, including but not limited to, where such failure to comply is judged to have taken place during a Race, relegation to last place in the particular Race or exclusion of the Crew. The appropriate penalty in all circumstances shall be at the discretion of the Race Official.

(1) Where such failure to comply has taken place during practice, any penalty given by the Race Official will apply to the first Race of the Event for that Crew.

Proposed Change:

10-102 Fairness

(a) At all times when on the water during practice, warm up, cool down, and competition from the opening day of the Course until completion of the final Race of their competition, all Rowers who row in Adaptive Rowing Races must row with the prescribed equipment which must be used according to the boat and sport class. Equipment in this context refers to ***~~eyewear,~~ strapping and pontoons***.

(b) Failure to comply with these requirements may lead to a penalty being imposed on the Crew in accordance with these Rules, including but not limited to, where such failure to comply is judged to have taken place during a Race, relegation to last place in the particular Race or exclusion of the Crew. The appropriate penalty in all circumstances shall be at the discretion of the Race Official.

(1) Where such failure to comply has taken place during practice, any penalty given by the Race Official will apply to the first Race of the Event for that Crew.

Reason:

1) Removed the reference to eyewear in subsection (a) to be consistent with FISA. The use of light occluding goggles has been eliminated as a requirement for visually impaired rowers.

10-201 Adaptive Rowing Sport Classes [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-201 Adaptive Rowing Sport Classes

The sport classes for Adaptive Rowing are the following:

(a) LTA-PD (Legs, trunk, and arms – Physical Disability): allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent impairment who have functional use of their legs, trunk, and arms for rowing, and who can utilize the sliding seat to propel the boat.

(b) LTA-VI (Legs, trunk, and arms – Visual Impairment): allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent visual impairment. Three subclasses are used in classification. Restrictions may be in place for Events on the number of Competitors in a Crew with a specific subclass classification.

(1) LTA-B1, LTA-B2, LTA-B3: allocated to Rowers based on their visual acuity to the standards set by the IBSA.

(c) LTA-ID (Legs, trunk, and arms – Intellectual Disability): allocated to Rowers meeting the eligibility/classification requirements set by INAS and managed domestically by Athletes Without Limits.

(1) Additional subclasses may be included as part of the classification of LTA-ID for Competitors not meeting the requirements from INAS, but exhibiting similar permanent impairments. Examples include LTA ID-Military (PTSD), LTA ID-Military (TBI).

(d) TA (Trunk and arms): allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent impairment who have functional use of the trunk movement and who are unable to use the sliding seat to propel the boat due to significantly weakened function or mobility of the lower limbs.

(e) AS (Arms and shoulders): allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent impairment who have no or minimal trunk function. An Rower in the AS sport class is able to apply force predominantly using the arms and/or shoulders. These Competitors will also likely have decreased sitting balance.

(f) N/E (Not Eligible to Compete): allocated to Rowers who do not meet the minimum disability required to be eligible to compete Adaptive Events.

(g) Rowers may compete in a more functional sport class than their assigned sport class but not in a less functional sport class. For example, a Rower classified as TA may compete in LTA Events, but may not compete in AS Events.

(h) LTA-PD, LTA-VI, TA, and AS are current Para-Rowing sport classes.

Proposed Change:

10-201 Adaptive Rowing Sport Classes

The sport classes for Adaptive Rowing are the following:

(a) ***PR3-PI Physical Impairment (formerly*** LTA-PD (Legs, trunk, and arms – Physical Disability)***)***: allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent impairment who have functional use of their legs, trunk, and arms for rowing, and who can utilize the sliding seat to propel the boat.

(b) ***PR3-VI Visual Impairment (formerly*** LTA-VI (Legs, trunk, and arms – Visual Impairment)***)***: allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent visual impairment. Three subclasses are used in classification. Restrictions may be in place for Events on the number of Competitors in a Crew with a specific subclass classification.

(1) ***PR3-B1, PR3-B2, PR3-B3 (formerly*** LTA-B1, LTA-B2, LTA-B3***)***: allocated to Rowers based on their visual acuity to the standards set by the IBSA.

(c) ***PR3-ID Intellectual Disability (formerly*** LTA-ID (Legs, trunk, and arms – Intellectual Disability)***)***: allocated to Rowers meeting the eligibility/classification requirements set by INAS and managed domestically by Athletes Without Limits.

(1) Additional subclasses may be included as part of the classification of ***PR3***-ID for Competitors not meeting the requirements from INAS, but exhibiting similar permanent impairments. Examples include ***PR3-ID*** Military (PTSD), ***PR3-ID*** Military (TBI).

(d) ***PR2 (formerly*** TA (Trunk and arms)**I**: allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent impairment who have functional use of the ***trunk*** and who are unable to use the sliding seat to propel the boat due to significantly weakened function or mobility of the lower limbs.

(e) ***PR1 (formerly*** AS (Arms and shoulders)***)***: allocated to Rowers with a verifiable and permanent impairment who have ***minimal or no*** trunk function. ***A*** Rower in the ***PR1*** sport class is able to apply force predominantly using the arms and/or shoulders. These Competitors will also likely have ***poor*** sitting balance.

(f) ***NE*** (Not Eligible to Compete): allocated to Rowers who do not meet the minimum disability required to be eligible to compete **in** Adaptive Events.

(g) Rowers may compete in a more functional sport class than their assigned sport class but not in a less functional sport class. For example, a Rower classified as ***PR2*** may compete in ***PR3*** Events, but may not compete in ***PR1*** Events.

(h) ***PR3-PI, PR3-B1, PR3-B2, PR3-B3, PR2, and PR1*** are current ***Para Rowing*** sport classes.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA. Currently, the prior names of LTA, TA, and AS are included as "formerly ..." but that could also be removed if desired, leaving just the new name and the remainder of each subsection.
2) In subsection (d), updated the description of the impairment to use the phrase "trunk" rather than "trunk movement" to be consistent with FISA and the description of the sport class.
3) In subsection (e), updated the description of the impairment to "minimal or no" from "no or minimal" to be consistent with FISA and the description of the sport class. Similarly in the last sentence, updated "decreased" to "poor" in describing sitting balance.
4) In subsection (e), updated the "An" starting the second sentence to "A" for correct grammar.
5) In subsection (f), added "in" for correct grammar.
6) In subsection (h), updated to "Para Rowing" to be consistent with FISA.

10-202 Adaptive Rowing Boat Classes [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-202 Adaptive Rowing Boat Classes

(a) There are no restrictions on the boat classes or Events that may be included in a Registered Regatta.

(b) The LOC may specify Events for any combination of Adaptive Rowing Sport Class and category of boat. Examples of this type of Event include but are not limited to:

- LTA Mixed 8+
- LTA Men's 4+
- LTA ID 4+
- LTA 1x
- TA 1x

(c) Additionally, the LOC may specify Events that include a subset of Rowers who have an Adaptive Rowing Sport Class and one Rower, typically sitting in the bow seat, who does not meet the eligibility requirements for an Adaptive Rowing Sport Class. Examples of this type of Event include but are not limited to:

- LTA-ID Mixed Inclusive 2x
- TA Mixed Inclusive 2x

(d) For Visually Impaired Events, it is also permissible to utilize guide boats where the Rower in the guide boat does not meet the eligibility requirements for an Adaptive Rowing Sport Class. In these Events, the guide boat relays visual directions only to the competing LTA-VI Crew, comprised solely of Rowers meeting the classification criteria for that sport class. Guides may not coach or instruct in anything not pertaining to visual guidance. Examples of this type of Event include but are not limited to:

- LTA-VI 1x, guided

Proposed Change:

10-202 Adaptive Rowing Boat Classes

(a) There are no restrictions on the boat classes or Events that may be included in a Registered Regatta.

(b) The LOC may specify Events for any combination of Adaptive Rowing Sport Class and category of boat. Examples of this type of Event include but are not limited to:

- ***PR3*** Mixed 8+

- ***PR3*** Men's 4+
- ***PR3*** ID 4+
- ***PR3*** 1x
- ***PR2*** 1x

(c) Additionally, the LOC may specify Events that include a subset of Rowers who have an Adaptive Rowing Sport Class and one Rower, typically sitting in the bow seat, who does not meet the eligibility requirements for an Adaptive Rowing Sport Class. Examples of this type of Event include but are not limited to:

- ***PR3***-ID Mixed Inclusive 2x
- ***PR2*** Mixed Inclusive 2x

(d) For Visually Impaired Events, it is also permissible to utilize guide boats where the Rower in the guide boat does not meet the eligibility requirements for an Adaptive Rowing Sport Class. In these Events, the guide boat relays visual directions only to the competing ***PR3***-VI Crew, comprised solely of Rowers meeting the classification criteria for that sport class. Guides may not coach or instruct in anything not pertaining to visual guidance. Examples of this type of Event include but are not limited to:

- ***PR3***-VI 1x, guided

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

10-203 Para-Rowing Boat Classes [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-203 Para-Rowing Boat Classes

The boat classes for Para-Rowing, a subcategory of Adaptive Rowing, match the FISA Para-Rowing Boat Classes used at the World Rowing Championships or Paralympics in the current year:

- LTA Mixed coxed four (LTAMix4+)
- LTA Mixed double sculls (LTAMix2x)
- TA Mixed double sculls (TAMix2x)
- AS Men's single sculls (ASM1x)
- AS Women's single sculls (ASW1x)

In Mixed Para-Rowing Events, half of the Rowers in a Crew shall be men and half shall be women. In the 4+, the Coxswain may be either a man or a woman and does not need to have an impairment. An LTAMix4+ Crew may include a maximum of two Rowers whose disability is visual impairment, only one of whom may have a sport class of LTA-B3. An LTAMix2x Crew may include a maximum of one Rower whose disability is visual impairment and that Rower may be either LTA-B1 or LTA-B2.

Proposed Change:

10-203 ***Para Rowing*** Boat Classes

The boat classes for ***Para Rowing***, a subcategory of Adaptive Rowing, match the FISA ***Para Rowing*** Boat Classes used at the World Rowing Championships or Paralympics in the current year:

- ***PR3*** Mixed coxed four (***PR3*** Mix4+)
- ***PR3*** Mixed double sculls (***PR3*** Mix2x)
- ***PR2*** Mixed double sculls (***PR2*** Mix2x)
- ***PR1*** Men's single sculls (***PR1*** M1x)
- ***PR1*** Women's single sculls (***PR1*** W1x)

In Mixed ***Para Rowing*** Events, half of the Rowers in a Crew shall be men and half shall be women. In the 4+, the Coxswain may be either a man or a woman and does not need to have an impairment. **A *PR3*** Mix4+ Crew may include a maximum of two Rowers whose ***impairment*** is visual ~~***impairment***~~, only one of whom may have a sport class of ***PR3***-B3. ***A PR2*** Mix2x Crew may include a maximum of one Rower whose ***impairment*** is visual ~~***impairment***~~ and that Rower may be either ***PR3***-B1 or ***PR3***-B2.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes and Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.
2) Updated requirements for mixed crews to be consistent with FISA.

10-301 Adaptive Rowing Boats [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-301 Adaptive Rowing Boats

(a) Boats used for Adaptive Rowing may include both recreational and adaptive racing boats as well as traditional racing boats in LTA Events.

(b) Whenever possible, Crews will compete against other Crews in the same sport class and type of boat (i.e. TA 2x recreational, AS 1x adaptive racing). If the number of entries is insufficient to run separate Events, a Race may combine entries with both recreational and adaptive racing boats.

(c) All boats used for Adaptive Rowing Races must comply with the requirements set out in Article III ("Equipment") and Part C ("Equipment") of Article X ("Adaptive Rowing").

Proposed Change:

10-301 Adaptive Rowing Boats

(a) Boats used for Adaptive Rowing may include both recreational and adaptive racing boats as well as traditional racing boats in ***PR3*** Events.

(b) Whenever possible, Crews will compete against other Crews in the same sport class and type of boat (i.e. ***PR2*** 2x recreational, ***PR1*** 1x adaptive racing). If the number of entries is insufficient to run separate Events, a Race may combine entries with both recreational and adaptive racing boats.

(c) All boats used for Adaptive Rowing Races must comply with the requirements set out in Article III ("Equipment") and Part C ("Equipment") of Article X ("Adaptive Rowing").

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

10-302 Elite Para-Rowing Boats [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-302 Elite Para-Rowing Boats

(a) For Elite Para-Rowing Events, FISA Standard Para-Rowing boats shall be used for ASM1x, ASW1x, and TAMix2x events.

(b) Boats used in the LTAMix4+ Events shall be subject to the same restrictions as those for coxed fours (4+) set out in Article III ("Equipment"). No additional restrictions shall apply.

(c) Boats used in LTAMix2x Events shall be subject to the same restrictions as those for double sculls (2x) set out in Article III ("Equipment"). No additional restrictions shall apply.

Proposed Change:

10-302 Elite ***Para Rowing*** Boats

(a) For Elite ***Para Rowing*** Events, FISA Standard ***Para Rowing*** boats shall be used for ***PR1 1x and PR2 2x*** events.

(b) Boats used in the ***PR3*** Mix4+ Events shall be subject to the same restrictions as those for coxed fours (4+) set out in Article III ("Equipment"). No additional restrictions shall apply.

(c) Boats used in ***PR2*** Mix2x Events shall be subject to the same restrictions as those for double sculls (2x) set out in Article III ("Equipment"). No additional restrictions shall apply.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes and Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.

10-303 Standard AS1x [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-303 Standard AS1x

(a) The Standard AS1x has a fixed seat and must have stabilizing pontoons installed, attached to riggers at a minimum distance of 60 cm from the center line of the pontoon to the center line of the boat. The pontoons should be fixed in position so that when the Rower is seated in the balanced boat both pontoons shall be horizontal and shall, at a minimum, touch the water. The hull, the pontoons and the seat fixing are part of the Standard specifications.

(b) The seat itself and the rigger design are not restricted, except that the design of the seat must be compatible with the Standard seat fixing and the design of the rigger must allow for the stabilizing pontoons to be correctly fixed.

(c) AS1x Rowers must comply with the strapping requirements set out in Rules 10-305 ("Strapping") and 10-306 ("General Strapping Requirements").

Proposed Change:

10-303 Standard ***Para Rowing PR1 1x Boat***

(a) The ***FISA*** Standard ***Para Rowing PR1 1x boat*** has a fixed seat and must have stabilizing pontoons installed, attached to riggers at a minimum distance of 60 cm from the center line of the pontoon to the center line of the boat. The pontoons should be fixed in position so that when the Rower is seated in the balanced boat both pontoons shall be horizontal and shall, at a minimum, touch the water. The hull ***and*** the pontoons ~~***and the seat fixing are part of the***~~ ***shall comply with the FISA*** Standard ***Design*** specifications.

(b) The seat itself and the rigger design are not restricted, except that the design of the seat must be compatible with the ***FISA*** Standard ***Design*** seat fixing and the design of the rigger must allow for the stabilizing pontoons to be correctly fixed.

(c) ***PR1 1x*** Rowers ***are required to*** comply with the strapping requirements set out in Rules 10-305 ("Strapping") and 10-306 ("General Strapping Requirements").

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.
2) Updated the references to the standard boat design to explicitly reference FISA (subsections (a) and (b).
3) In subsection (a), updated the compliance to remove the seat fixing to be consistent with FISA.
4) In subsection (c), changed "must" to "are required to" to be consistent with FISA.

10-304 Standard TAMix2x [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-304 Standard TAMix2x

(a) The Standard TAMix2x has a fixed seat and may have stabilizing pontoons. The hull, the pontoons where fitted, and the seat fixing are part of the Standard specifications.

(b) The seat itself and the rigger design are not restricted, except that the design of the seat must be compatible with the Standard seat fixing.

(c) TAMix2x Rowers must comply with the strapping requirements set out in Rules 10-305 (“Strapping”) and 10-306 (“General Strapping Requirements”).

Proposed Change:

10-304 Standard ***Para Rowing PR2*** Mix2x ***Boat***

(a) The ***FISA*** Standard ***Para Rowing PR2*** Mix2x ***boat*** has a fixed seat and may have stabilizing pontoons. The hull, the pontoons where fitted, and the seat fixing ~~***are part of***~~ ***shall comply with*** the ***FISA*** Standard ***Design*** specifications.

(b) The seat itself and the rigger design are not restricted, except that the design of the seat must be compatible with the ***FISA*** Standard ***Design*** seat fixing.

(c) ***PR2*** Mix2x Rowers ***are required to*** comply with the strapping requirements set out in Rules 10-305 (“Strapping”) and 10-306 (“General Strapping Requirements”).

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.
2) Updated the references to the standard boat design to explicitly reference FISA (subsections (a) and (b).
3) In subsection (a), updated the compliance to remove the seat fixing to be consistent with FISA.
4) In subsection (c), changed “must” to “are required to” to be consistent with FISA.

10-305 Strapping [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-305 Strapping

(a) AS Rowers shall use a strap that must be secured to the seat back and around the torso just covering the xiphoid process. The Rower's lumbar region must remain in contact with the seat when the Rower reaches forward when rowing. The purpose of the strapping is to prevent movement of the lumbar region away from the seat and it must be tight enough to do so.

(1) The design and placement of the seat and all straps must allow the lumbar region to be visible from the side during rowing.

(2) The straps must be attached to the seat on both sides. The point at which the strap is attached to the seat should be no lower than the top edge of the supportive portion of the strap at the front of the torso.

(3) Straps will be assessed with the Rower in a static position with the spine straightened by bearing the weight of the upper body through the arms while the buttocks and the back remain in contact with the seat.

(4) The supportive portion of the back rest of the seat must not be lower that the level of the attachment points of the front strap.

(5) The back of the seat may be covered with a soft material to prevent injuries, but the covering material must not be thicker than 2 cm.

(6) If a bracket is attached to the strap it must not rotate at the attachment point.

(b) AS and TA Rowers shall be secured with a strap to prevent flexion and extension of the knee(s) during rowing. The strap must be secured under the seat or rails and over the thighs, as close to the knees as possible.

Proposed Change:

10-305 Strapping

(a) ***PR1 1x*** Rowers shall use a strap that must be secured to the seat back and around the torso just covering the xiphoid process. The Rower's lumbar region must remain in contact with the seat when the Rower reaches forward when rowing. The purpose of the strapping is to prevent movement of the lumbar region away from the seat and it must be tight enough to do so.

(1) The design and placement of the seat and all straps must allow the lumbar region to be visible from the side during rowing.

(2) The straps must be attached to the seat on both sides. The point at which the strap is attached to the seat should be no lower than the top edge of the supportive portion of the strap at the front of the torso.
(3) Straps will be assessed with the Rower in a static position with the spine straightened by bearing the weight of the upper body through the arms while the buttocks and the back remain in contact with the seat.
(4) The supportive portion of the back rest of the seat must not be lower that the level of the attachment points of the front strap.
(5) The back of the seat may be covered with a soft material to prevent injuries, but the covering material must not be thicker than 2 cm.
(6) If a bracket is attached to the strap it must not rotate at the attachment point.

(b) ***PR1 1x*** and ***PR2 2x*** Rowers shall be secured with a strap to prevent flexion and extension of the knee(s) during rowing. The strap must be secured under the seat or rails and over the thighs, as close to the knees as possible.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

10-306 General Strapping Requirements [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-306 General Strapping Requirements

(a) All straps must be a minimum width of 50 mm, be of non-elastic material, be without mechanical buckles and must be able to be released immediately by the Rower with a single quick hand action of pulling on the free end of the strap.

(b) The color of all straps must be a contrasting color from the Rower's racing uniform so that they can be clearly seen.

(c) All straps for each Rower must be released in the same manner and direction.

(d) Any hand strapping must be able to be released immediately by quick mouth or hand action.

(e) Additional strapping may be used by any Rower provided the requirements of these Rules are met.

(f) It is solely the responsibility of the Rower to ensure that all strapping is compliant with these Rules.

(g) The penalty for having raced with non-compliant strapping and/or in the case of an AS Rower if the lumbar region of the Rower does not stay in contact with the seat when reaching forward, shall be that the Crew is relegated to last place in the particular Race. If two or more Crews in the same Race have a non-compliant strap or movement, they shall all be relegated and they shall be ranked in the descending order of finish. If the Crew races again with a non-compliant strap or movement in a later round of the same Event, then the penalty shall be the exclusion of the Crew.

Proposed Change:

10-306 General Strapping Requirements

(a) All straps must be a minimum width of 50 mm, be of non-elastic material, be without mechanical buckles and must be able to be released immediately by the Rower with a single quick hand action of pulling on the free end of the strap.

(b) The color of all straps must be a contrasting color from the Rower's racing uniform so that they can be clearly seen.

(c) All straps for each Rower must be released in the same manner and direction.

(d) Any hand strapping must be able to be released immediately ***independently by the athlete***.

(e) Additional strapping may be used by any Rower provided the requirements of these Rules are met.

(f) It is solely the responsibility of the Rower to ensure that all strapping is compliant with these Rules.

(g) The penalty for having raced with non-compliant strapping and/or in the case of an ***PR1 1x*** Rower if the lumbar region of the Rower does not stay in contact with the seat when reaching forward, shall be that the Crew is relegated to last place in the particular Race. If two or more Crews in the same Race have a non-compliant strap or movement, they shall all be relegated and they shall be ranked in the descending order of finish. If the Crew races again with a non-compliant strap or movement in a later round of the same Event, then the penalty shall be the exclusion of the Crew.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.
2) In subsection (d), updated phrasing for the release of the hand strapping to be consistent with FISA.

10-308 Eyewear for Visually Impaired Rowers [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-308 Eyewear for Visually Impaired Rowers

(a) Rowers with a sport class of LTA-VI must wear approved eyewear at all times when on the water during training, warm up, cool down, and competition from the opening day of the Course until completion of the final Race of their competition.

(b) Such eyewear shall completely block all light.

(c) All eyewear shall be checked to ensure a secure fit and complete light occlusion by an IBSA doctor during classification or by a Classifier if an IBSA doctor is not present.

Proposed Change:

Remove the rule.

Reason:

1) FISA no longer requires visually impaired rowers to wear light occluding goggles. Removing this rule keeps the domestic practice consistent with the international standard.
2) The majority of domestic regattas with visually impaired rowers were not enforcing this requirement.

10-309 Boat Weights [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-309 Boat Weights

(a) Boat weights shall only be regulated at Regattas to determine a national champion or to select the National Team in Events for Elite Para-Rowers.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Rule 3-104 ("Minimum Weight of Boats"), the minimum weights for Adaptive Rowing boats shall include pontoons where used.

(c) The weight of AS and TA boats shall include the strapping which is firmly attached to the boat, the seat and/or to its fittings.

(d) Straps, paddings, and other items directly related to Adaptive Rowing which are not bolted, screwed, or glued directly to the boat or seat shall not be included in the weight of the boat.

(e) Equipment that replaces a part of the body (prosthesis) even if bolted, screwed, or glued directly to the boat or seat shall not be included as part of the weight of the boat.

Proposed Change:

10-309 Boat Weights

(a) Boat weights shall only be regulated at Regattas to determine a national champion or to select the National Team in Events for Elite ***Para Rowers***.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Rule 3-104 ("Minimum Weight of Boats"), the minimum weights for Adaptive Rowing boats shall include pontoons where used.

(c) The weight of ***PR1 1x*** and ***PR2 2x*** boats shall include the strapping which is firmly ***fastened*** to the boat, ***to*** the seat and/or to its fittings. ***It shall also include seat pads which are attached to the seat.***

(d) Other items***, whether*** directly related to Adaptive Rowing ***or not,*** which are not ***firmly fastened*** to the boat or seat shall not be included in the weight of the boat.

(e) Equipment that replaces a part of the body (prosthesis) even if ***firmly fastened*** to the boat or seat shall not be included as part of the weight of the boat.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes and Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.
2) In subsections (c), (d), and (e), updated phrasing to be consistent with FISA.

10-310 Minimum Weight of Boats [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-310 Minimum Weight of Boats

All Elite Para-Rowing boats shall comply with the following minimum weights:

Category	Weight (lbs.)	Weight (kg.)
AS1x	52.91	24
LTA2x	59.53	27
TA2x	81.57	37
LTA4+	112.44	51

Proposed Change:

10-310 Minimum Weight of Boats

All Elite ***Para Rowing*** boats shall comply with the following minimum weights:

Category	Weight (lbs.)	Weight (kg.)
PR1 1x	52.91	24
PR3 2x	59.53	27
PR2 2x	81.57	37
PR3 4+	112.44	51

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes and Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.

10-401 Safety of Rowers [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-401 Safety of Rowers

(a) The Chief Referee and/or LOC may require additional safety or rescue boats to be present on the Course of all Adaptive Rowing Events, but particularly for AS Events.

(b) Particular care must be taken in weather conditions which may generate extreme uncontrolled body temperatures.

Proposed Change:

10-401 Safety of Rowers

(a) The Chief Referee and/or LOC may require additional safety or rescue boats to be present on the Course of all Adaptive Rowing Events, but particularly for ***PR1 1x*** Events.

(b) Particular care must be taken in weather conditions which may generate extreme uncontrolled body temperatures.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

10-501 Starting Commands [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-501 Starting Commands

For LTAMix4+, LTAMix2x, and any other Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, the Starter shall give an additional verbal indication to the Crews as follows:

- After completing the roll call and stating the word "Attention," the Starter shall say the words "Red Flag" at the same time as he or she raises the Starter's flag (or in the case where traffic lights are used, "Red Light" at the same instant that he or she presses the button to activate the red light).
- The remainder of the start commands are given as described in Rule 2-306 ("Starting Commands with Flags") or Rule 2-306.1 ("Starting Commands with Lights").

Proposed Change:

10-501 Starting Commands

For ***PR3*** Mix4+, ***PR3*** Mix2x, and any other Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, the Starter shall give an additional verbal indication to the Crews as follows:

- After completing the roll call and stating the word "Attention," the Starter shall say the words "Red Flag" at the same time as he or she raises the Starter's flag (or in the case where traffic lights are used, "Red Light" at the same instant that he or she presses the button to activate the red light).
- The remainder of the start commands are given as described in Rule 2-306 ("Starting Commands with Flags") or Rule 2-306.1 ("Starting Commands with Lights").

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

10-503 Finish of the Race [Meisner, K]

Current Rule:

10-503 Finish of the Race

At the finish of the Race in LTAMix4+, LTAMix2x, and any other Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, when raising the white flag, the Referee shall clearly state the words “White Flag” for all Crews to hear. Should the Referee raise the red flag, he or she shall clearly state “Red Flag”.

Proposed Change:

10-503 Finish of the Race

At the finish of the Race in ***PR3*** Mix4+, ***PR3*** Mix2x, and any other Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, when raising the white flag, the Referee shall clearly state the words “White Flag” for all Crews to hear. Should the Referee raise the red flag, he or she shall clearly state “Red Flag”.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

Referee Procedure Manual II-3 Control Commission [Meisner, K]

Current Procedure:

3) Control Commission

The *control commission* verifies that Crews and Competitors comply with the rules regarding Equipment (Article III, "Equipment") and the rules regarding Competitors (Article IV, "Competitors"). If the Regatta includes Adaptive Rowing Events, the control commission also ensures compliance with Part B ("Sport and Boat Classes") and Part C ("Equipment") of Article X ("Adaptive Rowing"). The tasks typically under direct control of licensed referees fall into several categories:

- Athlete Weigh-Ins
    - Weighing of lightweight Rowers
    - Weighing of Coxswains and checking dead weight to be carried by Coxswains
- Boat Weighing
    - Minimum weight of boats
- Athlete/Crew Identification
    - Requirement of a bow number
    - Prohibited advertising
    - Uniforms
- Boat Safety Checks
    - Requirement of a bowball on the boat that meets the specifications in Article III ("Equipment")
    - Requirement of foot release devices that meets the specifications in Article III ("Equipment")
    - Minimum thickness of Oars
    - Dimensions of Coxswain openings, especially in bow-coxed boats
    - Use of prohibited substances on the hull or oars
- Adaptive Rowing Equipment Compliance
    - Requirement for Capsizing Release specified in Part C ("Equipment") of Article X ("Adaptive Rowing")
    - Fixed Seat and strapping for AS, TA Rowers
    - Placement and height of pontoons on AS boats
    - Eyewear for VI Rowers
    - Compliance with standard Para-Rowing boat specifications for Elite Para-Rowing Events

Other tasks included in the duties of the *control commission* are typically handled by the LOC, including

- Substitution of Competitors

- Replacement of Ill Competitors
- Classification by age of Competitors
- Classification by skill of Competitors
- Adaptive Rowing Classification of Competitors
    - Classification is conducted by certified Classifiers but may be arranged be the LOC

Proposed Change:

3) Control Commission

The *control commission* verifies that Crews and Competitors comply with the rules regarding Equipment (Article III, "Equipment") and the rules regarding Competitors (Article IV, "Competitors"). If the Regatta includes Adaptive Rowing Events, the control commission also ensures compliance with Part B ("Sport and Boat Classes") and Part C ("Equipment") of Article X ("Adaptive Rowing"). The tasks typically under direct control of licensed referees fall into several categories:

- Athlete Weigh-Ins
    - Weighing of lightweight Rowers
    - Weighing of Coxswains and checking dead weight to be carried by Coxswains
- Boat Weighing
    - Minimum weight of boats
- Athlete/Crew Identification
    - Requirement of a bow number
    - Prohibited advertising
    - Uniforms
- Boat Safety Checks
    - Requirement of a bowball on the boat that meets the specifications in Article III ("Equipment")
    - Requirement of foot release devices that meets the specifications in Article III ("Equipment")
    - Minimum thickness of Oars
    - Dimensions of Coxswain openings, especially in bow-coxed boats
    - Use of prohibited substances on the hull or oars
- Adaptive Rowing Equipment Compliance
    - Requirement for Capsizing Release specified in Part C ("Equipment") of Article X ("Adaptive Rowing")
    - Fixed Seat and strapping for ***PR1***, ***PR2*** Rowers
    - Placement and height of pontoons on **PR1** boats

- ~~***Eyewear for VI Rowers***~~
- Compliance with standard ***Para Rowing*** boat specifications for Elite ***Para Rowing*** Events

Other tasks included in the duties of the *control commission* are typically handled by the LOC, including

- Substitution of Competitors
- Replacement of Ill Competitors
- Classification by age of Competitors
- Classification by skill of Competitors
- Adaptive Rowing Classification of Competitors
    - Classification is conducted by certified Classifiers but may be arranged be the LOC

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes and Para Rowing to be consistent with FISA.
2) Removal of the bullet point for checking the eyewear of VI Rowers to be consistent with the proposed removal of rule 10-308 to be consistent with the removal of the requirement for the eyewear by FISA.

Referee Procedure Manual II-3-c-5 Procedure – Boat Launching – Safety Checks [Meisner, K]

Current Procedure:

(5) Procedure - Boat Launching - Safety Checks

- It is the Crews' responsibility to have their equipment in compliance with the rules; the Referee/volunteer may randomly check boats as they are launching to affirm compliance with the rules governing bow balls, quick release and heel ties on shoes, and Coxswain's openings in bow-coxed boats
    - Check bow ball
    - Check for quick release and heel ties on shoes
    - If the shoes are laced (no Velcro or similar materials), remind the Competitor that they need to be able to exit the boat immediately in case of an emergency.
    - Check for correct size openings for Coxswains
- If the Regatta includes Adaptive Rowing Events, the referee/volunteer shall check boats as they are preparing to launch to affirm compliance with the rules governing capsizing release, fixed seat and strapping for AS and TA Events, height and placement of pontoons in AS and TA Events where used, and eyewear for VI Rowers. These checks are in addition to those listed above.
    - Check capsize release mechanism
    - Check fixed seat placement and requirements
    - Check strapping
    - Check for correct placement and height of pontoons
    - Check eyewear for VI Rowers
- A boat failing any safety check may not launch until the safety issue is resolved
    - Allow the Crew to place the boat into slings to address the issue. The boat may not proceed onto the launch dock or be placed into the water until the boat is in compliance

Proposed Change:

(5) Procedure - Boat Launching - Safety Checks

- It is the Crews' responsibility to have their equipment in compliance with the rules; the Referee/volunteer may randomly check boats as they are launching to affirm compliance with the rules governing bow balls, quick release and heel ties on shoes, and Coxswain's openings in bow-coxed boats
    - Check bow ball
    - Check for quick release and heel ties on shoes

    - If the shoes are laced (no Velcro or similar materials), remind the Competitor that they need to be able to exit the boat immediately in case of an emergency.
    - Check for correct size openings for Coxswains
- If the Regatta includes Adaptive Rowing Events, the referee/volunteer shall check boats as they are preparing to launch to affirm compliance with the rules governing capsizing release, fixed seat and strapping for ***PR1*** and ***PR2*** Events, ***and*** height and placement of pontoons in ***PR1*** and ***PR2*** Events where used. These checks are in addition to those listed above.
    - Check capsize release mechanism
    - Check fixed seat placement and requirements
    - Check strapping
    - Check for correct placement and height of pontoons
- A boat failing any safety check may not launch until the safety issue is resolved
    - Allow the Crew to place the boat into slings to address the issue. The boat may not proceed onto the launch dock or be placed into the water until the boat is in compliance.

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.
2) Removal of the bullet point for checking the eyewear of VI Rowers to be consistent with the proposed removal of rule 10-308 to be consistent with the removal of the requirement for the eyewear by FISA.

Referee Procedure Manual II-4-c-4 Procedure [Meisner, K]

Current Procedure:

(4) Procedure

- Invite the Crews for the next Race into the Starting area
    - Event Number/Name (e.g. "Race 27, Women's Varsity 8+ Heat 2")
    - Crew Names/Lane Number (e.g. "Eastern College, Lane 1; Western University, Lane 2; Northern University, Lane 3")
    - Invite Crews into the Starting area (e.g. "Enter the Course and proceed to your lane")
    - Relevant Number of Minutes to Start (e.g. "Ten Minutes")
- Whenever practicable, acknowledge each Crew as it enters the Course by announcing the Crew's name and its assigned lane
- Whenever practicable, announce the time remaining to the start of the Race at
    - Five Minutes (if not done as part of initial announcement)
    - Four Minutes
    - Three Minutes
    - Two Minutes
- Check to make sure that all Crews have the appropriate bow number
    - Alert the *chief judge* to any anomalies
- Address any uniform violations
- Check to make sure that *referees* are in position and are ready to follow the race
- Issue warning(s), if any
    - Crew Name/Infraction/Penalty (e.g. "Eastern College, Late to Start, Warning")
    - Ask for acknowledgement if not already indicated
- If the *chief referee* has instructed you to announce the progression for the Event, clearly and succinctly announce the progression (e.g. "Places 1-3 to the A final, Places 4-6 to the B final"). If you are being asked to announce the progression, make sure to communicate with the *control commission* and the *chief referee* to ensure that no changes in the number of Crews in the Event has changed the progression for the Event.
- Check for alignment flag
- Confirm that all Crews are pointed safely (this is the *starter's* responsibility)
- Check that all hands are down indicating that the Crews are ready
- If conditions permit a normal start
    - Announce the name of each Crew in cadence (e.g. "Eastern, Western, Northern")

        - For 1x Events, announce the name of the Competitors (e.g. “Mr. Smith, Mr. Jones”)
        - Unaffiliated Crews are announced as “Unaffiliated”
        - Composite Crews are announced as “Composite”, name of bow club or rower to match the nomenclature from the heat sheet (e.g. “Composite, Southern” or “Composite, Mr. Smith”)
    - Announce “Attention!” in the same cadence (like it is another Crew name)
    - Glance quickly to ensure the alignment flag is still raised and *referees* are still ready to follow the Race
    - Raise the Starter’s Flag overhead, preferably using two hands
        - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the Starter’s Flag
        - If a traffic light starting system is in use, activate the red light
            - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Light” at the same instant as pressing the button to activate the red light
    - Pause (this pause is varied for each Race, especially for a restart of a Race)
    - Announce “Go” and simultaneously move the flag sharply down to the side
        - If a traffic light starting system is in use, press the button to simultaneously
            - Change the red light to green
            - Make an audible signal through the loudspeakers
            - Start the timing system for the race, if linked to the starting system
            - Freeze the picture on the monitor in the aligner’s station if installed
    - Before the start command is issued, if alignment is lost, a Crew’s point becomes unsafe, or other unsafe condition arises that prevents starting the Race without a prolonged delay
        - Announce “As You Were!”
        - Gently lower the Starter’s flag directly in front of your body or change the lights from red to neutral

        - Wait for alignment to be restored, the Crew's point to be corrected, or the unsafe condition to be resolved
        - Repeat the starting commands
            - If all the Crew names have all been announced, they need not be repeated
            - If the announcement of Crews was not complete, restart the sequence from the beginning
- If conditions preclude a safe and fair start using the normal procedure above
    - Announce "We will use a quick start"
    - Check for alignment flag
    - Confirm that all Crews are pointed safely (this is the *starter's* responsibility)
    - Check that all hands are down indicating that the Crews are ready
    - Announce "Quick Start!"
    - Announce "Attention!"
    - Raise the Starter's Flag overhead, preferably using two hands
        - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "Red Flag" at the same time as raising the Starter's flag
        - If a traffic light starting system is in use, activate the red light
            - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "Red Light" at the same instant as pressing the button to activate the red light
    - Pause (this pause is varied for each Race, especially for a restart of a Race)
    - Announce "Go!" and simultaneously move the flag down sharply to the side or activate the green light as above
- Call the next Race as soon as the previous Race clears the Starting area
    - Note: if on wide centers, do not invite the Crews onto the Course before ten minutes prior to the Scheduled Time of the Race unless one or more Crews from the next Race is waiting to come on to the Course

Proposed Change:

(4) Procedure

- Invite the Crews for the next Race into the Starting area
    - Event Number/Name (e.g. "Race 27, Women's Varsity 8+ Heat 2")

    - Crew Names/Lane Number (e.g. “Eastern College, Lane 1; Western University, Lane 2; Northern University, Lane 3”)
    - Invite Crews into the Starting area (e.g. “Enter the Course and proceed to your lane”)
    - Relevant Number of Minutes to Start (e.g. “Ten Minutes”)
- Whenever practicable, acknowledge each Crew as it enters the Course by announcing the Crew’s name and its assigned lane
- Whenever practicable, announce the time remaining to the start of the Race at
    - Five Minutes (if not done as part of initial announcement)
    - Four Minutes
    - Three Minutes
    - Two Minutes
- Check to make sure that all Crews have the appropriate bow number
    - Alert the *chief judge* to any anomalies
- Address any uniform violations
- Check to make sure that *referees* are in position and are ready to follow the race
- Issue warning(s), if any
    - Crew Name/Infraction/Penalty (e.g. “Eastern College, Late to Start, Warning”)
    - Ask for acknowledgement if not already indicated
- If the *chief referee* has instructed you to announce the progression for the Event, clearly and succinctly announce the progression (e.g. “Places 1-3 to the A final, Places 4-6 to the B final”). If you are being asked to announce the progression, make sure to communicate with the *control commission* and the *chief referee* to ensure that no changes in the number of Crews in the Event has changed the progression for the Event.
- Check for alignment flag
- Confirm that all Crews are pointed safely (this is the *starter’s* responsibility)
- Check that all hands are down indicating that the Crews are ready
- If conditions permit a normal start
    - Announce the name of each Crew in cadence (e.g. “Eastern, Western, Northern”)
        - For 1x Events, announce the name of the Competitors (e.g. “Mr. Smith, Mr. Jones”)
        - Unaffiliated Crews are announced as “Unaffiliated”
        - Composite Crews are announced as “Composite”, name of bow club or rower to match the nomenclature from the heat sheet (e.g. “Composite, Southern” or “Composite, Mr. Smith”)

- Announce “Attention!” in the same cadence (like it is another Crew name)
- Glance quickly to ensure the alignment flag is still raised and *referees* are still ready to follow the Race
- Raise the Starter’s Flag overhead, preferably using two hands
    - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the Starter’s Flag
    - If a traffic light starting system is in use, activate the red light
        - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Light” at the same instant as pressing the button to activate the red light
- Pause (this pause is varied for each Race, especially for a restart of a Race)
- Announce “Go” and simultaneously move the flag sharply down to the side
    - If a traffic light starting system is in use, press the button to simultaneously
        - Change the red light to green
        - Make an audible signal through the loudspeakers
        - Start the timing system for the race, if linked to the starting system
        - Freeze the picture on the monitor in the aligner’s station if installed
- Before the start command is issued, if alignment is lost, a Crew’s point becomes unsafe, or other unsafe condition arises that prevents starting the Race without a prolonged delay
    - Announce “As You Were!”
    - Gently lower the Starter’s flag directly in front of your body or change the lights from red to neutral
    - Wait for alignment to be restored, the Crew’s point to be corrected, or the unsafe condition to be resolved
    - Repeat the starting commands
        - If all the Crew names have all been announced, they need not be repeated
        - If the announcement of Crews was not complete, restart the sequence from the beginning

- If conditions preclude a safe and fair start using the normal procedure above
    - Announce “We will use a quick start”
    - Check for alignment flag
    - Confirm that all Crews are pointed safely (this is the *starter’s* responsibility)
    - Check that all hands are down indicating that the Crews are ready
    - Announce “Quick Start!”
    - Announce “Attention!”
    - Raise the Starter’s Flag overhead, preferably using two hands
        - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the Starter’s flag
        - If a traffic light starting system is in use, activate the red light
            - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Light” at the same instant as pressing the button to activate the red light
    - Pause (this pause is varied for each Race, especially for a restart of a Race)
    - Announce “Go!” and simultaneously move the flag down sharply to the side or activate the green light as above
- Call the next Race as soon as the previous Race clears the Starting area
    - Note: if on wide centers, do not invite the Crews onto the Course before ten minutes prior to the Scheduled Time of the Race unless one or more Crews from the next Race is waiting to come on to the Course

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

Referee Procedure Manual II-5-7 Procedure – Finishing the Race [Meisner, K]

Current Procedure:

(7) Procedure – Finishing the Race

- As the Crews approach the finish
    - Locate the finish flag
    - Continue to watch the Crews, glancing periodically at the finish flag
    - Stop your stopwatch when the finish flag moves down to indicate the first Crew has touched the finish line
        - If you miss the first motion of the finish flag, stop your watch on a subsequent motion and note which place (e.g. time for 3rd place Crew)
    - Instruct your driver to slow down and stop the launch to appropriately wait for any trailing Crews to pass
    - Do not cross the finish line until all competitors have finished unless there is a medical or safety emergency and no *finish marshal* or safety boat is in the area to assist
- After the last Crew has finished the Race
    - Observe the Crews to determine if there are any objections or if any Competitor requires assistance
        - For Adaptive Rowing Races where a Competitor's hands are strapped, the Rower may clearly call out "Objection!" so that the Race Official hears
    - Ask Coxswains to display their weights (e.g. "Eastern College Coxswain, Show Your Weight")
        - Thank the Coxswain once the weight is displayed so they know they can put it back down
        - If there is a question about a weight (appears too small or Coxswain doesn't have the expected weight)
            - Communicate with *control commission* to confirm the Crew and the weight for that Race
            - If wristbands are in use, read the Coxswain's wristband to see what weight was recorded
            - If weight is missing after confirming weight required
                - Notify the Crew that it is excluded
                - Ask the Crew if it accepts your decision
                - If the Crew does not object
                    - Show the red flag

- For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the red flag
- Notify the *chief judge* of the issue and your decision
- Show the white flag
  - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “White Flag” at the same time as raising the white flag
- Report the time to the *chief judge*

- If the Crew does object
  - Explain the protest procedure to the affected Crews
  - Show the red flag
    - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the red flag
  - Notify the *chief judge* of the issue, your decision, the objection and report the time
  - Notify the Chief Referee to the pending protest

- Confirm with your partner *referee* that all is well (thumbs up or down, <u>no flags</u>)
  - If yes
    - The *referee* closest to the finish tower first displays a white flag to the Competitors and then to the *chief judge*
      - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “White Flag” at the same time as raising the white flag

- Announce the time from your stopwatch to the nearest tenth of a second, including noting which place if not from the first motion of the finish flag
- Wait for the *chief judge* to raise a white flag to acknowledge receipt of the time and notice of your white flag
- Scan the Crews once more before turning towards the start

▪ If no

- Communicate with your partner *referee* to determine their issue(s) and take appropriate action

- Return to the Start following the procedures outlined above
  - If it is the last Race of the day or the shift, proceed as instructed by the Chief Referee
  - If it is nearing the last Race, but you have followed the last Race assigned to you, continue to move towards the start and act as a safety boat or to assist another *referee* if needed (e.g. launch dies, ejected Rower)
  - Determine whether your launch is needed to transport any other race personnel at the conclusion of their involvement with the last Race (e.g. picking up stakeboat holders, judge at start)

Proposed Change:

(7) Procedure – Finishing the Race

- As the Crews approach the finish
  - Locate the finish flag
  - Continue to watch the Crews, glancing periodically at the finish flag
  - Stop your stopwatch when the finish flag moves down to indicate the first Crew has touched the finish line
    - If you miss the first motion of the finish flag, stop your watch on a subsequent motion and note which place (e.g. time for 3rd place Crew)
  - Instruct your driver to slow down and stop the launch to appropriately wait for any trailing Crews to pass
  - Do not cross the finish line until all competitors have finished unless there is a medical or safety emergency and no *finish marshal* or safety boat is in the area to assist
- After the last Crew has finished the Race

- Observe the Crews to determine if there are any objections or if any Competitor requires assistance
    - For Adaptive Rowing Races where a Competitor's hands are strapped, the Rower may clearly call out "Objection!" so that the Race Official hears
- Ask Coxswains to display their weights (e.g. "Eastern College Coxswain, Show Your Weight")
    - Thank the Coxswain once the weight is displayed so they know they can put it back down
    - If there is a question about a weight (appears too small or Coxswain doesn't have the expected weight)
        - Communicate with *control commission* to confirm the Crew and the weight for that Race
        - If wristbands are in use, read the Coxswain's wristband to see what weight was recorded
        - If weight is missing after confirming weight required
            - Notify the Crew that it is excluded
            - Ask the Crew if it accepts your decision
            - If the Crew does not object
                - Show the red flag
                    - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "Red Flag" at the same time as raising the red flag
                - Notify the *chief judge* of the issue and your decision
                - Show the white flag
                    - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "White Flag" at the same time as raising the white flag
                - Report the time to the *chief judge*
            - If the Crew does object
                - Explain the protest procedure to the affected Crews

            - Show the red flag
                - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the red flag
            - Notify the *chief judge* of the issue, your decision, the objection and report the time
            - Notify the Chief Referee to the pending protest
    - Confirm with your partner *referee* that all is well (thumbs up or down, <u>no flags</u>)
        - If yes
            - The *referee* closest to the finish tower first displays a white flag to the Competitors and then to the *chief judge*
                - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “White Flag” at the same time as raising the white flag
            - Announce the time from your stopwatch to the nearest tenth of a second, including noting which place if not from the first motion of the finish flag
            - Wait for the *chief judge* to raise a white flag to acknowledge receipt of the time and notice of your white flag
            - Scan the Crews once more before turning towards the start
        - If no
            - Communicate with your partner *referee* to determine their issue(s) and take appropriate action
- Return to the Start following the procedures outlined above
    - If it is the last Race of the day or the shift, proceed as instructed by the Chief Referee
    - If it is nearing the last Race, but you have followed the last Race assigned to you, continue to move towards the start and act as a safety boat or to assist another *referee* if needed (e.g. launch dies, ejected Rower)

- Determine whether your launch is needed to transport any other race personnel at the conclusion of their involvement with the last Race (e.g. picking up stakeboat holders, judge at start)

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

Referee Procedure Manual II-5-11 Procedure – A Hand is Up [Meisner, K]

Current Procedure:

(11) Procedure – A Hand is Up or a Rower has called "Objection!"

- Approach the Crew and communicate with the Coxswain or Rower with an unaided voice (no megaphone), preferably in a seated position to be closest to the Competitor
- Inquire if everyone is okay
- Inquire what the question is
    - If you think you'll need to speak with other Crew(s), make sure they remain in the area
    - Be aware if the next Race is approaching and move the Crews to a safe location
- Make a decision on the water
    - Inform the Crew of your decision
    - Ask the Crew if it accepts your decision
    - Signal the *chief judge* appropriately
        - The Crew is satisfied, they accepted your answer
            - Show the white flag
                - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "White Flag" at the same time as raising the white flag
        - You took some action (e.g. excluded a Crew, changed the placement of Crew(s)) and all Crews accepted your decision
            - Show the red flag
                - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "Red Flag" at the same time as raising the red flag
            - Announce your decision to the *chief judge*
            - Show the white flag
                - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce "White Flag" at the same time as raising the white flag
            - Give the time
        - You took some action but one or more Crews elects to Protest
            - Show the red flag

        - For Adaptive Rowing LTA Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the red flag
    - Explain the protest procedure to the affected Crews
    - Notify the *chief judge* of the issue, your decision, the protest, and the time taken on the water
    - Notify the Chief Referee of the pending protest

Proposed Change:

(11) Procedure – A Hand is Up or a Rower has called “Objection!”

- Approach the Crew and communicate with the Coxswain or Rower with an unaided voice (no megaphone), preferably in a seated position to be closest to the Competitor
- Inquire if everyone is okay
- Inquire what the question is
    - If you think you’ll need to speak with other Crew(s), make sure they remain in the area
    - Be aware if the next Race is approaching and move the Crews to a safe location
- Make a decision on the water
    - Inform the Crew of your decision
    - Ask the Crew if it accepts your decision
    - Signal the *chief judge* appropriately
        - The Crew is satisfied, they accepted your answer
            - Show the white flag
                - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “White Flag” at the same time as raising the white flag
        - You took some action (e.g. excluded a Crew, changed the placement of Crew(s)) and all Crews accepted your decision
            - Show the red flag
                - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the red flag
            - Announce your decision to the *chief judge*

- Show the white flag
    - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “White Flag” at the same time as raising the white flag
- Give the time

▪ You took some action but one or more Crews elects to Protest

- Show the red flag
    - For Adaptive Rowing ***PR3*** Races or other Adaptive Events known to include Rowers with visual impairment, announce “Red Flag” at the same time as raising the red flag
- Explain the protest procedure to the affected Crews
- Notify the *chief judge* of the issue, your decision, the protest, and the time taken on the water
- Notify the Chief Referee of the pending protest

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.

LOC Guidance Manual I-4-a Regattas with Adaptive or Para Rowing Events – Schedule [Meisner, K]

Current:

(a) Schedule

- Allow for sufficient time and space on the launch and recovery docks and to row from the docks to the Starting area
- Allow for sufficient race centers to account for the longer time required for fixed seat races. Typically, the time required to complete their race from shortest to longest by classification is:
    - LTA-VI
    - LTA-PD
    - LTA-ID
    - TA
    - AS

Proposed Change:

(b) Schedule

- Allow for sufficient time and space on the launch and recovery docks and to row from the docks to the Starting area
- Allow for sufficient race centers to account for the longer time required for fixed seat races. Typically, the time required to complete their race from shortest to longest by classification is:
    - ***PR3***-VI
    - ***PR3***-PD
    - ***PR3***-ID
    - ***PR2***
    - ***PR1***

Reason:

1) Updated names of sport classes to be consistent with FISA.