2013 Board Approved Rule Changes
December 2012

1-104 Scope and Exceptions (*)

Proposed Change: Revise paragraph 1-104 (b) to read:

(b) ~~***These rules shall apply without exception or amendment to all national championship regattas, regional championship regattas, and all trials races and regattas to select the National Team***~~***. Subject to subsection (c) below, USRowing may make exceptions or amendments to these rules at national championship regattas, regional championships, and all trials races and regattas to select the National Team if such exceptions are described in detail and are publicized in writing and distributed to every competing team.*** Subject to subsection (c) below, the local organizing committee of any other registered regatta may make exceptions or amendments to these rules if such exceptions are described in detail in the application to USRowing for registration and are publicized in writing and distributed to every competing team. USRowing may take the extent and nature of variation from these rules into account in determining whether to register a regatta.

1-202 (z) Other Definitions (*)

(z) "Unaffiliated" – Competitors are not considered to be representing an organization in event(s) in which they are registered as "unaffiliated".

Rule 2-410(c) Outside Assistance

Eliminate Rule 2-410(c)

Rule 2-602 (e) Types of Penalties:

(e) Relegation: The penalty of Relegation shall consist of placing a crew in last place in a race.

2-606 (a) Filing the Protest Statement

(a) Once a protet is lodged, a crew wishing to be heard before the Jury shall submit a concise written statement, describing the facts that underlie the protest and the relief that the crew seeks, to the Chief Judge, or another race official designated by the Chief Referee whose identity is conspicuously posted, within one hour after it reaches land. The Statement shall be accompanied by cash or check payable to the local organizing committee in the amount of fifty dollars ($50.00). A protest in which such a statement is not filed shall not be heard

3-104 (b) Min. Wt. of Boats

Rule 3-104(b) For purposes of this Rule, the weight of a boat shall not include oars~~, or detachable loudspeaker or electronic systems~~. Seats, rudders, skegs, fins, and riggers shall be included in the boat's weight, other items that are not permanently affixed to the boat shall not be included in the boat's weight.

3-104 (g) Minimum Weight of Boats

3-104 (g) The first offense penalty for having raced in an underweight boat in an event, except for a finals race, shall be relegation. If the crew races again in an underweight boat in a later round of the same event, the penalty shall be exclusion. The penalty for having raced an underweight boat in a finals race shall be exclusion.

4-105 (3) (c) Classification by Skill

(3) Elite: A competitor is Elite who has been a member of the ***Senior USRowing National Team*** or any country's National Team as a competitor (including as a spare) in the category at issue ***or a medalist at the U23 World Championships***, other than in a Junior or Masters event.

(b) All trials events to select the National Team, except those for Junior, ***U23,*** or Masters events, shall be classified as Elite events.

4-106 (a) Light Weights

A lightweight crew is one that complies with the requirements below. An open event is one that is not a lightweight event.
(a) Men:
(1) A men's lightweight crew, including a single scull (1x), shall have no rower who weighs more than 160 lbs.

(2) Men's Junior and scholastic rowers shall have no rower that weighs more than 150 lbs. Effective September 1, 2013.

(Editors note: Prior to September 1, 2013 – Men's Junior and Scholastic rowers shall have no rower that weighs more than 160 lbs.)

(3) The coxswain shall not be counted for purposes of this rule.

(b) Women:
(1) A women's lightweight crew, including a single scull (1x), shall have no rower who weighs more than 130 lbs. (2) The coxswain shall not be counted for purposes of this rule.

4-109 (a) Coxswains Weight

(a) A coxswain in an event for men's crews shall weigh at least 120 lbs. A coxswain in an event for women's crews shall weigh at least 110 lbs. ***A coxswain in an event for mixed crews shall weigh at least 120 lbs.*** Weight shall be determined as provided in Rule 4-110 ("Weighing of Competitors").

5-105 (c) Control Commission

(c) Where doping tests are carried out, the Control Commission is responsible for seeing that those competitors required to undergo testing are taken to the officials responsible for this immediately after getting out of the boat.

5-209 USRowing Progression System

(a) In the USRowing progression systems, events shall consist of finals, and if necessary, heats and semifinals. Those crews advancing out of each heat are placed in the semifinal or final; all others in the heats are eliminated. In events having semifinals, those crews advancing out of each semifinal are placed in the final; all others in the semifinal are eliminated. In events with more than 36 entries, there shall be one heat conducted as a "head race" (Rule 1-202(i)), as well as, repechages, semifinals and finals. The course distance for the head race shall be as close as practicable to the prescribed distance for the event under Rule 7-102, with such variances as may be required by the particular configuration of the venue. **The following Progression Systems are recommendations and may be modified by the Regatta Director for safety or fairness if approved by the chief referee and published in the initial entry packet.**

5-210 USRowing Progression System

(a) In the USRowing alternate progression systems, events shall consist of finals, and if necessary, heats, repechages, and semifinals. Crews advancing out of each heat are placed directly in the semifinals or finals. All others in the heats go to the repechages. Those advancing out of the repechages are placed in the semifinals or finals; all others in the repechages are eliminated. All those advancing out of the semifinals are placed in the grand final; all others in the semifinals may be placed in a petite final. **The following Progression Systems are recommendations and may be modified by the Regatta Director for safety or fairness if approved by the chief referee and published in the initial entry packet.**

5-302 Annual National Championship Regattas

There shall be five national championship regattas held each year.

(a) The National Championship shall be held for all Elite events.

(b) ***The Masters National Championships shall be held for all Masters sprint events.***

(c) The Youth National Championships shall be held for all Youth events.

(d) The Club National Championships shall be held for all Senior, Intermediate, Junior, and Junior B events.

(e) ***The Masters National Head Race Championships shall be held for all Masters head-race events.***

5-304 (b) National Champions

(b): At the Masters National Championships and Masters National Head Race Championships, the national championship medals shall be awarded according to the order of finish, regardless of nationality, but the records of USRowing shall designate the highest place domestic crew as the National Champion for that event.

5-307 Team Point Trophies

(1) The Overall Point Trophy is awarded to organizations that earn points in both men's and women's events. The total points shall be the sum of points awarded in men's Senior, Intermediate, and Junior events, open and lightweight, plus the points awarded in women's Senior, Intermediate, and Junior events, open and lightweight. The total points earned by an organization in the events of one gender, however, shall not comprise less than 35% of the total points awarded. ~~**Thus, organizations that receive no points in the events of one gender receive no points for the Overall Points Trophy.**~~
~~**(4) The Men's Youth All-Event Trophy, based on aggregate points received in all men's Junior events;**~~
~~**(5) The Women's Youth All-Event Trophy, based on aggregate points received in all women's Junior events;**~~
~~**(6) The Men's Lightweight All-Event Trophy, based on aggregate points received in all men's Senior and Intermediate lightweight events.**~~
~~**(7) The Women's Lightweight All-Event Trophy, based on aggregate points received in all women's Senior and Intermediate lightweight events.**~~

8-102 (b) (1) Course Configuration

Delete rule 8-102 (b) 1.

Clerical and Typographical Errors to be Corrected:

Part B – Definitions 1-202 Other Definitions (w) (*); (Page 14): "Static Refereeing" section; the name of the FISA Masters Regatta is the "World Rowing Masters Regatta".

Part D – The Body of the Race 2-410 Outside Assistance (b); (Page 30): "The penalty for such an infraction is presumed to be exclusion of the offending crew and/or team member, and/or disqualification of the coach. (Inserts "and/or" and clarifies potential disqualification of the coach.)

Part F – Penalties and Protests 2-602 Types of Penalties; (Page 34): Add "relegation" like the FISA Rules of Rowing & Related By-Laws (Page 100).

Article IV – Competitors 4-105 Classification by Skill (b) (3) Elite; (Page 50): This probably shows my ignorance of past rules changes but I thought is an athlete won an elite event at the USRowing National Championships or at Canadian Henley they were also classified as elite for the next year.

Article V – Regattas 5-102 Local Organizing Committee (j); (Page 54): Second line correct "Control Committee" to "Control Commission".

Article V – USRowing Alternate Progression Systems 5-210, Page 61: Section (c) USRowing Alternate Progression System "A"

Issue: Double line for "Entries" line 25-36
Correction: Strike the Second line. Note: Adv. In Repechage, Semifinals, and Adv. in each Semi. are incorrect.

Article VIII – Head Races 8-104 (e) Monitors, Final Line; (Page 87): Substitute "exclude" for "disqualify" in the last line.

Page 94: SW Pac-10 Championships

Issue: "Pac-10"
Correction: "Pac-12"