

Appendix E – Adverse Weather Conditions Policy

USROWING ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS POLICY

National Selection Regattas and Trials Regattas – There shall be a “Fairness Committee” to make changes to the program and/or to the USRowing Progression System if the weather creates unfair or unrowable conditions. The Fairness Committee shall consist of three persons: The Chief Referee, the Trials Director, and the designated Athlete Representative. The identity of the members of the Fairness Committee shall be announced at the athletes meeting.

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS IN CASES OF ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS

1. It is the duty of the Fairness Committee to determine that the weather has created, or is about to create, unfair or unrowable conditions. It is then the committee’s responsibility to implement the appropriate program from the alternatives described below. In applying these alternatives, the Fairness Committee will always consider (a), (b) and (c) before considering (d) or (e).

- a) To use the lanes offering the most equal conditions.
- b) To delay the racing program, either to later in the same day or to the next day, if the weather forecast indicates that the conditions are likely to improve.
- c) To start racing earlier than previously announced, provided that the announcement of the new times is made at least three hours before racing, or before 9:00 p.m. the evening before in the case of morning racing. The announcement will be made on the USRowing.org website and on the posting board at the event site.
- d) To re-allocate the lanes for each individual race, using placement from the previous round to put the crews with the better finish (or the seeded crews for the heats or final where there are no heats or the fastest in the case of a Time Trial) in the better lanes. For a heat, the unseeded crews shall start in the order of their lanes, as assigned to them in the official draw. Where two or more crews have the same placement in the immediately previous round, (e.g. each were heat winners), then there shall be a draw to determine their lanes.
- e) *To implement the Time Trial System for each individual race, e.g. if there were four heats from the official draw, then there shall be four separate Time Trial Races.*

2. After the Fairness Committee has determined that alternatives (a) to (e) in 1.) above are not appropriate solutions to the difficulties created by adverse weather conditions and after consultation with the teams/athletes at an Athletes’ Meeting convened for this purpose, it is the duty of the Regatta Director to decide whether to implement one of the following solutions in order to continue the regatta:

- a) To omit a round of the event (e.g. semifinals) where adverse conditions have stopped racing for a significant period of time. In such a case, the composition of the next rounds will be determined on the basis of the results of those rounds that have been completed and may necessitate more than six crews in each race. Wherever possible, the rankings of the crews in the previous rounds will be used as the basis for the composition of the next rounds.
- b) To reduce the length of the race to no less than 1,000 meters where conditions are so adverse that no other alternative is possible.