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Rule 6-101 Title, Purpose, and Scope of Trials Rules

Current Rule:

6-101 Title, Purpose, and Scope of Trials Rules

(a) The rules contained in this article shall be known as the USRowing Trials Rules.

(b) The purpose of these Trials Rules, in addition to those described in Rule 1-102 (“Purposes”), is to facilitate the process of selecting the most competitive crew to represent the United States in international competition.

(c) These Trials Rules shall apply to all races, events, and regattas that are used to select the National Team that will represent the United States and bear the national colors in international competition, as defined in the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, 37 U.S.C. § 371 et seq., including but not limited to the Olympic Games, the Pan American Games, and any FISA Championship Regatta.

(d) Except where specifically altered or superseded in these Trials Rules, all other applicable USRowing Rules of Rowing shall be in effect. USRowing may publish each year such supplemental Selection Procedures as are not inconsistent with these Trials Rules.

Proposed Change:

6-101 Title, Purpose, and Scope of Trials Rules

(a) The rules contained in this article shall be known as the USRowing Trials Rules.

(b) The purpose of these Trials Rules, in addition to those described in Rule 1-102 (“Purposes”), is to facilitate the process of selecting the most competitive **Crew** to represent the United States in international competition.

(c) These Trials Rules shall apply to all **Races, Events, and Regattas** that are used to select the National Team that will represent the United States and bear the national colors in international competition, as defined in the Amateur Sports Act of 1978, 37 U.S.C. § 371 et seq., including but not limited to the Olympic Games, the Pan American Games, and any FISA Championship Regatta.

(d) Except where specifically altered or superseded in these Trials Rules, all other applicable **FISA Rules of Racing in effect at the time** shall be in effect. USRowing may publish each year such supplemental Selection Procedures as are **consistent** with these Trials Rules.

Reason:

1) In (b), added capitalization to Crew to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

2) In (c), added capitalization to Race to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

3) In (c), added capitalization to Event to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

4) In (c), added capitalization to Regatta to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

5) In (d), changed “not inconsistent” to “consistent” for clarity.

6) In (d), changed USRowing Rules of Rowing to FISA Rules of Racing. Crews will need to follow the FISA Rules of Racing not the USRowing Rules of Rowing at the competitions for which they are being selected.

7) In (d), specified the version of the FISA rules.

Rule 6-102 Organization

Current Rule:

6-102 Organization

- (a) USRowing shall determine and publish the venue and date of trials events, and the selection criteria to be used, under the procedures established under the USRowing Constitution and/or the USRowing Bylaws or their successor provisions.
- (b) Trials events may be held either as a separate regatta or in conjunction with another regatta.
- (c) The local organizing committee shall perform the functions normally assigned to it under USRowing Rules of Rowing. Any racing schedule involving trials events shall be approved by USRowing.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

- 1) Original content is a description/guidance not a rule. National Team Selection Procedures already includes a listing of Trials Events/Regattas, dates, and locations.

Rule 6-103 Trials Race Officials

Current Rule:

6-103 Trials Race Officials

- (a) The Chief Referee shall be appointed by the CEO, in consultation with the Referee Committee and the Trials Coordinator.
- (b) [Deleted]

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is a description/guidance not a rule. Competitors do not need to know how the Chief Referee is chosen. As USRowing is the LOC for all Trials Events, it is an internal USRowing procedure for the selection of the Trials Chief Referee. The selection of the Chief Referee for Trials Regattas is also covered in the Referee IOP.

Rule 6-104 Trials Director

Current Rule:

6-104 Trials Director

- (a) For each trials, there shall be appointed a Trials Director, who shall be appointed by the CEO or in default of such appointment, shall be the USRowing Programs Director.
- (b) The Trials Director shall be responsible for implementing and executing the selection criteria and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Rule 6-101(d). The Chief Referee and duly appointed officials of the regatta shall remain responsible for enforcement of these Trials Rules and the applicable USRowing Rules of Rowing. The Trials Director shall have right of audience at all meetings and deliberations of the Jury, and the Trials Director shall consult, whenever practicable, with the Chief Referee on decisions related to the conduct of a trials regatta.

Proposed Change:

6-102 Trials Director

- (a) For each ***Trials***, ***the CEO shall appoint*** a Trials Director, or in default of such appointment, shall be the USRowing ***Director of High Performance***.
- (b) The Trials Director shall be responsible for implementing and executing the selection criteria and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Rule 6-101(d) (***“Title, Purpose, and Scope of Trials Rules”***).
- (c) The Trials Director shall have right of audience at all meetings and deliberations of the Jury, and the Trials Director shall consult, whenever practicable, with the Chief Referee on decisions related to the conduct of a Trials Regatta.

Reason:

- 1) Rule number change due to proposed removal of earlier rule in this section.
- 2) In (a), added capitalization to Trials to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.
- 3) In (a), revised wording for proper sentence structure.
- 4) In (a), updated the title for the current title for the head of national team programs.
- 5) In (b), inserted name of the referenced rule to match format used in other locations in the Rules of Rowing.
- 6) In (b), removed statement about enforcement of rules by referees since that is always the case at a registered regatta.
- 7) Split the last sentence of the original (b) into new (c) for clarity since unrelated from rest of content in (b).

Rule 6-105 Standards Coordinator

Current Rule:

6-105 Standards Coordinator
[Deleted]

Proposed Change:

Delete reference to the rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Content deleted in previous Rules of Rowing update. No need to have moved or deleted content retained in the sequence.

Rule 6-106 Course Requirements

Current Rule:

6-106 Course Requirements

Trials races shall be held on a Class “A” course. The power of USRowing to certify substantial compliance with Class “A” course requirements despite certain deviations (Rule 7-201(b)) shall be vested in the Trials Director after consultation with the Chief Referee.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is a description/guidance not a rule. Leave authority with USRowing to choose the location for Trials Regattas. Most venues do not comply with all the requirements of a Class “A” course.

Rule 6-107 Heat and Lane Assignments

Current Rule:

6-107 Heat and Lane Assignments
[Deleted]

Proposed Change:

Delete reference to the rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Content deleted in previous Rules of Rowing update. No need to have moved or deleted content retained in the sequence.

Rule 6-108 Substitutions

Current Rule:

6-108 Substitutions

The Trials Director, after consultation with the Chief Referee, may relax the limitations on substitutions (Rule 5-207) if such relaxation is appropriate in order to select the most competitive crew.

Proposed Change:

6-103 Substitutions

The Trials Director, after consultation with the Chief Referee, may relax the limitations on substitutions if such relaxation is appropriate in order to select the most competitive **Crew**.

Reason:

- 1) Rule number change due to proposed removal of earlier rule in this section.
- 2) Deleted reference to USRowing Rules of Rowing rule number since FISA rules (2014: #59, #60) apply by proposed rule change to 6-101.
- 3) Added capitalization to Crew to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

Rule 6-201 Citizenship, Age, and USRowing Membership

Current Rule:

6-201 Citizenship, Age, and USRowing Membership

All competitors in a trials event shall be citizens or nationals of the United States. All competitors shall produce a United States passport for inspection at the trials venue. All trials competitors shall be individual members of USRowing.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.

Rule 6-202 Time Standard

Current Rule:

6-202 Time Standard
[Deleted]

Proposed Change:

Delete reference to the rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Content deleted in previous Rules of Rowing update. No need to have moved or deleted content retained in the sequence.

Rule 6-203 International Classification and Eligibility Rules

Current Rule:

6-203 International Classification and Eligibility Rules

Competitors shall comply with the classification and eligibility rules of FISA, or the sponsoring authority of the international regatta for which trials are being held. Rules and procedures concerning the weighing of competitors shall be consistent with the applicable rules and procedures of FISA in effect at the time of the international regatta for which the trials are being held, notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of this rule or any other provision of the Rules of Rowing.

- (a) Coxswains: In trials events, a coxswain for a men's crew shall weigh at least 55 kg. (121.26 lbs.). A coxswain for a women's crew shall weigh at least 50 kg. (110.24 lbs.). The coxswain of a crew shall be of the same gender as the other competitors in the crew. A coxswain shall not carry more than 10 kilograms (22.04 lbs.) of deadweight in order to comply with minimum weight requirements described in Rule 4-109 ("Coxswain's Weight"). A male coxswain therefore shall have at least 45 kg. (99.21 lbs.) in natural body weight, and a female coxswain shall have at least 40 kg. (88.19 lbs.) in natural body weight.
- (b) Juniors: For purposes of trials events, a competitor ceases to be a Junior after December 31 of the calendar year in which he or she turns 18, Rule 4-104.1 (a) (Classification by Age; Junior) notwithstanding.
- (c) Men's Lightweights: In trials events, a men's lightweight crew shall average no more than 70 kg. (154.32 lbs.) per rower, and no individual rower shall weigh more than 72.5 kg. (159.84 lbs.). A male single sculler shall not weigh more than 72.5 kg. (159.84 lbs.).
- (d) Women's Lightweights: In trials events, a women's lightweight crew shall average no more than 57 kg. (125.67 lbs.) per rower, and no individual rower shall weigh more than 59 kg. (130.07 lbs.). A female single sculler shall not weigh more than 59 kg. (130.07 lbs.).

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

- 1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.

Rule 6-204 Drug Testing

Current Rule:

6-204 Drug Testing

(a) All competitors in trials events are subject to testing for drugs prohibited under Rule 4-102 (“Doping”), and participation in trials events shall constitute consent to such testing. Testing shall take place under the procedures approved by FISA, and for Olympic and Pan American trials, shall be administered under the auspices of the United States Olympic Committee. Apart from a positive result for prohibited drugs, all information collected under drug testing procedures shall be kept confidential.

(b) If a competitor is found to have used a prohibited drug, he or she shall be removed from the National Team, and further penalties may be imposed pursuant to Rule 4-102 (“Doping”).

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.

Rule 6-205 Entries

Current Rule:

6-205 Entries

- (a) All competitors shall be individual members of USRowing. Composite crews and unaffiliated competitors shall be permitted in all events.
- (b) There shall be no entry fee charged for trials to select the United States National Team for the Olympic Games or the Pan American Games. For all other trials, the entry fee shall be set by USRowing.
- (c) Entries shall be received in writing by USRowing, accompanied by the correct entry fee payable to USRowing, no later than the Monday of the week preceding the first race in the event, except that in trials events held in conjunction with another regatta, entries shall conform to that regatta's published procedures and deadlines, and the entry fees shall be paid to the local organizing committee.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

- 1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.

Rule 6-301 Equipment Check

Current Rule:

6-301 Equipment Check

(a) The Chief Referee or the Trials Director shall cause the equipment of the crew winning a trials event to be checked as a matter of course for compliance with Part A (Construction and Design) of Article III (Equipment) of these rules. If the equipment is found not to be in compliance, the offending crew shall, pursuant to Rule 2-504(d) ("Placement of Crews"), not be placed. The Jury shall determine whether to order a replacement race, or to accept the existing results without the offending crew.

(b) The equipment of any crew may be checked at any time during the regatta, and the local organizing committee shall provide the facility for a crew to check the weight of its boat prior to racing.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated. Additionally, the FISA Rules of Racing specify that Equipment may be checked at any time.

Rule 6-302 Progression System

Current Rule:

6-302 Progression System

The published Selection Procedure shall announce the progression system to be used at the trials event.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.

Rule 6-303 Pre-Trials Meeting

Current Rule:

6-303 Pre-Trials Meeting

At any pre-regatta meeting held under Rule 2-202 (“Pre-Regatta Meeting”), the Trials Director shall be present and shall explain the specific selection criteria and procedures applicable to the trials event. The identity of the Jury shall be announced. Competitors are nevertheless responsible for knowledge of published selection criteria and procedures and of these Trials Rules.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.

Rule 6-304 Order of Racing

Current Rule:

6-304 Order of Racing

- (a) The start of each racing session shall be separated by at least six hours.
- (b) If a trials event is held in conjunction with another regatta, the schedule of racing shall be approved by USRowing.
- (c) The exact schedule of racing shall be posted at the regatta site no later than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding the first race in the event. Racing is nevertheless subject to change depending upon weather or other conditions.

Proposed Change:

6-104 Order of Racing

- (a) The start of each racing session shall be separated by at least six hours.
- (b)** The exact schedule of racing shall be posted at the **Regatta** site no later than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding the first **Race** in the **Event**. Racing is nevertheless subject to change depending upon weather or other conditions.

Reason:

- 1) Rule number change due to proposed removal of earlier rule in this section.
- 2) Deleted original (b) since procedural and schedule set by USRowing for all Trials Events. Following subsections renumbered.
- 3) In proposed (b), added capitalization to Regatta to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.
- 4) In proposed (b), added capitalization to Race to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.
- 5) In proposed (b), added capitalization to Event to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

Rule 6-305 Starts

Current Rule:

6-305 Starts

(a) The announcement of the crews and the subsequent starting commands shall be given as specified in the FISA Statutes and Racing Bylaws in effect at the time.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) FISA starts are already required based on proposed Rule 6-101.

Rule 6-306 The Race

Current Rule:

6-306 The Race

(a) The Referee following a race may order that a race in progress be stopped, whenever he or she judges that some misadventure draws into question the validity of the race in determining the most competitive crew. Such misadventure need not be otherwise recognizable under USRowing Rules of Rowing. In particular, a race in progress may be stopped when a crew that is in contention to win or advance capsizes, suffers broken equipment, or suffers injury or illness, at any time during the race, regardless of whether such incident took place in the starting area.

(b) A race stopped before completion under subsection (a) above shall be rerowed from the start with all the original crews participating, after a suitable interval has elapsed.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Misadventure during the time trial is already part of the National Team Selection Procedures. Misadventure during regular racing should be described in the same location.

Rule 6-307 Penalties for Interference in Trials Races

Current Rule:

6-307 Penalties for Interference in Trials Races

If interference occurs in a race, the Referee may order a race rerowed without penalty, or with a lesser penalty than exclusion, regardless of where in the race the interference took place. The presumption in favor of exclusion contained in Rule 2-406(b) (“Penalizing Interference”) shall not apply to trials events.

Proposed Change:

6-105 Penalties for Interference in Trials Races

If **Interference** occurs in a **Race**, the Referee may order a **Race** rerowed without penalty, or with a lesser penalty than exclusion, regardless of where in the **Race** the **Interference** took place. The presumption in favor of exclusion **for Interference** shall not apply to **Trials Events**.

Reason:

- 1) Rule number change due to proposed removal of earlier rule in this section.
- 2) Added capitalization to all instances of Interference to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.
- 3) Added capitalization to all instances of Race to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.
- 4) Added capitalization to Trials for consistency with other instances of the term in the Rules of Rowing.
- 5) Added capitalization to Event to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.
- 6) Removed reference to USRowing rule number since Trials under FISA rules (2014 #77) from the proposed change to 6-101.
- 7) Added “for Interference” in last sentence for clarity.

Rule 6-308 Protests and Appeals

Current Rule:

6-308 Protests and Appeals

(a) Protests will be heard by the Jury in accordance with the applicable Rules of Rowing, except that there shall be no fee for lodging a protest. In particular, the Jury shall rule on matters committed to the jurisdiction of race officials either under the generally applicable Rules of Rowing or these Trials Rules, including but not limited to interference, misadventure, or unequal racing conditions.

(b) A crew that wishes to appeal from a decision of the Jury or the Trials Director may, in cases in which the composition of the United States National Team is at stake, resort immediately to the USRowing Grievance Procedure without first appealing to the Referee Committee. Upon receiving such a complaint under the Grievance Procedures, the USRowing CEO shall forward a copy to the Referee Committee for an advisory opinion on those aspects of the dispute that call for an interpretation of the USRowing Rules of Rowing, but the grievance procedure shall not be delayed as a result.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated. Procedure is also posted on the USRowing website, with updates available whenever modifications have been made, which is normally out of sync with the Rules of Rowing change procedures.

Rule 6-309 Results

Current Rule:

6-309 Results

The Chief Referee and Jury of a trials event shall certify in writing the results prepared by the Chief Judge as being in accordance with the Rules of Rowing. The results so certified shall be transmitted by the Chief Referee to USRowing headquarters.

Proposed Change:

6-106 Results

The Chief Referee and Jury of a ***Trials Event*** shall certify in writing the results prepared by the Chief Judge as being in accordance with the Rules of Rowing. The results so certified shall be transmitted by the Chief Referee to USRowing headquarters.

Reason:

- 1) Rule number change due to proposed removal of earlier rule in this section.
- 2) Added capitalization to Trials for consistency with other instances of the term in the Rules of Rowing.
- 3) Added capitalization to Event to show it is a defined term in Rule 1-202.

Rule 6-310 Declaration of Intent

Current Rule:

6-310 Declaration of Intent

The winning crew of the trials event shall declare to the Chief Referee or the Trials Director its unanimous intention to represent the United States at the international competition and in the event at issue no later than two hours after the finals race has been declared official.

Proposed Change:

Delete entire rule and renumber subsequent rules in sequence.

Reason:

1) Original content is already contained in the National Team Selection procedures and need not be repeated.