

# **Minutes of the 2024 European Rowing Confederation General Assembly**

**Szeged, 27 April 2024**

## **1. Opening of the session**

Annamarie Phelps (AP) welcomed delegates to the 2024 General Assembly.

AP thanked Otto Cseh (Hungarian Rowing Association President), Eva Szanto (ERCH OC Chair) and the Hungarian Rowing Federation for the excellent organisation of the ERCH and for providing great conditions for racing.

## **2. Identification of the delegates and confirmation of their authority**

The following 25 Member Federations were present: AUT, AZE, BEL, BUL, CRO, CZE, ESP, EST, FRA, GBR, GER, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA, LTU, MON, NED, NOR, POL, ROU, SLO, SRB, SUI, TUR.

The European Rowing Board (ERB) members present were Chair: Annamarie Phelps (AP), Vice-Chair: Patrick Rombaut (PR), Secretary: Eva Szanto (ES), Algirdas Raslanas (AR), Dusan Machacek (DM), Asuncion Loriente (AL) and Neville Tanzer (NT).

## **3. Appointment of the scrutineers for the period of the Meeting**

PR confirmed the appointment of the scrutineers from the delegates present.

## **4. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the 2023 General Assembly in Bled, Slovenia, were approved unanimously.

## **5. 2023 Report of European Rowing Board and Commissions**

The Chair, Annamarie Phelps, took the 2023 Report of the European Rowing Board as read. AP called for nominations to the European Rowing Club Lightweight Championships Working Group, which Mark Davies (GBR) had agreed to chair. Following discussions regarding support for MFs at the 2024 European Rowing Presidents' Meeting, the ERB considered establishing an ER Development Office in an EU nation. A one-page document setting out the minimum requirements for the office has been prepared for interested parties and expressions of interest are sought by the end of May. AP thanked Jurgen Steinacker for identifying small group of medics dedicated to ER events. A short report from the European Rowing Umpiring Commission was taken as read. The 2023 reports were accepted unanimously.

## **6. Reconsideration or confirmation of decisions**

No requests were received by the ERB.

## **7. Attribution of Events**

The ERB announced the provisional attribution of the 2027 European Rowing Under 19 Championships (ERU19CH) to Zagreb, Croatia. Based on the bid documentation received, the ERB are satisfied that the bid from Zagreb is strong. The 2027 ERU19CH is provisionally attributed pending receipt of funding guarantees which have been delayed due to local elections.

AP asked for patience as the ERB manage changes to hosts and to the overall calendar, pending the changes in the WR strategic event review process and calendar. AP acknowledged that this has left challenges in the calendar for 2025 and this is a transitional position which is hoped to be addressed by 2026.

## **8. Updates on preparations for future events**

- a) 2024 European Rowing Under 19 Championships, Kruszwica, POL** – event update given by Michał Jeliński.
- b) 2024 European Rowing Coastal and Beach Sprint Championships, Gdańsk, POL** - event update given by Andrzej Krzepiński, Polish Rowing Association Sports Director.
- c) 2024 European Rowing Under 23 Championships, Edirne, TUR** – event update given by Erhan Erturk, President of the Türkiye Rowing Federation
- d) 2025 European Rowing Under 23 Championships, Račice, CZE** – event update given by Josef Johaneck, Secretary General of the Czechia Rowing Association

AP gave an update on upcoming events. The 2025 ERU19CH is no longer be able to be hosted in Gravelines due to finances being diverted to deal with severe flooding. Aviron France are confident the event can be relocated. The ECM Multi-sport championships are committed to hosting the 2026 edition, however no host is confirmed. AP asked any MFs interested in hosting an 2026 ERCH to contact the ERB. AP announced that there is a slight venue change to the venue for the 2025 European Rowing Coastal and Beach Sprint Championships in Türkiye, and the new beach will be announced soon.

## **9. Elections**

AP explained that the election is for one position on the European Rowing Board currently held by Asuncion Loriente. Asuncion Loriente is the only candidate for the open position (re-running for the same position). Asuncion Loriente, President of Spanish federation, is eligible for re-election and her experience and background documents have been published on the ER web page.

Angela Alonso Fernandez, Vice President of the Spanish Rowing Federation, made a short speech in support of Asuncion Loriente.

Asuncion Loriente was unanimously re-elected to the European Rowing Board.

## **10. Rule & Regulation Changes**

PR explained the Rule & Regulation changes which were published on the ER webpage.

All amendments to the European Rowing Rules were accepted.

## **11. Review of Strategic Priorities for European Rowing 2025 – 2028**

AP asked for feedback on the draft strategic priorities for 2025 - 2028 which are available online.

The strategic priorities have arisen from discussions of the Board and consultation with MFs, principally at the Presidents' Meetings last year and this year, taking into consideration the challenges that have been identified by MFs and also noting the clear steer from members that ER should not duplicate the work of WR and the wish to add value to the work of WR in growing the reach and popularity of our sport globally.

## **12. Any other business**

### **a) ER Communications**

NT updated the members on future communications plans.

The General Assembly ended.

European Rowing Board:

Annamarie Phelps, GBR (President)  
Patrick Rombaut, BEL (Vice-President)  
Eva Szanto, HUN  
Algirdas Raslanas, LTU

Dusan Machacek, CZE  
Asuncion Loriente, ESP  
Neville Tanzer, SUI