



Development Support
2026 ERCH
30 July- 02 August 2026
Varese, ITA
Development Bulletin
Female Crews Support



Organising Committee (OC)

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21100, Varese
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WR-website event [here](#).

OC Bulletin [here](#).

OC website [here](#).

- OC Contact person for the World Rowing Development Programme:
Giovanni Berti, vareseocrowing@gmail.com
- WR Development Programme Manager:
Maïke Betts, maïke.betts@worldrowing.com

Introduction

As part of its goals, World Rowing and European Rowing provide development opportunities on a regular basis for targeted Member Federations (MFs), who are identified as needing support for their crews, with the aim of supporting and enabling participation in World and Continental level key events and Championships.

As part of the European Rowing Development Programme, and with the generous support of the 2026 Varese European Rowing Championships OC, we have the pleasure to send targeted MFs the Development Programme Bulletin.

Please read this bulletin carefully and apply for support no later than 29th May 2026, using the following [Application Form](#).

Development Programme – ELIGIBILITY

Targeted MFs and their teams will be eligible based on the following requirements:

- Regular training and compliance with the WR Test Performance Programme (see below)
- Having a National Selection Policy
- Having own budgets for travel (flight tickets, insurance)
- No outstanding debts to World Rowing or European Rowing.

All European Rowing Member Federations (including Israel) shall be eligible to compete in the ERCHs. An athlete must present a valid passport from the country for which they wish to compete (as per the [European Rowing Rules of Racing](#)).

Test Performance Programme

Teams wishing to be considered for Development Programme are required to provide testing results during the pre-regatta season from January 2026 as per the Test Performance Protocol.

Please submit your Test Performance results here: [RowersDataBase](#)

The Test Performance Tutorial can be found [here](#).



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For any questions regarding the Test Performance Programme please contact:
Giovanni Postiglione (postiglione1gianni@gmail.com)

Events

- **Men (M):** 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
- **Women (W):** 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x, 4-, 8+
- **Lightweight Men (LM):** 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x
- **Lightweight Women (LM):** 1x, 2x, 2-, 4x
- **Mixed:** 2x, 8+
- **Para-Rowing (PR) :** PR1 W1x, PR1 M1x, PR2 Mix2x, PR3 Mix2x, PR3 Mix4+

Development Programme – **DEADLINES & SUPPORT INFO**

As part of the 2026 Varese ERCH Development Programme, there is support available for a *maximum of 15 rowers and/or coaches*.

The support for each team consists of free accommodation in shared rooms (same gender) and meals, for a maximum of **two female athletes AND one coach (female OR male), from 27th July till 2nd of August 2026 (maximum support for 6 nights)**. The World Rowing Development team may, if justified consider adding a second place for a female coach.

NOTE: The deadline for the team applications is **29th May 2026**.
Applications sent after the deadline will not be considered.

There is a maximum number of nations and persons that can be funded. This number depends on the number and size of the teams and quality of all the applications sent by MFs.

However, **MFs are welcome to send more athletes and coaches at their own cost** to take part in the 2026 ERCH.

The application submitted online for the Development Programme should mention the whole delegation size and the extra costs should be paid directly to the OC.

SUMMARY

Supported MFs/participants will receive:

- **Local transport:** Airport pick-up/drop-off and local transportation between venue and hotel during the regatta's competition period.
- **Accommodation:** Accommodation in shared rooms of the same gender (maximum 6 nights)
- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **Coaching:** Support from World Rowing Coaches

Boats and Equipment

MFs are encouraged to bring their own blades/oars, the OC will not provide these for renting. These must be painted in the registered colours of your Federation.

Equipment support may be considered upon request on an up to basis.

Please contact: maike.betts@worldrowing.com

All equipment must comply with World Rowing Rules of Racing.



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Criteria

As places are limited, World Rowing will select the supported nations on the below criteria:

- Applications will only be considered if the **Test Performance results** were submitted online [here](#) and after careful analysis of the World Rowing Development Team.
- Commitment to a training programme and evidence of athletes and coaches participating in regular training.
- Athletes need to be able to swim in deep-water and perform a capsized drill. This is the responsibility of the Member Federation, and we assume that by applying for the development programme support, the MF clearly testifies that the athletes proposed are capable to swim.
- World Rowing and European Rowing 2026 Subscription fees paid in full and no outstanding debts to World Rowing.
- Compliance with the [pre-competition health screening](#).

Entries

Entries and accreditation must be made online [here](#).

Deadline is midnight CET on 13th July 2026.

Late entries will not be accepted.

For any questions regarding the entry process for the 2026 ERCHs please contact: registration@worldrowing.com

General Programme

Arrival	27 July 2026
2026 ERCHs	30 July – 02 August 2026
Departure	02 August 2026

***Maximum 6 nights' accommodation support is offered.**

Any extra nights shall be covered by the MFs and paid directly to the OC.

Transport

Transportation between the following airports and the official hotel will be organised by the Organising Committee.

Airports:

Milano Malpensa Airport (MXP)

Milan Linate Airport (LIN)

Milan Bergamo Airport (BGY)

Train station:

Varese train Station

To secure a pick-up from the airport, the teams must complete the **Travel Form** at this online [link](#).

A free shuttle bus service will be provided between the hotel and the regatta venue during the competition period.



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Accommodation

The participants of the WR Development Programme will be accommodated at the following address:

Casa Don Guanella

Address: [Piazza don Guanella 43 – Barza \(Ispra, VA\)](#)

Prices for additional participants/nights including accommodation and local transport:

- **Single Room: €81.00 per person/day (Half Board basis)**
- **Double Room: €68.00 per person/day (Half Board basis)**
- **Lunch Supplement: €25.00 per person (available at the hotel or directly at the venue)**

Once your MF's Development Programme application is analysed and confirmed by the World Rowing Development Team, we will automatically confirm your hotel booking.

However, for MFs with additional participants, please make sure to upload a list of the additional participants on the online application form.

NOTE: Failure of MFs/teams to travel to the event after the confirmation of the hotel booking will result in charging your MF with the hotel booking cost incurred.

Rules of racing

Racing will be run in accordance with the [World Rowing Rules of Racing](#)

The new **World Rowing Rules App** is now available here: <https://rules.worldrowing.com/home>

Safety and health of the rowers

It is a priority for World Rowing to preserve the health and safety of the athletes and coaches. Please read the World Rowing Statutes, Rules of Racing and kindly acknowledge Appendix S10, Byelaw to article 57 of the rules.

Rowers may only compete at the World Rowing/European Championships if they have submitted a signed commitment form. Each team official must have submitted a [WR Commitment Form](#) before accreditation is issued.

Swimming ability

The ability to swim and stay afloat is essential for participants in water sports, such as rowing. The risk of tipping over or falling into the water in a rowboat can be dangerous if athletes are unable to stay afloat, and coaches need to be prepared.

Each rower taking part in the Development Programme shall ensure that they have a state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with a world level event; and they have a basic swimming ability, including being able to swim 50 m and keep their head above water unassisted for three minutes.

Accordingly, prior to attending the 2026 ERCHs, all national rowing federation officials need to verify athlete compliance with the safety and health of the rowers. Likewise, all rowers, unless they are athletes who are known to have already performed the capsized drill, must have completed the capsized drill with safe recovery.



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Swim tests and capsize drills must be held in pools with at least two lifeguards present. World Rowing recommends that you contact your National Swimming Federation and ask for guidance, if necessary. Swim tests should never be conducted in open water. Each National Federation is required to certify the swimming ability for each rower submitted to participate in a World Rowing Development activity.

It is recommended that members of the federation carefully read the guidelines of the British Rowing Federation on swimming competitions found in section 3.6 of RowSafe, available [here](#).

Please note that all rowers must have completed a [pre-competition health screening](#) as per [the World Rowing Rule Book](#), by laws to Rule 14 – safety and health of rowers.

Safeguarding & Wellbeing

World Rowing believes that it is a fundamental right of all individuals involved with World Rowing to be able to participate in a non-violent, safe, and respectful environment.

World Rowing acknowledges its duty of care in this regard and is committed to creating and supporting an environment and a culture free from harassment and abuse. The welfare of all individuals involved with World Rowing is paramount.

All forms of harassment and abuse constitute a violation of the World Rowing Code of Ethics, World Rowing Safeguarding Policy, and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Code of Ethics. Thus, all behaviours and actions that constitute harassment and abuse will not be tolerated.

All MFs participating at the 2026 ERCHs, Varese must ensure that their delegations (including officials, coaches, and athletes) respect and follow the World Rowing Safeguarding Policy. They should refrain from any behaviour that constitutes any form of discrimination, abuse, or harassment to others. They have a duty to report any concerns about or allegations of discrimination, abuse, or poor practice via proper reporting channels.

Violation of the World Rowing Safeguarding Policy and Code of Ethics can result in formal disciplinary sanctions.

You can learn more information about the World Rowing Safeguarding Policy and Procedures from the following link: [Safeguarding - World Rowing](#)

Insurance & Liability

The participants are responsible for insurance costs of equipment and persons. The Organising Committee declines all liabilities for all kinds of damage in the area of the regatta.

Participants are solely responsible for themselves, and the material used. The OC is not responsible for damages that may occur at the event.

Each MF shall ensure that it has adequate and appropriate insurance cover in place for each of its rowers and accompanying team officials (including delegates) for at least the duration of the event and the period of travel to and from. We refer to [Rule 15 – Insurance on the WR rule book](#) for “adequate and appropriate insurance cover”.

It is mandatory that all participants have medical and incident insurance abroad.



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Weather

Find weather updates [here](#).

SUMMARY OF ALL DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO SUBMIT

Please read this bulletin in detail and keep in regular contact with World Rowing and the Organising Committee for any questions.

WR: maike.betts@worldrowing.com

OC: vareseocrowing@gmail.com

As soon as possible, please complete the following online forms:

- Online Application Form** at [this link](#) (Deadline 29th May 2026)
- Test Performance Results** uploaded on the [WR Test Performance Database](#)
- Online Travel Form** at [this link](#) (Deadline 5th June 2026)

NOTE:

International travel support is not included. MFs need to cover their own flight tickets.