13 July 2017 Lausanne. Switzerland

Dear National Federations,

We are excited to let you know that we have initiated further studies to help solidify our classification process.

The current FISA rowing process of athlete evaluation in the rowing classification system was last reviewed and edited in 2008. Recently, FISA assembled a focus group comprised of athletes, coaches and classifiers to identify key areas of classification in rowing that were of concern and required further development or clarification. This group identified issues relating to the classification of athletes competing in the Arms and Shoulders (AS, FISA PR1) and Trunk and Arms (TA, FISA PR2) sport classes as the most pressing concern relating to evaluation of athletes in the para-rowing classification system. Specifically, validity and precision of the definition of trunk function as it relates to the trunk swing used during fixed seat rowing and the assessment of function used during classification related to trunk swing during fixed seat rowing were identified as key areas to address.

We will be working on this research in conjunction with the Gavirate International Para Regatta in May 2018.

We will be reaching out for volunteers to work with us in during this project. If you have any questions regarding the project, or if would like to participate, please reach out to classification@fisa.org.

Best regards,

Yihuan Chang FISA Development Coordinator

