

Jet Ski



Motor Boat Service tent Bled



Motor Boats Parking & Drivers Facilities



Motor boats parking dock Munich



Motor Boats Parking Dock Singapore



Motor Boats Service tent Chungju



Motor boat sparking dock



Umpiring Catamaran with a Photographer's platform



Work Boat



Dear Colleen,

SUITABILITY OF RESCUE BOATS, LAGOA - Rio2016

Following our discussions on site at the Lagoa venue for Rowing and Canoeing, and following our Rescue service training session (13.July), I would like to make the following observations regarding the Rescue service equipment.

BACKGROUND

As you know, the FISA Manual is quite detailed and specific regarding the type of boat, equipment on-board each boat, and the recommended operation of the service. On the other side, I have experience from previous Games and FISA World Rowing events, that shows that the 'one size fits all' need not apply. There are always many ways to do the same job.

In racing, most serious medical incidents occur after the race. Elite athletes are able to push themselves to extreme limits. The chance that the rescue service is required to act at some point, is high. The rescue personnel (Rio Bombeiros) are very qualified and experienced fire rescue officers. With some Rowing/Canoeing 'sport specific' training, they will be able to carry out a safe and skilful rescue.

However, I believe that the type of boat provided by Rio2016, is inappropriate for safe and effective rescues.

SUMMARY

- Following a serious accident, rescue personnel may be required to immediately begin CPR in the rescue boat, whilst returning at speed to the medical center. If that is required, there is not enough room to lay an injured athlete horizontally in the boat.
- Even if the athlete is strapped to a spinal board, there is minimal room to accommodate all personnel and the patient on the boat
- The deep shape of the bow of the boat (and its height above the water), make it almost impossible to conduct a safe rescue. In rescue rehearsals conducted on 13. July, the Bombeiros experienced that 2-3 personnel were required to transfer a 70kg female athlete onboard. With other more suitable zodiac boats, 1 person is generally able to do this task. See attached photos below.
- The design and manufacture of the boats includes various supplementary metal railings, plastic moulds and hooks. These make transferring an athlete difficult and potentially dangerous
- The size of the boat and motor itself is too large. With several rowing boats all in a small area following the conclusion of a race, the ideal 4-5m zodiac boat has an outboard motor (with hand steering) with a 15-20hp motor. Also, large motors with unprotected propellers can be extremely dangerous in areas with athletes (and potentially spectators) in the water.

RECOMMENDATION

The recommended type of zodiac boat and motor mix is traditionally used by Surf Life saving rescue services every day at most city beaches. Some photo examples of these boats are attached also below.

As a minimum, 2 zodiac rescue boats would be required to service the areas of greatest danger – near to the finish line. In training, these 2 boats could be distributed over the course as required.

Minimum requirement request: 2 'Surf Rescue' style boats (as in photos below) Requested/Standard FISA requirement number: 5 Boats

Regards
Matt Draper
FISA Events Commission
FISA Continental Events Coordinator

CURRENT Rio2016 BOATS SUPPLIED TO LAGOA





- Long Bow of zodiac make it difficult to get close to the rowers
- Bow is high off the water making difficult to lift athletes from the boats
- Boat is full of materials and equipment making it impossible to lay patients flat
- Limited space
- Very large 115hp motors

RECOMMENDED ZODIAC BOAT TYPE



- Simple and effective with space to perform CPR
- 15-20hp motor with hand steering for maximum manoeuvrability
- 'grab' cords to hold on to boat around whole of boat
- Low profile able to get in close to the athletes boats