



Community Rowing Inc.

Betsy Benac
Chairwoman
112 Manatee Avenue W
Suite 903
Bradenton, FL 34205

Dear Carol Whitmore:

The World Championships hosted recently in Sarasota set a new bar for rowing worldwide, thanks to the extraordinary community, investment and spirit that the counties of Sarasota and Bradenton demonstrated through the event. I have attended nine FISA-hosted World Championships over the past decade, and Sarasota's race course, installation, and hospitality are the best I have ever experienced.

The unique accessibility of the course, with easy access to hotels and amenities, the easy flow of spectators and competitors alike, and parking access made the event easier to navigate than any other event worldwide hosted by FISA. In addition to the tremendous design, the special hospitality of the staff and volunteers made visits to the race course a pleasure. Meeting so many friendly people, who were clearly well-briefed on their roles, reduced stress for athletes and officials, and made the event a unique and tremendous success.

I want to commend the public officials in Sarasota and Bradenton for the foresight, determination and vision in bringing this unique event to life. It will bring generations of rowers from around the world to the SANCA park, and will also provide access for local residents to a sport that generates lifetime health and psychosocial benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bruce Smith', written in a cursive style.

Bruce Smith
Executive Director
Community Rowing