

Combined Events and Equipment Committee Working Party

Assessment of Alternative Events for 2024 Olympic Games

Mid-Year Meeting 2021

Introduction

Overview

A combined Events and Equipment Committee Working Party was formed to consider the late submissions approved by the Board to the Events and Equipment Committee on the Sailing events for the 2024 Olympic Games.

The framework for the WP was provided by the 2021 amendments to Regulation 23 of the World Sailing Regulations and with regard to the criteria outlined within the correspondence from the IOC and Agenda 2020+5. It was recognized that non-compliance would risk World Sailings 10th medal for the 2024 Olympic Games.

The objective of the Working Party is to provide a comprehensive analysis of the submissions across the proposed set of criteria, which will help the decision-making process defined by Regulation 23.

In so doing, the WP considered which submissions were most likely to be accepted by the IOC and noted that any Alternative Event subsequently approved by the IOC, would be automatically reviewed for the 2028 Olympic Sailing Competition (Regulation 23.1.11 (f))

Approach

Of the 6 criteria framework provided by the IOC the Working Party viewed four criteria as objectively binary (Yes or No). All of the submissions received by World Sailing were initially tested against these objective criteria, as listed below.

- Keep full gender equality on both number of events and athlete quotas
- Alternative mixed-gender events or split of currently approved mixed events into men's and women's events
- Should have been previously tested at the respective World Championships organised by World Sailing
- Use existing venues/ fields of play

Submissions that passed all four objective criteria were then assessed against the subjective IOC criteria which have been broken down into 7 areas of review:

- Align with Olympic Agenda 2020+5
- Prioritise universality
- Minimize cost and complexity
- Format
- Youth Appeal
- Equipment
- Media

The Working Party has reviewed the 15 late submissions approved by the Board. (As at 8th of May 2021). See Appendix 1 for an overview.

The Working Party in applying the initial objective test determine that 2 of the 15 submissions comply with the objective criteria of the IOC. These two submissions have been further reviewed according to the 7 additional subjective criteria.

The Working Party also noted that during the Buenos Aires 2018 YOG some sports combined existing events into a single event to fit within their competition's medal allocation and the IOC's post Games review of these combined events did not endorse them as genuine events. This message is clearly visible in the approved program for the Dakar YOG as these combined events are all removed and replaced with the existing single events – see cycling & sports climbing.

<https://stillmed.olympic.org/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/Games/YOG/Summer-YOG/YOG-Buenos-Aires-2018-Youth-Olympic-Games/Sports-Programme-Buenos-Aires-2018.pdf>

<https://stillmed.olympics.com/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/News/2019/12/YOG-Dakar-2022-Events-Programme-v3.pdf>

Objective Criteria Test

Objective Criteria	M01	M02	M03	M04	M05	M06	M07	M08	M09	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14	M15
Criteria 2 – Maintain gender equality	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Criteria 2 - Alternative mixed-gender events or split of currently approved mixed events into men's and women's events	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Criteria 4 - World Championship organised by WS	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Criteria 6 - Use of existing venues/ Fields of Play	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Conclusion	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

TABLE 1 – SUMMARY RESULTS OF THE OBJECTIVE CRITERIA TEST

World Championship organised by World Sailing

The Working Party took the literal meaning of the IOC Criteria 4 that an event proposed should have been previously tested at the respective World Championships organised by World Sailing.

The test applied was if there was a past World Champion(s) in the event's proposed format, equipment, and gender mix from a regatta run by World Sailing.

Subjective Criteria Tests

The two submissions that passed the Objective Test were M01-21 and M02-21. The Working Party then reviewed these two submissions against the subjective tests and a 5-point scale has been applied to each submission. The Working Party also made note of additional considerations that the Events and Equipment Committee are likely to discuss to fully debate these events in their deliberations.

Summary of Subjective Criteria Test Results

The following table is a consolidation of the discussions presented in the paragraphs below and shows the results of the Working Parties assessment against each subjective criteria.

	M01-21 Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	M02-21 Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events
1. Align with Olympic Agenda 2020+5	4 (Medium to High)	2 (Medium to Low)
2. Prioritise universality	3 (Medium)	2 (Medium to Low)
3. Cost and complexity	3 (Medium)	3 (Medium)
4. Format	3 (Medium)	2 (Medium to Low)
5. Youth Appeal	4 (Medium to High)	2 (Medium to Low)
6. Equipment	5 (High)	5 (High)
7. Media	4 (Medium to High)	2 (Medium to Low)
Total	26	18

TABLE 2 – SUMMARY RESULTS OF SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA TEST

Additional Considerations

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	• The existing mixed relay format is a unique signature event. • Kiteboard shows strong signs of promise (YOG success) but is yet untested within the Olympic arena. • Allocation of 4 of 10 medals to Board equipment is not reflective of global participation. • The introduction of Kiteboarding as one of the Olympic Sailing Events has also triggered some movement of sailors from other classes.
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	• Well understood alternative • Potentially 'safe' option for existing NOC's who are currently participating within the class. • There are already mixed programs in place in a number of MNAs as per the 2021 European Championship

1. Align with Olympic Agenda 2020+5, including relevance to the youth, innovation, universality and participation of the best athletes.

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	- Foiling Kites is visually spectacular with high media appeal and is at the forefront of innovation within sailing. - High youth appeal with the potential to reach out beyond the Olympic community. - Potential for universality due to moderate cost level of equipment.	4 (Medium - High)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	- Event/ equipment has remained largely unchanged since its introduction within the Olympics in 1976. - Race format has moderate broadcast appeal. - The 470 has limited youth appeal due to the highly technical nature of the equipment and subtle complexities of the style of racing.	2 (Medium - Low)

2. Prioritise universality and maximise the accessibility of the sport.

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	- Within the event, potential for universality due to moderate cost level of equipment. - With an 18 Boat minimum per Event, there are a 78 incremental athlete quota places for universality assignment.	3 (Medium)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	- Within the 2016 cycle the men's two person and women's two person dinghy event (470) had 43 countries and 33 countries participating respectively. - With an 18 Boat minimum per Event, there are a 42 incremental athlete quota places for universality assignment.	2 (Medium - Low)

3. Should not cause the overall cost and complexity for the Paris 2024 Organising Committee, National Olympic Committees and/or National Federations to increase above Tokyo 2020.

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	- OC - no change to current Paris 2024 slate, slight increase in boat park space from Tokyo 2020 slate - NOC/NF – Kiteboard is a newer Olympic event and is still within its infancy in established Olympic countries requiring larger investment. - Athlete – Standardised equipment is comparatively moderate to low in cost. - Athlete equipment sponsorship has already been established to further reduce costs.	3 (Medium)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	- OC - slight increase to Paris 2024 slate with boat park, equipment and workforce, no change from Tokyo 2020 slate - NOC/NF – Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events is a moderate cost event to compete within however the proximity of the 2024 Games will mean existing equipment will retain relevance, reducing cost. Existing programs are already in place - Athlete – As per above.	3 (Medium)

4. Format

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	- The proposed Cup-Final format is comprehensible to non-sailors and sailors alike. - Short races are a plus with studies suggesting narrowing of the collective global attention span. - Loses the very particular signature of Relay as opposed to some form of fleet racing	3 (Medium)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	- Not an innovative format that can be easily differentiated from some of the other events - The proposed format is not easily comprehensible for non-sailors	2 (Medium - Low)

5. Youth Appeal

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	Sailor - Individual Kiteboard Events are fairly new compared to the other proposed alternatives with a full kiteboarding pathway forming through a newly introduced in 2020 IKA - A'S Class and further through WS Youth Worlds and YOG. Non-sailor - Fast and attractive racing - Appeals to beach culture/lifestyle	4 (Medium - High)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	Sailor - Many established MNAs have a pathway leading to the 470 Olympic program. - Not an innovative exciting equipment or format Non-sailor - The proposed format is not easily comprehensible for non-sailors and has not proven to be engaging for the non-sailing youth audience in the past.	2 (Medium - Low)

6. Equipment

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	• The proposed equipment (Formula Kite) is considered suitable for the proposed event(s). Selected by Council for the Mixed Event following a tender process it was recognised as the best aligned with the Equipment Criteria which would still apply. • The Formula Kite registered series production scheme provides options to accommodate different athlete weight ranges and styles serving either for a mixed event or individual gender events. • Is understood to be in compliance with the Olympic Equipment Policy (FRAND) providing access to qualified manufacturers. • The class rules are updated and provide the means to control the use of equipment. Inspection methods exists at both event and production level.	5 (High)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	• The proposed equipment (470) is considered the best suited for the proposed event(s) as selected by Council for previous Men's and Women's two persons dinghy events. • The Equipment has been proven to be fit for Olympic Competition. • By virtue of being a measurement controlled class it is understood to be in compliance with the Olympic Equipment Policy (FRAND). • The class rules are updated and provide the means to control the use of equipment. Inspection methods exists at both event and production level.	5 (High)

7. Media

M01-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Kiteboarding Events	• Picturesque, unique and innovative equipment may draw media attention. • Short racing with target times of 12 minutes for fleet racing and 6 minutes for semi-finals and finals make it suitable to broadcast and attract new audience. • The Cup-final system is easy to understand for sailors and non-sailors alike. • Close to shore, easy for spectators to watch and media to cover with commentator on shore. • Potential to attract new media	4 (Medium - High)
M02-21 - Individual Men's and Women's Two Person Dinghy Events	• Fleet Racing is difficult to showcase to non-sailors without skilled and experienced commentators. • Racing is long and may be monotonous for non-sailors. • The medal race format, if not modified, is not media friendly. It allows in some cases for the Olympic Champion to finish the race in the back of the fleet. • Hard for media to cover.	2 (Medium - Low)

Conclusion

The Working Party strongly believes that following the IOC criteria is fundamental to retain the 10th medal. Despite the individual merits of each event, it is important to consider the impact of the events as a complete slate of 10 separate events. Due to the extremely short time frame of the decision-making process and the fact that the 2024 Olympic Games are slightly over 3 years away, it is important to consider proven events with readily available equipment to create the least disruption to MNAs while delivering an attractive Olympic event slate that complies with the IOC criteria. We believe both Submission M01-21 and M02-21 achieve this goal.

The recommendation from this Working Party is that either the Kiteboard or 470 mixed gender events be split to create the alternative event proposal that is being requested by the IOC. This is represented by submissions M01-21 and M02-21. Table 2 summaries the scoring of the Working Party based on the subjective criteria. Being that these criteria are subjective we feel these qualities, as outlined above, should be debated by the experts in the Events and Equipment Committees and not be the sole remit of this group.

Appendix 1: Alternative Event Submissions

	<u>Source of Submission</u>	<u>Alternative Event Proposal</u>	<u>Submissions WP considerations</u>	<u>Submissions WP recommendation</u>
M01-21	• IKA Formula Kite Association Class • St. Kitts and Nevis and Sailing Association • Barbados Sailing Association Inc • Trinidad & Tobago Yachting Association • MEX MNA • St Vincent and the Grenadines Sailing Association • Antigua and Barbuda Sailing Association • Norwegian Sailing Federation – and Estonian Yachting Union and the Danish Sailing Association • Federacion Dominicana de Vela	Individual Men’s and Women’s Kiteboard Events – Formula Kite	Aligns with Regulation 23 IOC Criteria (i) (ii) and (iii): Changing a 2-person event for a singlehanded event has a quota benefit to the other events and assists universality It reduces equipment costs as sailors train on race kit and then use different boards, lines and kites for relay (short course) racing. MNA’s and sailors are currently using 2 sets of equipment for one medal	Meets objective criteria
M02-21	• International 470 Class Association • International 420 Class Association • Chinese Yachting Association • Japan Sailing Federation	Individual Men’s and Women’s Two Person Dinghy Events - 470	Aligns with Regulation 23 Format proposed of Fleet racing as currently used isn’t adding innovation or unique USP (IOC Agenda 2020/ WS 2018 WP)	Meets objective criteria
M03-21	Team Racing Sub Committee, endorsed by the Chairman of the Events Committee	Mixed Team Racing – Laser Radial	Does not meet IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships): World Sailing has not organised a Mixed Team Racing – ILCA 6 World Championships IOC Criteria 5 (Cost and Complexity): Disruption to MNA’s, it is a new event that adds costs, particularly from the number of specialist officials needed and the supplied equipment cost (refurbishing boats and branding if existing used or cost for new). The WP had many positives about this Event which could be tested for the future.	Does not meet objective criteria

WS Joint EC & EQ Submissions WP

M04-21	International Star Class Yacht Class Racing Association	Mixed Two Person Keelboat - Star	IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships): World Sailing has not organised a mixed gender event in the Star. IOC criteria 5 (Cost and Complexity): this will add cost and complexity. Disruption to MNA's . IOC defines "Open" and "mixed" – they are different. Does not meet Criteria 4 Only sailed on 4 continents (According to submission)	Does not meet objective criteria
M05-21	Match Racing Sub Committee, endorsed by the Chairman of the Events Committee	Mixed Match Racing Four Person Keelboat - TBC	IOC criteria 4 (World Championships): World Sailing has not organised a 4-person, mixed gender Match Racing World Championships Regarding IOC criteria 5 (Cost and Complexity): this will add cost and complexity, creating disruption to MNA's Quota impact -submission requests 8 teams of 4= 32 sailors so it implies a reduction in quota, but with 6 continents it is unlikely World's best sailors will qualify.	Does not meet objective criteria
M06-21	International FAREAST 28R Class Association	Mixed Match Racing Two Person Keelboat – Far East 19	IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships): Far East 19 is not a World Sailing International Class and therefore we have limited information about this boat, WS has not organised a World Championships. IOC Criteria 5 (Cost and Complexity): this will add cost and complexity. Disruption to MNA's	Does not meet objective criteria
M07-21	Bermuda Sailing Association	Mixed Match Racing Two Person Keelboat - TBC	IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships) World Sailing has not organised a mixed gender match racing World Championship.	Does not meet objective criteria

			IOC Criteria 5 (Cost and Complexity): this will add cost and complexity. Disruption to MNA's	
M08-21	Int. 2.4mR Class	Mixed One Person Keelboat - 2.4m	IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships) World Sailing has not organised a Mixed One Person Keelboat World Championship IOC Criteria 5: (Cost and Complexity): this will add cost and complexity. Disruption to MNA's. Even though MNAs might have in place Paralympic programs on the boat, it still requires additional investment- 20 boats, 40 athletes – quota high as suggested. 2nd medal opportunity adds significant complexity for MNA's Format never tested.	Does not meet objective criteria
M09-21	International Laser Class Association (ILCA)	Mixed One Person Dinghy Slalom Relay – ILCA 6 and ILCA 7	IOC criteria 4 (World Championships): World sailing has not organised a Mixed One Person Dinghy Slalom Relay – ILCA 6 and ILCA 7 World Championships. IOC Criteria 5: Disruption to MNA's: As a second medal opportunity – only realistically ILCA 6 & 7 sailors. Very hard to do both things – and may narrow number of MNA's likely to qualify for Games. Combined results events previously declined by IOC in other sports	Does not meet objective criteria
M10-21	International Finn Association	Mixed One Person Dinghy Team – Finn and ILCA 6	IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships): World sailing has not organised a Mixed One Person Dinghy Team – ILCA 6 and Finn World Championships. IOC Criteria 5: Disruption to MNA's: As a second medal opportunity – favours ILCA 6 sailors. Very hard to do both things – and may narrow number of MNA's likely to qualify for Games.	Does not meet objective criteria

			Format never tested. Combined results events previously declined by IOC in other sports	
M11-21	International Finn Association and the International Europe Class Union	Mixed One Person Dinghy Team – Finn and Europe	IOC Criteria 4 (World Championships): World sailing has not organised a Mixed One Person Dinghy Team – Europe and Finn World Championships. IOC Criteria 5: Complex – Europe Equipment not currently in use by Teams so costs to adapt at this stage in the cycle would be high. Combined results events previously declined by IOC in other sports	Does not meet objective criteria
M12-21	Bulgarian Sailing Federation	Men's One Person Dinghy and Women's One Person Dinghy - Finn and Europe	As the template is not complete it is not clear what this Event is. Appears to be asking for an 11th medal, which is not possible. Not compliant.	Does not meet objective criteria
M13-21	Finnish Sailing and Boating Federation	Men's One Person Dinghy and Women's Two Person Dinghy – Finn and 470	Does not comply with Reg 23.1.11(c) Not possible to maintain gender equity at quota, Event and medal levels – does not meet IOC requirements	Does not meet objective criteria
M14-21	Finnish Sailing and Boating Federation and Estonian Yachting Union	Open - One Person Dinghy - Finn	IOC defines "open" and "mixed" – this is Open Event therefore fails IOC Criteria 2. Cannot guarantee gender Equality at medal level – also fails Criteria 2	Does not meet objective criteria
M15-21	Swedish Sailing Federation	Men's One Person Dinghy - Finn	Does not meet Criteria 2. This is an "Open" event, not "mixed"	Does not meet objective criteria