

29 July 2022

Dear World Sailing Annual Conference delegates and observers,

Please see the schedule for the upcoming 2022 Annual Conference [here](#) to help you plan your trip to Abu Dhabi.

We hope that as many delegates as possible from the World Sailing community can attend the first in person Annual Conference since 2019. We encourage you to review the schedule carefully and consider attending as much of the conference as possible, particularly the key events at the beginning of the week.

We have made some changes to the schedule and the common agenda items to make our time together meaningful and efficient. The highlights are:

1. **Pre-Meetings** - online and a commitment not to repeat reports
2. **Equity Diversity and Inclusion Forum** – Monday 24 October presentation and discussion
3. **Keynote Address** – Tuesday 25 October CEO, David Graham, and senior staff on The Past, Present and Future - the Path for World Sailing
4. **Awards Ceremony** - Tuesday 25 October including the Rolex World Sailor of the Year Award.
5. **MNA and Executive Office Forum** – Wednesday 26 October, led by President Quanhai Li and CEO, David Graham. An interactive forum for professional staff and leaders of MNAs to engage with World Sailing (registration required).
6. **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** - moved to the afternoon of Saturday 29 October, giving delegates greater ability to travel home before the start of the next working week.

Pre-meetings using Blue Jeans will be arranged to acquaint everyone with the relevant reports and information ahead of the actual meeting to save time. These are currently being finalised for the first week in October and specific dates will be communicated soonest.

All reports that are typically repeated from meeting to meeting will be made during this time. The documents will be posted on the website in written form and questions arising from these regional pre-meetings will be answered and comments will be addressed and shared.

This also gives us the opportunity to ensure representatives and delegates who would be unable to attend the Annual Conference in person remain engaged and the decisions are relevant to all. Those who are planning to attend the conference can prepare and re-watch the presentations on YouTube, if necessary, in order to engage in efficient discussions of issues.

Hybrid Options for AGM

We are investigating potential solutions for the AGM to allow for real time voting for remote delegates at the same time as those voting in person. We recognise that the cost of travel and accommodation does not permit attendance for all MNA delegates, and we are committed to doing what we can within budget limitations to encourage and allow for as many nations as possible to participate and vote at the AGM.

It is not currently feasible to allow hybrid meetings for the Council and Committee meetings. These remain as solely in-person meetings and remote attendance will not be facilitated.

Planning for 2023 and 2024

The Board and Executive Office are looking at options for future Conferences mindful of Regulation 39 and appreciate the feedback from all stakeholders to help us maximise future opportunities.

We hope to see as many of you as possible and we thank our hosts, the Abu Dhabi Sports Council for making this meeting possible.

Yours sincerely



David Graham
World Sailing CEO, on behalf of the Executive Office and the Board.

Presidents of Honour:
HM King Constantine
HM King Harald of Norway

Directors:
Quanhai Li
Ozlem Akdurak
Jo Aleh
Philip Baum
Tomasz Chamera
Sarah Kenny
Yann Rocherieux
Cory Sertl
Marcus Spillane