

WORLD SAILING 2025 REGULATIONS

COMMENTARY

INTRODUCTION

This commentary accompanies the draft 2025 Regulations and should be read alongside it.

The 2025 Regulations have been prepared based on the Governance Proposal (which was approved by the EGM) and has been reviewed and approved by the Governance Sub-committee of the Board ("GSC"). Where a particular drafting area is not mentioned by the Governance Proposal, the GSC has decided the appropriate way forward in a manner consistent with the Proposal.

This commentary does not repeat all the intended changes to World Sailing's governance which were approved under the Governance Proposal. The reader should read the Proposal approved by the EGM alongside this commentary for an explanation of the reasons for certain changes.

OVERALL APPROACH

World Sailing's Regulations are long, complex, and contain important policies and procedures which govern the sport. As such, the GSC considers it is neither realistic nor necessary - in the time available before the 2022 AGM - to re-write the current Regulations in the same way as the Constitution. To do so would not only entail a sizeable amount of work, but also burden stakeholders with a large number of documents to review and comment on to ensure they were happy with the new drafts. More importantly, the Board was concerned there would not be sufficient time for any changes to the Regulations to be workshopped with all interested sailors and/or administrators in open plenary sessions as was done for the constitutional changes.

The GSC has therefore agreed the following approach:

- 1) The 2022 AGM will be presented with a new Constitution and new Regulations to approve to take effect from the end of 2024. This allows Members to form a considered opinion of the whole package of reforms before voting.
- 2) Changes to the Regulations fall into two categories:
 - (a) Entirely new Regulations which are needed because (1) the New Constitution does not cover a particular situation and (2) it is inefficient from a drafting perspective to amend or keep the current Regulations.

This document of new Regulations is called Part I of the 2025 Regulations.

- (b) For all other Regulations, only the most essential amendments have been made to the current Regulations to enable the current situation to continue under the new governance structure (i.e. no policy or substantial changes have been made).

This document is called Part II of the 2025 Regulations and is provided for consultation showing the current 2022 Regulations with the changes that would be made.

- 3) Because the New Constitution is longer and consolidates a number of different provisions about the same topic in the same place, it has been possible to delete a substantial number of current Regulations. These are almost predominantly the deletion of Regulations 1 to 8, and then 15 to 19. The subject matter of these are now replicated in the New Constitution or the Part I of the 2025 Regulations.
- 4) Taken together, the net effect is the 2022 AGM will be presented with a complete set of Regulations which will take effect in two years' time at the end of 2024. Members will be able to see the changes proposed from present, which broadly are the changes necessary to implement the New Constitution whilst leaving intact all policy decisions contained in the Regulations.

WORK IN 2023 AND 2024

If the 2022 AGM approves the New Constitution and the 2025 Regulations, there will be a period of two years in which further work will be undertaken to review the remaining Regulations.

To do this, the Board will appoint a Working Party to review and draft further changes to the Regulations. The Working Party will work to the following principles:

- (a) Regulations should be re-written in plain English.
- (b) Regulations which are no longer relevant or necessary should be deleted.
- (c) Policy should be removed from the Regulations and placed into a Register of Policies.
- (d) Policies which are not currently in the Regulations, but which are in effect by virtue of a minuted decision made in the last 10 years, should be placed into the Register of Policies.
- (e) The Working Party should not recommend any change to a policy unless it considers the change to be uncontentious.

The Working Party will work on a thematic basis (e.g. it will review all Regulations and policies about Class Associations together, or all Regulations and policies about Race Officials together). Having prepared a new draft, the relevant Committees and Sub-committee will be consulted first on the draft new Regulations and additions to the Register of Policies.

A revised draft of the Regulations and Register of Policies will then be published for consultation to all Members, Council, Committees, Sub-committees and Commissions.

Following the consultation, the Working Party shall publish its final recommended changes for approval by the Board and by Council.

The Board and Council shall consider the recommendations and either approve or reject them. If approved, the 2025 Regulations will be amended accordingly in readiness for their coming into force at the end of 2024. If the Board or Council rejects the recommendation, the Working Party will reconsider its recommendations.

Through this process, the GSC considers that World Sailing should arrive at the end of 2024 with a modernised and completely reviewed set of Regulations which have been fully consulted on, and approved by Council and the Board.