Private & Confidential

World Sailing
Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Date: 22- 30 October 2022
Location: W Hotel Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Present	In Attendance
1. Quanhai Li – President (QL) 2. Özlem Akdurak – Vice President (OA) 3. Tomasz Chamera – Vice President (TC) 4. Sarah Kenny – Vice President (SK) 5. Yann Rocherieux – Vice President (YR) 6. Cory Sertl – Vice President (CS) 7. Marcus Spillane – Vice President (MS)	1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer (DG) 2. Raksha Patel – Director of Finance & Business Operations (RP) 3. Nelia Smith – Executive Assistant/International Relations(NS) 4. Urvasi Naidoo–Director of Legal and Governance (UN) 5. Alistair Fox – Director of Events (AF) 6. Jaime Navarro – Director of Technical and Offshore. (JN)

1. Opening of the Meeting

a. President's Opening Remarks

b. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest
Apologies from Jo Aleh – Chair of the Athletes' Commission.

c. Minutes of the Board Meetings of 12 September 2022
The minutes had been approved via email. It was noted that a timescale should be in place for reviewing and returning the minutes so that they were approved in a timely manner.

d. Matters Arising
Nationality Issue - Hellenic Sailing Federation/ Vasileia Karachaliou, this matter is ongoing with World Sailing Board.

e. Decisions via Email
The Board noted the following decisions made by email since the Board Meeting on 12 September 2022.

- 15 September Agreed Board Submission 065-22 Regulation 39 amends for 2023 and 2024 Conference.
- 27 September Decision to put to Council resolution to correct error in previous resolution and temporarily suspend TE from the ROC and Q and A Panel.
- 3 October Agreed Minutes Board Meeting 22nd August
- 5 October Agreed Additional Board Submission 066 -22 for Regional/Continental Commission
- 6 October Vasileia Karachaliou – Country allegiance change from Greece to Portugal permitted under Regulation 19.
- 6 October Governance Documents for AGM
- 11 October Agreed Minutes for Board Meeting 12th September

2. **Submissions for Council**

a. To consider the following submissions which the Board was the reporting Committee:

i. **Submission 050-22**

Regulations Governing Special Events -Proposal to set up a working party tasked with formalizing regulations governing special events with a set of key rights and obligations for special events.

The Board agreed, in principle with the submission, to establish a working party but there were contract and other issues relevant to address the concerns and therefore it was not necessarily appropriate for this to be resolved through regulation. The Board had already agreed to form a working party to examine the issues relating to Special Events.

The formal recommendation was to Reject

ii. **Submission 051-22**

New regulation to cover special events - to introduce a new Regulation 25.8.13 to include list of special events and limitations to protect interests of classes affected.

Recommendation: Reject - Later withdrawn by the submitter

iii. **Submission 065-22**

Regulation 39 - to amend Regulation 39 to allow the Board to make the decision on location of 2023 Conference and to extend timeline for 2024 Conference so that the 2023 Conference will vote on the location of 2024 Conference.

Recommendation: Approve

It was agreed that CS would speak at the Council Meeting.

iv. **Submission 066 -22**

To establish the Regional/Continental Associations Commission and to approve its Terms of Reference

Recommendation: Withdrawn. The Board had already agreed to establish the Commission on the Terms of Reference as per the submission in an advisory capacity with a review into the operation of the Commission to take place in 12 months time.

b. To consider the following submissions for which the Constitution Committee was the Reporting Committee:

i. **Submission 043-22**

Regulations 28.2.2. & 28.3.1 - To allow RRC to work more collaboratively with submitters to increase approvals

Approve subject to CC recommendation

ii. **Submission 044-22**

Regulation 28.1.5 - To rename "test" rules as development rules.

Approve subject to CC recommendation

c. To consider and give an opinion to Council on the following submissions for which the Racing Rules Committee is the Reporting Committee:

i. **Submission 042-22**

Gender Neutral Proposed amendments to eight (8) rules in the RRS to remove or change gendered terms.

The Board supports the use of gender-neutral language. Approve in principle but defer as per RRC recommendation

d. To consider the following submissions for which the Events Committee was the Reporting Committee.

i. **Submission 049-22**

Open Events instead of Men's Events. Amends to Regulation 23.1.4 so that each of the four Olympic Events currently designated as "Men's Events" are renamed as "Open Events".

Reject – subject to Events Committee input.

Later Withdrawn by submitter

ii. **Submission 052-22**

Addition and removal of events Proposed amend is to introduce a new Regulation 25.8.4(b) to establish a procedure to add and remove events from the list of major, recognized, and special events.

Reject

Later withdrawn by the submitter

iii. **Submission 054-22**

Proposal to amend the regulations so that the event for skiff in the Youth Sailing World Championship is male/mixed instead of male.

Approve subject to input from Events and Constitution Committee

iv. **Submission 055-22**

Proposal to amend Regulation 27.2 to change the points allocation of the Youth match racing events to follow the same logic as for Women's match racing events.

Approve subject to Events and Constitution Committee input

e. To consider the following submissions for which the Equipment Committee was the Reporting Committee:

i. **Submission 056-22**

Regulation 10.11.9 - Amend to Regulation 10.11.9 to include a procedure for managing evolution or changes to the Technical Specifications of equipment used by World Sailing Classes.

Approve subject to input from Equipment and Constitution Committee

ii. **Submission 057-22**

Regulation 10: Amendments to Regulation 10 to clarify the process for changing the class rules of World Sailing Classes (3 proposals).

Approve subject to input from Equipment and Constitution Committee

iii. **Submission 058- 22**

Proposal to establish universality of the Equipment Rules of Sailing and provide stakeholders with a single rules book covering both the RRS and the ERS (2 proposals).

Subject to input from Equipment and Constitution Committee

iv. **Submission 059-22**

Regulation 10.5 (f) (iii) to amend Regulation 10.5 to extend the grace period to have an International Measurer for World Sailing Classes due to Covid Pandemic.

Approve subject to input from Equipment and Constitution Committee

f. To consider the following submissions for which the Para World Sailing Committee was the Reporting Committee:

i. **Submission 045-22**

Para Sailing World Championships - Proposed amendment of Regulation 24.6 to correct inconsistencies, typographical errors and terminology.

Approve subject to input from Constitution Committee

ii. **Submission 046- 22**

Numbering errors - A note provided in lieu of a submission proposing an amendment to Regulation 24.6 to correct numbering error.

Approve subject to input from Constitution Committee

g. To consider the following submissions for which the Oceanic & Offshore Committee was the Reporting Committee:

i. **Submission 047-22**

ORC Multihull Rating System - Proposal to add a provision to WS Regulation 13.1 sub-paragraphs to complete the enumeration of ORC responsibilities relating to the ORC Superyacht Rule and ORC Multihull Rating System.

Subject to input from Oceanic and Offshore Committee

h. To consider the following submissions for which the Race Officials Committee was the reporting Committee

i. **Submission 048 -22** To amend standard SI's used by World Sailing for the 49er, 49erFX, and Nacra 17 to remove the provision of escalating penalties for rule 42 violations

Subject to input from the Race Officials Committee

ii. **Submission 053-22**

Discretion of race officials committee to handle challenges. Proposed amend to Regulation 31.14.1 to ensure that Race Officials Committee has full discretion to handle challenges with first-time appointment of race officials due to special circumstances.

Subject to input from the Race Officials Committee

Recommendations not based on submissions – the Board noted the following:

1. Constitution Committee

At its meeting on 25 October 2022 the Constitution Committee unanimously resolved to express to Council its unreserved support for the Governance Reform proposals

2. Equipment Committee

A) Application for World Sailing Class Status - Persico 69F

Recommendation to Council: Defer

B) Equipment Committee. Review of World Sailing Class Status.

I) International Byte Class Association Recommendation to Council: To withdraw their World Sailing class status in accordance with World Sailing regulation 10.13.

II. International Farr 40 Class Association Recommendation to Council: To withdraw their World Sailing class status in accordance with World Sailing regulation 10.13.

3. The Para World Sailing Committee recommended to Council that the International Classifier discipline be represented on the Race Officials Committee.

Racing Rules Request to make an urgent change to Rules

Racing Rules Committee asked for the Board's approval under regulation 28.1.2 to make an urgent change to the Racing Rules with effect from 1 January 2023.

A6.1 If a boat ~~did not sail the course and is scored accordingly, or~~ is disqualified from a race, or retires after finishing, or is scored did not sail the course, each boat with a worse finishing place shall be moved up one place.

The Board approved the change subject to confirmation that the approval had received 75% at the Racing Rules Committee meeting. (RRS Chair later confirmed the decision had been approved by over 75%)

3. **Executive Office**

a. Management Report - The Board noted the report provided in the Board papers.
b. Annual Conference

The Board discussed the future format of the Annual Conference (and meetings in general) at length. It was unanimously agreed that cost and accessibility are key factors when confirming the next venue.

Decision – The Board agreed that the dates for the 2023 Annual Conference will be 13-18 November 2023. The venue will be announced after review of bids received, no later than 7 April 2023. The Board further agreed that the 2023 Mid-Year Meeting will take place virtually in May 2023, with only the Board meeting in person. The potential dates are being referenced with key stakeholders, a notice confirming the specific dates will be sent to stakeholders by end of December 2022.

c. Commercial Update – The Board noted the update in the Executive Report.

4. Events

a. Safeguarding

The Board noted the report provided.

SK asked for clarity on the process and jurisdiction. UN confirmed that these were initial steps, but the full policy, process and strategy would be brought back to the Board for approval. This would take some time but it would be necessary for World Sailing Events.

b. Proposed Deputies 2023 Sailing World Championships and Paris 2024 Test Event.

The Board noted the following recommendations from the Event Appointment Working Party (EAWP):

- Technical Committee Vice Chair – Pilar Lopez (ESP)
- Deputy Principal Race Officer – David Brookes (AUS)

After considering the EAWP recommendations the Board also approved the appointment of:

- International Jury Vice Chair – Andrus Poksi (EST)

The Board discussed how to progress developing Race Officials from a wider geographical spread and younger Race Officials. It was agreed more work was needed ahead of the Mid-Year meetings in 2023.

c. Special Events Update – The Board noted the report.

d. Paris 2024 Olympic Games

- The Board appointed Alexandra Rickham as the second Technical Delegate for Paris 2024.
- The Board discussed the African continental qualifier. It was noted that further work (and potentially site visits) were required to be satisfied that there was capability and suitable boats and equipment. Decision postponed to the 14 December Board Meeting.
- The Board approved the change of date of the 49er, 49erFX and Nacra 17 2023 European Championship in Vilamoura, POR to 8 - 13 November 2023 being the European Continental qualifier for the Men's & Women's Skiff and the Mixed Multihull Events.
- The Board approved the change of date of the 2024 ILCA 6 World Championships in Mar del Plate, ARG to 3 - 10 January 2024 being the ILCA World Championship qualifier for the Women's Dinghy Event.

- The Board received a proposal from ASAF recommending a split qualifier in China and Thailand which the Board approved on the basis set out in the supporting paper.

e. The Hague 2023 Sailing World Championships

A verbal report was provided. A Team Leaders meeting had taken place and plans had been shared with the MNA's. There were some concerns about the budget being stretched. It had also been agreed to have all the Para Sailing Events at the same venue, at Watersportvereniging Braassemermeer which was a different venue to the Olympic Class events.

f. Olympic Vision – McKinsey

The Board noted the draft Olympic Vision report, prepared by McKinsey had been received and would be further discussed and reviewed at the Annual Conference. The Board recognised the very significant and valuable work done by McKinsey and expressed its thanks to the McKinsey team for the generous contribution of their time. The Report will be finalised by McKinsey after feedback from stakeholders at the Annual Meeting and then used by the Board appointed Working Party to develop the World Sailing Olympic Strategy. A draft of that Strategy will be shared with stakeholders for feedback with a view to the final Strategy being presented for approval by Council at the 2023 Mid -Year meeting.

g. IPC Para Application Update

The application is with the IPC, the team are in dialogue with IPC addressing any queries. It was confirmed that WS would have a presence at their meeting on 17th November in Berlin.

h. ANOC Beach Games

A verbal update was provided noting that there was a clash with Formula Kite World Championships and that discussions were taking place in relation to Wingfoil instead.

5. Equipment

a. Olympic Equipment Quality workstream

JN updated the Board on the presentation he would give to Council.

b. Wingfoil Governance structure update

JN updated the Board to confirm that after detailed discussions it had been agreed to have two Special Events Agreements for Wingfoil, one to cover Racing and one to cover Expression. The agreements were ready for signature, and this would be announced very soon after the Conference.

c. Cost of Campaigning

JN updated the Board on work being done to assess all costs and provide a breakdown on pricing, but it was a complex piece of work with many factors. The Board noted the progress to date.

6. Legal & Governance

a. Case List Update

The Board noted the list of current cases as presented by Legal.

It was noted that in relation to JB03 -20 no written decision had been issued.

The Board noted that there had been considerable passage of time and a delicate balance and harmony had been achieved in the world sailing community and that it would be desirable, whilst respecting proper process, for this matter to be concluded as soon as possible.
UN also updated in relation to a formal letter before action received in relation to European Commission proceedings under Competition Law.
Formal correspondence had also been received from Ultim SVR-Lazartigue regarding being denied admission by the Class Ultim.

b. RUS/BLR Temporary Suspensions

The President updated the Board on discussions with International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach and IOC Vice President Ng Ser Miang.

The Board decided to give the Council the opportunity to give their views and convene a virtual Council Meeting to be held the week commencing 21 November 2022 solely to discuss this matter.

7. Finance

a. Risk Management
Stephanie Lyons member of World Sailing Audit Committee joined the meeting and gave a presentation on risk appetite and the development of a WS Risk Management Framework. She outlined the work which had been done to date and the next steps with the actual documents to be ready for rollout in the first quarter of 2023. The Board noted the presentation and the paper prepared by MS and thanked them both for the work done to date.

b. Management Accounts
The Board noted the report presented by RP.

c. WS Investment Fund
The Board noted the report presented by RP.

d. MNA Debtors list
The Board noted the report presented by RP.
There was a discussion regarding debt forgiveness, and it was noted that this should be exceptional and limited, for example only permitted once every five years. Finance to review.

e. 2023 Subscription Fees
MNA rates normally increase very two years but had not been increased due to Global Pandemic for 2021 and 2022. The Board agreed that the rates would be frozen for 2023 and 2024 and that the same would apply to Class Fees/Plaque Fees.
The Board noted that MNA's should be informed that this was exceptional and that it was anticipated that fees would rise when the next review takes place in 2024.

8. AOB

a) Americas Cup Contract

There was a discussion about the funding for Race Official Development which had been put into the previous Americas Cup contract.

It was agreed MS, TC and RP would review and put in place some processes for monitoring the development spend.

b) Categorisation Commission

In accordance with the original appointment process the Board agreed that the current Chair Tom Rinda would retire and the Vice Chair Glen Stanaway would assume the role of Chair.
It was also agreed that a formal note of appreciation would be sent to Tom Rinda.

c) Awards
The Board approved the following Awards:
Beppe Croce Award 2022 – David Tillet for his long-standing commitment to World Sailing.
The President's Development Award 2022 – Quingdao Municipal Sports Bureau for post 2008 Olympic legacy initiatives.

d) Board Half Term Review
The Board agreed to the suggestion of having a formal Board review by the end of Q1 2023.

e) Board Liaison Duties
The Board Liaison Matrix that was compiled and published in December 2020 to be reviewed at a future meeting
Decision – It was agreed that this agenda item would be added to the 14 December Board meeting.

f) Staff Responsibilities & Structure
To be sent in a separate email.

g) Development & Regions Budget
The CEO confirmed that from an Executive Office point of view, the Head of International Development is leading the strategy and financial decision-making related to the allocated financial support for this workstream.

h) Ultim Class Letter
The Board noted a letter received from Kresk and Merconcept regarding the Ultim 32/23 SVR-Lazartigue, suggesting a conflict of interest in the Special Regulations Committee. The Board agreed to acknowledge receipt through a letter from the WS Legal Department.