

World Sailing Speed Record Council. Annual Report; 2023.

Two speed sailing events for boards were organised under WSSRC rules since the last report: in November 2022 at Luderitz, Namibia where the Womens 500m Windsurfer record was set at 47.06 knots and in June 2023 at La Palme, France, where six World records and eight National records were established over One Nautical Mile. I have to thank veteran WSSR Commissioner Michael Ellison for his long hours and diligence at both these month-long events.

Offshore records were set by Pip Hare on IMOCA 60 “Medallia” and Chad Corning skippered MOD 70 trimaran ‘Argo’ to establish a new record for Honolulu to Yokohama. In The Ocean Race, IMOCA Holcim PRB set a 24 Hour record distance for a 60ft monohull in March and then in May another run in the North Atlantic exceeded 640 Nautical Miles set an outright monohull record. The next day ‘Team Malizia’ went slightly further but not by the 1NM margin required for ratification under WSSRC Rules. Recently a performance certificate for a Transatlantic west to east crossing was achieved by Jay Thompson in a Mini 650.

The WSSR Council held an AGM in Alicante on 20 September, where it was agreed to recognised Wingfoil as a Division.

This year John Reed retired from the position of secretary of the World Sailing Speed Record Council. John had performed this role for fifty years and I am very grateful that he agreed to continue to be involved as an advisor to the Council. Simon Forbes has taken over as Secretary.

I have pleasure therefore in submitting our 2023 report, together with our list of attempts during the past year, to World Sailing.

Claude Breton. Chairman. World Sailing Speed Record Council.

LIST OF RECORDS AND ATTEMPTS SINCE THE LAST LIST PRESENTED IN 2022

21/10/2022	Around Isle of Wight	“Medallia” Pip Hare	60ft, monohull, solo and Women Record 4h 48m 38s
	Around the World	“Gitana 17” Charles Caudrelier	Did not Start
	Around the World	“Sails of Change” Yann Guichard	Did not Start
14/02/2023	Cadiz to San Salvador	“Sodebo” Thomas Colville	Attempt abandoned
	Around Ireland	“Pegasus of Northumberland” Ross Hobson	Postponed
03/05/2023	Around Ireland	“Cailin Rua” Tom Dolan IRL	Unsuccessful
12/03/2023	Southern Ocean	‘Holcim PRB’ Kevin Escoffier	24 Hour Record 60ft Monohull 595.26NM
04/05/2023	Around Australia 21 ft Monohull	“Gold Coast City Marina” Xavier Doerr. AUS	Attempt abandoned
25/05/2023	North Atlantic	‘Holcim PRB’ Kevin Escoffier	24 Hour Record Monohull 640.48NM

11/06/2023	Marseilles to Carthage 20ft Performance	Frederic Boissay, FRA	Attempt abandoned
27/07/2023	Transatlantic W-E 121ft trimaran	“Sails of Change” Yann Guichard, FRA	Attempt abandoned
26/08/2023	Transatlantic W-E 6.5m Mini.	“Speedy Gonzalez” Jay Thompson. USA	Performance Certificate 17d 9h 51m 09s
06/08/2023	Around the World via Antarctica 60’ mono	“Antarctic Lab” Norbert Koch. AUT	Attempt abandoned
29/08/2023	Honolulu -Yokohama	“Argo” Chad Corning	World Record 7d 18h 25m18s

500 Metre and Nautical Mile Outright Speed Events

World Records		
25 Nov 2022	Luderitz, NAM	47.06kts World 500m Women Windsurfer Record - Heidi Ulrich (SUI)
National Records		
19 Nov 2022	Luderitz, NAM	44.20kts German 500m Melek Toraman
25 Nov 2022	Luderitz, NAM	49.87kts Irish 500m Oisin van Gelderen
World Records		
14 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	37.68kts World Mile Women Windsurfer Record - Heidi Ulrich (SUI)
14 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	40.41kts World Mile Kite Record - Rob Douglas (USA)
15 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	41.49kts World Mile Kite Record - Rob Douglas (USA)
15 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	38.44kts World Mile Women Windsurfer Record - Heidi Ulrich (SUI)
15 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	43.34kts World Mile Windsurfer - Antoine Albeau (FRA)
26 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	42.54kts World Mile Kite Record - Rob Douglas (USA)
National Records		
14 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	36.39kts Algerian Mile Windsurfer - Sufyan Setti (ALG)
14 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	36.86kts Swedish Mile Windsurfer – Roger Örnvang (SWE)
14 June 2023	La Palme FRA	36.00kts Great Britain Mile Kite – Martin Carter (GBR)
15 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	39.55kts French Mile Kite – Sylvain Hoceini (FRA)
15 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	39.10kts German Mile Windsurfer – Thomas Moldenhauer (GBR)
15 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	36.79kts Algerian Mile Windsurfer - Sufyan Setti (ALG)
26 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	40.36kts French Mile Kite - Nicolas Parlier (FRA)
30 June 2023	La Palme. FRA	40.39kts German Mile Windsurfer – Thomas Moldenhauer (GBR)