

World Sailing Licensed Builders Fee policy.

1. Background

World Sailing (WS) serves as the licensing authority in situations where WS holds the copyright for a particular boat class or when the class agreement grants WS the authority to license manufacturers. Builders are obligated to pay an annual fee, as specified in the class agreements or licensing agreements. Over the years, challenges related to fee administration have underscored the need for a clear policy to define timeframes, options, and consequences pertaining to builders' fee payments and their associated status.

For 2023, WS has a total of 56 licensed builders across 14 different classes. The table below provides details of the classes for which WS holds licensing authority and the number of licensed builders for the year:

Class	N° Builders	Class	N° Builders	Class	N° Builders
420	14	Etchells	2	Mirror	6
470	8	Europe	3	Tempest	1
Contender	6	Fireball	2	Tornado	1
Dragon	5	Flying Dutchman	1	Soling	1
Enterprise	4	H-Boat	2	Yngling	2

Builders are subject to varying annual fees based on whether they belong to Keelboat or Centreboard Classes. The current fee schedule for 2023 is outlined in the table below. Additionally, there is a "dormant fee" applicable to builders wishing to maintain their license without active boat production.

Type	Fee 2023
Keelboat	£326.34
Centreboard/Multihull	£163.17
Dormant	£52.50

Previous challenges in this domain included:

- Builders paying the annual fee only when they intended to produce equipment or after doing so, leading to debts and budgetary uncertainties.
- Builders seeking exemptions to be classified as 'dormant' for indefinite periods.

- Uncertainty surrounding the criteria for reactivating a license or undergoing formal approval procedures after years of inactivity.

The forthcoming policy will offer clarity by recognizing only those builders who have settled their annual subscriptions as licensed by World Sailing. It will also outline the duration during which past technical assessments will remain valid for future considerations.

It's important to note that WS has separate agreements with builders operating under different schemes for model registration or manufacturing control, where the annual licensing fee does not apply. Notable examples include some Olympic classes like ILCA, 49er, Kiteboarding, and iQFOiL.

2. Policy

This policy, which has been approved by the Board, will take effect from 2024. The builder's license has an annual duration aligned with the calendar year. The office will provide one month's notice before taking any action. Failure to pay the annual license fee will lead to a change in the builder's status.

3. Recognised status.

The following status and definitions apply:

- **Active Builder:** A Builder who pays the **renewal fee** before February and possesses an unrestricted licence.
- **Dormant Builder:** A builder who pays the **dormant fee** before February (with a maximum allowance of five consecutive years of inactivity) and is not authorized to construct boats. After five years of inactivity, the builder's licence becomes invalid. Requests for dormant status should be submitted by the 1st of November in the preceding year. To regain active builder status under this category, a **reactivation fee** must be paid.
- **Not Licensed:** Builders who are 'Not Licensed' fall into three categories:
 1. Those who have never applied for a WS licence.
 2. Active Builders who do not pay the **renewal fee** by February.
 3. Dormant Builders who do not submit the **dormant fee** by February.

Builders in these categories are not allowed to construct boats.

- **Dormant Builder** who has not held an 'Active Licence' in the last five years must go through the evaluation process before building.
- Builders who were previously licensed but have not been licensed for less than 2 years do not need to go through the evaluation process before building. These builders will have to pay a **penalty fee** to become active.
- **New builder application:** First-time builders applying for a WS building licence. These builders must go through the evaluation process before they can build and pay the **application fee**.

The following fees/prices will apply:

Fee Type	Relations	Price
Renewal	Renewal Fee	Keelboat à £326.34 Centreboard/Multihull à £163.17
Dormant	50% of the Renewal Fee	Keelboat £163.17 Centreboard/Multihull £81.59
Reactivation	70% of the Renewal Fee	Keelboat £228.44 Centreboard/Multihull £114.22
Application	140% of the Renewal Fee	Keelboat £456.88 Centreboard/Multihull £228.44
Penalty	130% of the Renewal Fee	Keelboat £424.24 Centreboard/Multihull £212.12

4. Timeline

The list of Licensed and Dormant Manufacturers will be made publicly available.

