

The Equipment Committee met from 09:30 to 17:00 (CET) in Malaga, Spain, on Friday 17 November 2023.

Please refer to the World Sailing website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda.

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Present:

Cedric Fraboulet (Chair)
Shevaun Bruland (Vice-Chair)
Dina Kowalyshyn
Saskia Clark
Roman Hagara
Pablo Masseroni
Aileen Yam Hoon Loo
Dimitris Dimou (Equipment Rules Sub-Comm. rep)
Matt Allen (Oceanic and Offshore Committee rep)
Eric Faust (World Sailing Classes Committee rep)
Sally Lindsay Honey (Special Reg. Sub-Comm. rep)
Alfred Pelinka (Para World Sailing Committee rep)
Pawel Kolodzinski (Athlete Commission rep)

Appologies:

Juan I. Sienra Castiglioni
Helmut Czasny (Racing Rules Committee rep)
Jurgen Cluytmans
Matteo Plazzi

In attendance:

Yann Rocherieux (Vice President)
Thomas Chamera (Vice President)
Jaime Navarro (Director of Technical and Offshore)
Pilar Lopez (WS Classes Executive)
Katrina Ham (WS Offshore Executive)
Francesco Gulizzi (WS Technical Manager)
Antonio Saporito (WS Technical Specialist)

1. Opening of the meeting

- a) Appologies for absence
The Chair welcomed Committee members. Thanked Jurgen for his past contribution and thanked Vice-Chair Shevaun for her support. Appologies were noted.
- b) Declaration of Conflicts of Interests
No additional conflicts of interest were noted by Committee members however Eric Frost noted he would abstain from votes concerning World Sailing Class Associations to avoid perceived conflict as World Sailing Class Committee representative.
- c) Welcome from the VP and update from the Board
Yann Rocherieux welcomed Committee members, expressing gratitude for their efforts and thanking Malaga for hosting the Annual Conference. The success of the 2023 Sailing World Championships and Paris 24 Test event were acknowledged. He noted the increased focus on regional development and the desire to increase resources to cover staff vacancies. Rocherieux also noted financial improvements and the prospect of commercial partnerships in the near future. He emphasized the Board's interest in feedback on the Governance

Reform and the Olympic Vision. Tomasz Chamera reinforced the appreciation for members' contributions.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

- a) The minutes of the Equipment Committee meeting of 3 May 2023 were noted. The minutes can be downloaded at www.sailing.org/meetings
- b) No matters of the minutes of the previous meeting were added to the agenda.

3. Submissions

The submissions can be found at: <http://www.sailing.org/meetings>

- a) To review submission **151-23** from the Chair of the Equipment Committee regarding regulation 10.2.1.(d) and (e) on Global distribution criteria and regulation 10.4 regarding Class rights to hold World Championships and make a recommendation to Council.

Cedric Fraboulet recalled the work to date regarding regulation 10. Paddy Boyd, Chair of the Class Review Working Party detailed the work of the group and noted the trend of Classes interpreting the regulations in their favour. He explained that submission 151 was a step forward to improve and noted the situation with the IMOCA Class which while is limited in geographic spread, has a lot of nationalities represented in the fleet.

Jaime Navarro explained the submission and highlighted the differences between the two proposals. Fraboulet noted previous discussions on this topic and the differences between being a WS Class and the right to hold a World Championship.

The Committee discussed the challenges of classes which are close to the criteria and might deserve to be considered. Dina Kowalyszyn prosed to reject proposal 2 noting that it should be re-written.

Proposal 1: Recommendation to Council: Approve

Proposal 2: Withdrawn

- b) To review submission **098-23** from the Chair of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee regarding regulation 10.2.1.(d) and (e) and give a recommendation to Council.

Matt Allen noted that for new Offshore classes, the regulations both the endorsement of the Oceanic and Offshore and Equipment. Shevaun Bruland noted the challenges to define the "unique" aspect of sailing.

Opinion to Council: Approve

- c) To review submission **100-23** from the TP52 and the International Maxi Class Association regarding Plaque Fees and give a recommendation to Council.

Matt Allen noted the proposal's objective to reflect the costs of the bigger classes. Jaime Navarro noted the concerns for the office if the term, "as a guideline for negotiation" was to be removed from the regulations as an unintended consequence.

Opinion to Council: no opinion.

Note: It was noted that removing the sentence "as a guideline for negotiation" could limit the options when discussing proposals with new classes applying for WS status.

- d) To review submission **101-23** from the 420 and 470 Class Association regarding the timeline to register dates of next World Championships and give a recommendation to Council.

Dimitris Dimou recalled the current deadline and the challenges for classes who have their annual meetings later in the year. The impacts on events in the southern hemisphere as well as the resources of the office to register the dates was discussed.

Recommendation to Council: No Opinion.

Note: It was noted that 1st October would be a tight deadline for the Office.

- e) To review submission **102-23** from the 420 and 470 Class Association regarding the Technical Committees at Class World Championships and give a recommendation to Council.

Dimitris Dimou explained the intention of the submission and highlighted the challenges classes face at times with events to ensure the technical Committee is lead by a Class International Measurer. The practicalities at multi Class events were discussed as well as the potential consequence of restricting the eligible candidates.

Recommendation to Council: Reject

Note: It was noted that there could be issue with multi-Class events. It was noted that limiting the option to nominate the chair could affect the pool of people that can be nominated.

- f) To review submission **103-23** from the International Hobbie Class Association regarding regulation 10.5 and give a recommendation to Council.

Recommendation to Council: Not discussed – no proposer.

- g) To review submission **106-23** from the Chair of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee regarding regulation 10.5 and give a recommendation to Council.

Matt Allen explained the reasons for the submission and highlighted the progress within Offshore Classes to get their technical experts to become World Sailing International Measurers.

Opinion to Council: Approve

- h) To review submission **107-23** from the Chair of the Events Committee regarding regulation 15.6 and give a recommendation to Council.

Shevaun Bruland noted the need to allow submissions regarding regulation 23 at the mid-year meeting.

Recommendation to Council: Approve

- i) To review submission **109-23** from the Chair of the International Speed Windsurfing Class Association regarding Transgender Policies and World titles and give a recommendation to Council.

Opinion to Council: Not discussed – no proposer

- j) To note submissions regarding changes of the Racing Rules of Sailing

Jaime Navarro noted that the opinion of the ERSC was noted in the RRS meeting.

- k) To note, and where necessary comment, on the other submissions not listed on this Agenda which are relevant to this Committee.

Submissions 153 and 154 were noted to be discussed in section 8.

4. Equipment Rules Sub-Committee

- 1) To receive an update from the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee Chair

Dimitris Dimou gave a verbal update on the work of the ERSC and highlighted the challenges in updating existing Class Rules which had been previously approved.

Francesco Gulizzi recited the experience of the office and highlighted that when the ERS and RRS documents are updated the Classes not always update their rules to reflect them. Jaime Navarro reported on the aspirations but highlighted the resources that would be required to ensure all the Class Rules are updated to the ideal level. The need for a strategic approach when reviewing classes was noted.

Dimou noted the objective of having an updated set of Standard Class Rules for the next year, and noted that it would require support from other sub-Committee members.

- 2) To review the submissions regarding changes to the Equipment Rules of Sailing:

Shevaun Bruland thanked the work of ERSC for their submissions and made reference to the yellow paper. She noted disappointment however for not having received recommendations from the expert sub-Committee on all of the submissions and noted her concern that robust debate had not occurred. Bruland noted the responsibility of the Equipment Committee to make decisions despite the recommendations as there were defined publication deadlines for the ERS in the regulations.

Jaime Navarro noted the ERS Working Party meetings and the work done prior to the conference.

The Committee discussed the proposal to group the ERS submissions in three categories: Group 1 – those approved by the ERSC during their meeting: Submissions 119, 120, 122, 123, 128, 129, 130, 131 with amendment, 132, 133, 134

Group 2 – Not discussed by the ERSC during their meeting: Submissions 126, 135, 136, 137, 139, 142, 145, 147.

Group 3 – No agreement reached by the ERSC during their meeting: Submissions 121, 124 & 144, 125 & 127 & 143, 127, 140, 141 & 146.

The Committee agreed to vote together submissions categorized as Group 1 and approved them.

The Committee agreed to go through all submissions categorized as Group 2 and Group 3 individually.

Decisions on ERS submissions:

- a) submission **119-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon ICA term. **Decision: Approved**
- b) submissions **120-23** & **121-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon the applicability of ERS. **Decision: Approved**
- c) submission **122-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Position of Mainsails on the Rig. **Decision: Approved**
- d) submissions **124-23** & **144-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Event Class Rules Authority . **Decision: 124-23 Rejected. It was highlighted that with the proposed wording there could be an issue when there is a conflict between what it is stated in Class Rules and Notice of Race. 144-23 withdrawn.**
- e) submission **125-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon ICA as Certification Authority. **Decision: Rejected.**
- f) submission **126-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Licensed Manufacturer's Mark. **Decision: Approved.**
- g) submission **127-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Event Equipment Inspection. **Decision: Approved with the following**

amendments: Proposal 2: is affected by the decision of submission 125-23. The submission is amended with the deletion of “or the ICA” from the text.

- h) submission **128-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Equipment Regulation. **Decision: Approved.**
- i) submission **129-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Helmperson. **Decision: Approved.**
- j) submission **130-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Personal Equipment. **Decision: Approved.**
- k) submission **131-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Boat Definitions. **Decision: Approved with the following amendments: To read WINGFOIL instead of WING-FOIL.**
- l) submission **132-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Maintenance & Repair. **Decision: Approved.**
- m) submission **133-23** from the Chairman of the Equipment Committee on Fastening, Sanding, Polishing, Sealed in position, Sealed closed. **Decision: Approved.**
- n) submission **134-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Hull. **Decision: Approved.**
- o) submission **135-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Hull Appendage measurement. **Decision: Approved.**
- p) submission **136-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Vang. **Decision: Approved.**
- q) submission **137-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Rig Diagrams. **Decision: Approved.**
- r) submission **139-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Rigging Point. **Decision: Approved.**

Saskia Clark noted that her MNA rejected the submission and preferred the current text noting that it was in use by their national classes. The Committee discussed how removing the wording would impact on classes and noted that classes could amend their rules as required. Francesco Gulizzi noted the changes proposed by the submission could in theory allow more classes to join the IHC programme.

- s) submission **140-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Headsail, Spinnaker & Quadrilateral Sails. **Decision: Approved.**
- t) submissions **141-23 & 146-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Sail Corner Measurement Points & “Extended as Necessary”. **Decision: Both approved.**
- u) submission **142-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Spinnaker Half Girth. **Decision: Approved.**
- v) submission **143-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Certification Measurers. **Decision: Approved with the following amendments: The submission is affected by the decision of submission 125-23. The submission is amended with the deletion of “the ICA” from the text.**
- w) submission **145-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon Mast Tip Weight and Mast Centre of Gravity Limit Mark. **Decision: Approved.**

- x) submission **146-23** from the Equipment Committee, Classes Committee and the 420 Classon General Housekeeping. **Decision: Approved.**

5. World Sailing Class Associations

- a) Update from the Office on the administration of classes;
Pilar Lopez noted the increased communication between the office and the Classes. She reported on the plaques sold in the past year, noting the procedure that explained the different processes that apply for each class.
The reporting process for the annual report on the classes World Championships was detailed, highlighting the potential for it to assist in the Class review process.
- b) update from the Office and the WS Class Status WP on the review of World Sailing Class status (regulation 10.13).
Paddy Boyd as Working Party (WP) Chair explained the process undertaken by the WP to decide which classes should be reviewed including the scoring system. He noted that only 11 classes complied with all the requirements set out in the regulations. He outlined the review process and noted how some classes have been actively contributing.
The Committee noted that the recommendations are based on interactions with the office. While suggesting the work of the WP could be considered over due to the process being established, the need for a full review of Regulation 10 was highlighted.
The Committee discussed the way forward to re-write the regulation and noted the risks of having too many World Championships.
It was noted that additional correspondence received from the classes placed under review had been circulated to the Committee.
A different approach to recognise the right or grant the right to hold World Championships was proposed by Jaime Navarro which could allow to distinguish between classes seeking a status and services from World Sailing and those seeking only to hold World titles subject to meeting certain requirements.
The Committee noted that this was a time sensitive issue and the need to review regulation 10 and moved to discuss the classes under review:

IMOCA

Jaime Navarro reported on the progress made to engage with the Class over the past year which included a collaborative approach towards updating Class rules and having the Class measurers obtaining recognition as World Sailing International Measurers

IKA Youth A

The Office noted that the Class had not been able to demonstrate compliance with the minimum distribution requirements. The numbers reported did not necessarily represent active members. The office noted that the Class had outstanding debts with World Sailing.

Melges 32

The Committee decided to make no recommendation to Council at this stage.

Vaurien

The Committee decided to make no recommendation to Council at this stage.

Sunfish

The Committee noted the challenges that the Class had reported in relation to the builder. The Class had identified the use of counterfeit WS plaques and as a consequence World Sailing had agreed to issue plaques directly to the Class and not the builder for distribution to the sailors. The Committee noted the desire of the Class to break away from the manufacturer and explore options to allow their formal recognition of alternative manufacturers. Similarities to the ILCA Class and Laser Performance were made and the

timetable presented by the Class was noted. Jaime Navarro emphasised the limited resources in the office to assist the Class throughout these challenges and noted that the ILCA Class came to WS with a more complete solution. Eric Faust noted his experience from the ILCA and the legal support of World Sailing at the time. The Committee noted that assistance including legal resources should be provided to the Class where possible.

The Committee moved to maintain the WS status but recommended to maintain the Class under review if the Class Association does not resolve its governance issues or presents any alternative necessary frameworks, structures, contracts, and rules developed and ready for implementation.

Windsurfer

Francesco Gulizzi noted the reported challenges between the Class and the copyright holder. The Committee moved to maintain the WS status but recommended to maintain the Class under review if the Class Association does not resolve its governance issues or presents any alternative necessary frameworks, structures, contracts, and rules developed and ready for implementation.

SB20

Jaime Navarro noted the reported challenges between the Class and the copyright holder. The Committee moved to maintain the WS status but recommended to maintain the Class under review if the Class Association does not resolve its governance issues or presents any alternative necessary frameworks, structures, contracts, and rules developed and ready for implementation.

Recommendations to Council:

Ocean 65: To withdraw their World Sailing Class Status in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 10.13

The Committee noted the recommendation of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee in favour of withdrawing the Class status. Following the review of the Class association, the Committee considers that the Class no longer meets the regulatory requirements.

The Class was originally awarded status due to its participation at the Ocean Race. The boats will no longer be used at the Ocean Race and the owners intend to establish an owner-based Class association. The Committee considers that the Class should apply for recognition once it has established itself.

Swan 45: To withdraw their World Sailing Class Status in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 10.13

The Committee noted the recommendation of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee in favour of withdrawing the Class status. The review identified non-compliances with regulatory requirements, in particular in relation to global distribution requirements.

The Class has acknowledged the accuracy of the report and its truthful representation of the situation.

Splash: To withdraw their World Sailing Class Status in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 10.13

The review has exposed significant non-compliance with global distribution requirements required to maintain the World Sailing Class status. Furthermore the Class does not meet other requirements such as having an international measurer. The Committee considers that the current distribution does not merit the recognition as an international World Sailing Class Association

Enterprise: To withdraw their World Sailing Class Status in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 10.13

The review has uncovered substantial non-compliance with global distribution requirements required to maintain the World Sailing Class status.

Furthermore the Class does not meet other requirements such as having an international measurer. The Committee considers that the current distribution does not merit the recognition as an international World Sailing Class Association

X-41: To withdraw their World Sailing Class Status in accordance with World Sailing Regulation 10.13

The Committee noted the recommendation of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee in favour of withdrawing the Class status.

The review has uncovered substantial non-compliance with global distribution requirements required to maintain the World Sailing Class status.

The Class was found to lack a Class Technical Representative, which is a key role in ensuring technical compliance and oversight within the Class structure.

The Class was also lacking an International Measurer, required by the regulations.

The Class acknowledged that the observations made during the review align with the current reality of the X-41 class's situation and activities.

6. Safety

- a) The Committee received an update from the Safety Panel and noted the updates from the Supporting Paper circulated ahead of the meeting. The Safety Panel has been meeting regularly since the start of 2023. The Committee noted that during their monthly meetings, the Safety Panel reviews incidents logged and discusses safety related matters which are then reported to the Board.

Incident reporting requirements are outlined in Regulation 38 which requires MNAs, Classes and Rating Systems to report incidents. Reported incidents are logged [online](#).

The challenges to obtain reports and the need to clarify responsibilities was noted.

The Committee noted an increase in safety focus which included efforts around the following areas:

- Increased publication of articles to share best practice with the wider sailing community
- Increased awareness of the requirements and the reporting portal.
- Upgrades to the reporting system
- Review of regulation 38 and definitions of incidents

The Committee noted the establishment of the Safety Commission with Shevaun Bruland appointed as representative of the Equipment Committee.

- b) The Committee noted the developments on Class rules regarding Personal Safety Equipment. The urge and desire to align rules across classes in relation to impact vests, Quick release harnesses and High visibility colours was discussed.
- c) The Committee noted a paper on Safeguarding Policy from the Director of Governance.

7. Olympic Vision

- a) The Committee received an update from Yann Rocherieux on the Olympic Vision Working Party established by the Board following the 2021 Annual Conference.

Rocherieux explained the work taken so far towards the Olympic Vision following the McKinsey report noting that it serves to provide a strategic direction of travel to secure and reinforce sailing as a sport in the Olympic Games. Shevaun Bruland noted that it is of high importance for the Equipment Committee as there are many aspects that the Committee will need to consider. Saskia Clark questioned the relationship between sustainability and use of supplied equipment and asked if there was a defined timeframe and defined actions.

Matt Allen noted some observations and learnings from IOC highlighting the potential reduction in athlete quota and the need to implement decisions aligned with the IOC direction.

8. Regulation 23

Jaime Navarro recalled the objectives of regulation 23 and its link to the Olympic Vision. The Chair of the Working Party recalled the work to date and the ambitions for the future. Submission 153-23 and 154-23 were noted and discussed noting that submission 107-23 would make them irrelevant. The Committee noted that the Events Committee had moved to defer the submissions to the mid-year meeting and voted to defer.

Recommendation to Council on Submission 153-23: and 154-23: Defer.

9. Olympic Sailing Competition

Jaime Navarro provided an update on the developments and preparations for Paris 2024. The Committee noted following:

- The plans for validating the quality of supplied iQFOiL equipment and its allocation.
- The efforts to include identification elements on kites.
- The requirement to use gennakers produced with national flags for the Nacra17, 49er and FX.
- The collaboration with ILCA Class regarding the selection of ILCA manufacturers.
- The progress on the plans for on-board camera and camera mounts.
- The progress on the plans for application of look of the games / branding on boats.

10. Equipment Governance

- a) The Committee received an update from the Office regarding the development of World Sailing's Manufacturer Control System for Olympic equipment.

The mission of the Manufacturer Control System (MCS) is to ensure that production of Olympic equipment is to the agreed quality standards. It aims to provide comprehensive oversight, control, and assurance throughout the equipment production process to safeguard the integrity and fairness of Olympic sailing. The objectives were noted:

- 1- seeks to eliminate the need for equipment purchases due to quality issues and to enhance fairness and integrity in competitions.
- 2- address the void within the current frameworks that relies on equipment being produced against confidential specifications without until now confirmation or certification from World Sailing
- 3- to provide clear documentation and reporting, ensuring that the parties involved can trace and verify the quality of equipment. It aims to formalize the responsibilities of manufacturers allowing them to certify equipment they produce and make manufacturers accountable.

Jaime Navarro noted that the efforts throughout the year had focused on identifying the Differentiate the responsibilities of Classes, Right Holders, Manufacturers and suppliers in maintaining quality standards within each Class. Determining which equipment items within each Class require quality control and defining the extent of the supply chain involved in producing each of these equipment items.

The Technical Specialists had made substantial progress in gathering all the relevant and necessary technical specifications for each equipment item. And had started analysing how

the production methods employed by manufacturers influenced the quality of equipment. The team was currently documenting the existing quality control measures in place, and developing a Certification System draft together with its associated audit plan. A reporting system allowing manufacturers to report their quality control activities and outcomes as part of the certification process would be required.

The Committee noted and commended the efforts towards developing enhanced inspection methods for foils. Reports on the evaluation of iQFOiL foils and Nacra 17 daggerboards were presented and discussed.

- b) Francesco Gulizzi provided an update on the In-House Certification Programme. It was noted that the only Sailmakers that have not been audited according to the standard auditing plan are UK Sailmakers (Hong Kong) and Doyle Sailmaker Qingdao (China). The Office has established a reporting system with the Sailmakers managed directly by World Sailing with the objective of extending this system to the MNA acting as Authorising Authority.

The Committee noted that the ORC has joined the program and that the office was testing the implementation with Olisails.

11. Any Other Business

- a) World Sailing Speed Record Council.
Stan Honey provided an update on the records and noted the increased interest in attempting records driven by the developments in foiling. Jaime Navarro noted the need to provide the WSSRC with a dedicated section within the website and further promote its activities.
- b) Sustainability.
Alexandra Rickham provided a report on the progress towards achieving the Agenda 2030 technical deliverable. The Committee noted the plans to promote the use of Life Cycle Assessments to assess production and use of equipment.