Private & Confidential

World Sailing
Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Dates: 12 November 2023 and 19 November 2023
Location: Hotel NH Malaga, Malaga, Spain

Present	**In Attendance**
1. Quanhai Li – President 2. Özlem Akdurak – Vice President 3. Philip Baum – Vice President 4. Tomasz Chamera – Vice President 5. Sarah Kenny – Vice President 6. Yann Rocherieux – Vice President 7. Cory Sertl – Vice President 8. Marcus Spillane – Vice President 9. Jo Aleh – Athletes Commission Chair	1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer 2. Nelia Smith – Director of International Relations and Brand 3. Urvasi Naidoo – Director of Legal and Governance 4. Raksha Patel – Director of Finance and Business Operations

1. Opening of the Meeting

a) The President welcomed the Board to the meeting.

b) Jo Aleh was an apology for the meeting on 12 November and part of the meeting on the 19 November.

c) Declarations of interest. Vice President Sarah Kenny declared that her son has been selected for the Australia Youth Americas Cup squad. It was also noted that there was a perception of conflict on the item relating to the appointment of the Election Committee. Vice President Marcus Spillane declared a conflict in relation to Ireland bidding to host the 2024 Annual Conference.

d) Minutes of the Board meetings of 29 August 2023 and 13 September 2023 were agreed subject to further amends.

e) Matters Arising to add to any other business:
Special Events Working Party.
Rankings.

f) Decisions by Email
The following were approved by email:
November 2 – Review of Letter from Ukraine MNA and agreed proposed actions and timetable.
October 12 - Committee Terms of Reference approved to go to Council.
October 7 - Regulation 35 and 36 Amendments approved to go to Council.
October 7 - Safeguarding Policy and Procedures approved to go to Council.
October 4 - Paris 2024 ITO Appointments approved.
September 28 - Approved a nationality switch for Nora Brugman to transfer country allegiance from USA to Spain.

September 14 - Approved a late submission from Markus Schwendtner.

September 2- Categorisation Commission -3 New Members Approved.

2. Executive Office

a) Management Report

The Board noted the Management Report which had been circulated. The CEO gave a summary of the salient points of the report and the year.

b) Election Committee

The Board approved the recommendation of appointment of:

Margot Foster – Chair

Niels Lindholm

Phil Cotton

Jon Napier

In accordance with the Constitution the appointment would be put to the AGM for approval.

c) Commercial Update

The Board noted the written and verbal report from the CEO.

d) Council and AGM Agenda and Speakers

The Board noted the agenda for the Council and the AGM and agreed which of them would speak on items which the Board was proposing. It was also noted that a daily report was being prepared giving a summary from each meeting and that a full report would be prepared of actions arising out of the Annual Conference week.

3. Events

The Director of Events joined the meeting.

a) EAWP Paris 2024 Appointments

b) The Board approved the recommendation from the EAWP for a replacement official to be appointed to the International Jury after one official had declined the appointment.

c) Sailing World Championships

The Board noted the progress in relation to the preparation of bids. The deadline for expressions of interest to host the seventh Sailing World Championships was 30 November 2023. Final bids are required by 30 March 2024 with the final decision due to be made at the May 2024 Board meeting.

d) Olympic Vision Strategy

The CEO outlined the process for communicating with the stakeholders and obtaining additional feedback. The Board noted the need to better harness youth events and be visionary in relation to new formats. It was agreed to send a thank you letter to McKinsey with a copy of the final document.

e) Paris 2024 – Update
The Board noted the report from the Director of Events. The Notice of Race had been published.

The Board noted that it was the last meeting Alastair Fox was attending and extended their thanks to him for his many years of service to World Sailing.

4. Legal and Governance

a) Submissions
All the submissions documents and supporting papers are available on the World Sailing website. The Board considered all the submissions and agreed the Board's Yellow Paper. There was a discussion regarding the withdrawn submission 148-23 and it was agreed that the CEO would update the Council on the position relating to the new request for suspension from the Ukrainian MNA.

b) Recommendations not based on Submissions
Governance Reform
The Board noted the documents which would be presented to the Council and noted the work programme to complete the governance reforms ahead of the 2024 Annual Conference. The Board thanked the Governance Working party for the work done to date.

Safeguarding
The Board noted the policy and procedures were to be put to Council. After the Council meeting it was noted that further improvements would need to be made to strengthen and improve the policy. It was also noted the next steps would be in relation to education and dissemination of the principles of safeguarding to MNA's, Classes and other stakeholders.

MNA Review
The Board noted that the Constitution Committee working party had recommended that the Philippines MNA be moved from Group K to Group J and that the representatives on Council for Group J be increased from one to two. This would be put to the Council and the AGM for approval.

c) Transgender Policy Update
The Board noted that further time was needed for the consultation process. A Working Group had been formed and had met for the first time on the 15th of November 2023. The Board appointed barrister Tim O'Connor as Chair of the Working Group.

The Board also noted that the development of the policy would need to be completed in time for approval at the May 2024 Mid-Year Council meeting.

d) Case List Update
The Board noted the Case List presented by the Director of Legal.

In relation to the case of Mikhail Novikov the Board noted:

1. The decision from the Independent Panel had been sent by email but that no reasons had been provided for the decision.
2. As directed by the Independent Panel the Board agreed that Mikhail Novikov could sail for Vanuatu, however, to reserve all World Sailing rights a notice of appeal to CAS would be filed.
3. Communication to the sailor would need to make it clear that he would enter at his own risk and that if the CAS appeal was successful then he would be disqualified retrospectively.
4. The Director of Legal and Governance was instructed for the benefit of future cases, to record in a memorandum the policy considerations applied by the board in determining the transfer of allegiance by a sailor from one MNA to another for the Board to consider at its next meeting.

e) Safeguarding – Standing item it was noted no new cases.

f) Review of Temporary Suspensions (Council and Committee Members 3 Month Review)

In accordance with the provisions of the Regulations and Constitution the Board considered the temporary suspensions in place against Russian and Belarussian Council and Committee Members and agreed that there had been no change in circumstances and therefore the temporary suspensions would remain in place.

g) Russian Participation – Olympic Qualifier (Last Chance Regatta)
The Board discussed the matter and noted that the IOC had not yet decided about the Russian and Belarussians athletes at 2024 Paris Olympic Games. The matter of determining neutrality was still unclear. This would be discussed further at the Board's next meeting.

5. Finance

a) Management Accounts and Budget for 2024
The Board noted the report from the Director of Finance and Business Operations and the proposed budget for 2024. Several risks were highlighted and noted in relation to staffing and the costs of the Annual Conference. The Board approved the budget for 2024.

b) MNA Debtor List
The Board noted the list.

c) WS Investment Fund
The Board noted the report and the values of the investment fund.

d) Risk Management

Update noted by the Board.

e) Treasury Management
Update noted by the Board.

6. Technical and Offshore

The Director of Technical and Offshore joined the meeting.

a) Olympic Equipment Quality
The Board noted an update report in relation to the Olympic Equipment.

b) 2024 Offshore Double Handed Progress Report
The Board noted that the conditional requirements set by the Board for the approval of the 2024 event in relation to the Double Handed Offshore World Championships had been met and that the matter would progress to contract.

7. International Relations and Brand

The Director of International Relations and Brand presented the report.

a) Annual Conference – Future Host Venues
The Board noted the report. Budapest had withdrawn their bid. The remaining bids for 2024 were from Ireland and Singapore.
The Board agreed to put both bids to the AGM, noting their original feedback for a European venue to maximise attendance during an election year.
Following the approval of Singapore at the AGM the Board agreed that Heads of Terms should be in place by 15th December 2023 and the Host Agreement in place by 31st December 2023.

8. Any Other Business

a) Reg 32 Investigation Anubal Vivaceta
The Board noted the report and approved the recommendation from the Race Officials Committee to terminate the status as an International Classifier of Anubal Vivaceta.

b) Golden Globe Race & Ocean Globe Races
The Board noted a verbal report from Vice President Philip Baum in relation to discussions with the Ocean Globe Races.

c) Star Sailors League
The Board noted a verbal report from Vice President Yann Rocherieux in relation to discussions with Star Sailors League.

d) EAWP
The Board noted verbal report from Vice President Tomasz Chamera.

e) Offshore
The Board noted verbal report from Vice President Philip Baum.

f) Safety Commission
The Board noted verbal report from Vice President Philip Baum and in particular the points raised by Medical Commission that the ribs in Paris 2024 were not fast enough to reach an injured sailor. It was also noted that safety provisions needed inclusion into all World Sailing contracts.

g) Team Racing World Championship 2025 and 2026
The Team Racing World Championships in New York at New York Yacht Club in 2025 was approved subject to contract.
The Team Racing World Championships in Sweden 2026 was noted and approved subject to contract.
It was noted that these events should be cost neutral to World Sailing.
The Board noted verbal report from Vice President Cory Sertl.

h) Sailor Categorisation
The Board noted that changes to Codes may be required. Vice President Cory Sertl requested a meeting in person of the Categorisation Commission.

i) Race Official Flights
It was noted that the flights for some of the race officials travelling to the Sailing World Youth Championships in December 2024 had not been booked and it was agreed that a better process needed to be developed.

The President closed the meeting.