

World Sailing
Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Date: 19 January 2024

Location: Online Via Microsoft Teams

Time: 10.00 UTC

<u>Present</u>	<u>In Attendance</u>
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. Cory Sertl – Vice President 7. Marcus Spillane – Vice President 8. Jo Aleh – Athletes Commission Chair	1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer 2. Nelia Smith – Director of International Relations and Brand 3. Urvashi Naidoo – Director of Legal and Governance
1. Opening of the Meeting The President welcomed the Board to the meeting. a) Apologies Vice President Yann Rocherieux sent his apologies for the meeting b) Declarations of interest. Vice President Cory Sertl declared that she had been appointed in December 2023 to the New York Yacht Club Board of Trustees. Vice President Tomasz Chamera declared a conflict in relation to the application submitted by the Polish MNA to host World Sailing's World Championships in the next Quad. c) Minutes of the Board meetings of 14 December 2023 to be circulated. d) Matters Arising None noted. e) Decisions by Email. The November 2023 Board Minutes and the Board Memo regarding Regulation 19 were approved.	
2. Participation of Russian/ Belarussian sailors as Neutrals a) The Board noted that at the Council Town Hall meeting held on the 9 January 2024 the majority of Council members spoke strongly in support of retaining the temporary sanctions against Russian and Belarussian sailors for the whole of international sailing and only allowing participation for the Last Chance Regatta and the Olympic Games (a minority voiced the view that World Sailing should allow a return to sailing for all).	

- b) In line with the International Olympic Committee's position on the participation of athletes from Russia and Belarus as independent neutral athletes (AINs), the Board agreed that for athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport:
- Those who meet the necessary eligibility criteria would be eligible to participate as AINs in Olympic Class events for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, starting with the Last Chance Regatta qualifying event, to be held as part of the Semaine Olympique Francaise, 20-27 April, and finishing with the Olympic regatta in Marseille for those AIN who achieve Olympic qualification.
 - Athletes who have secured qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games are eligible to participate as AIN's, in the Olympic class they have qualified in, at events between the Last Chance Regatta and the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.
 - World Sailing continues to recommend that athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport should not be permitted to compete in events or classes other than those specified above.
- c) The Board also agreed to review the recommendation that athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport should not be permitted to participate in events outside of Olympic competition every three months, at the same time that the suspension of Russian and Belarusian officials is reviewed. It was noted that the next review was due to take place on or before 22 February 2024.

AIN Process

The Director of Legal and Governance is preparing a Neutrality Policy and AIN application process and aims to be in a position to circulate the policy to the Board before the end of the month. A review of the processes of other IF's had been carried out and a similar process would be used noting that the main principles of AIN would be in compliance with the IOC recommendations including:

- Sailors and their support personnel with a Russian or Belarusian passport must compete only as Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN).
- Athletes who actively support the war cannot compete. Support personnel who actively support the war cannot be entered.
- Athletes who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies cannot compete. Support personnel who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies cannot be entered.
- Neutral colours/flags/uniforms will be required.
- There will be monitoring of the neutrality and any non compliance will be subject to disciplinary measures, including disqualification.

The Board noted the update.

3. Case List

- a) The Director of Legal and Governance gave an update on the Cases and in particular the Board noted the current position in relation to the case pending at CAS and deferred the decision relating to a Residency application so guidance could be sought from the Chair of the Constitution Committee.

5. Russian MNA

- a) The Director of Legal and Governance informed the Board that the lawyer acting on behalf of the Russian MNA submitted a reply before the deadline of 17 Decmber 2023 and that this reply was being considered by external lawyers who would advise on next steps in relation to the Ukraine MNA's application to the Board.
- b) The Board noted the report.

6. Location of Mid Year Meeting

- a) During the 2023 Annual Conference it was confirmed that the Committee and Council Mid-Year meetings would be online, between 13-16 May 2024.
- b) Subsequent to the above decision, it was agreed that the Mid-Year Board Meeting would go ahead as scheduled and would also be online.

7. Any Other Business

No other business was raised and the President closed the meeting.