Private & Confidential

World Sailing
Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Dates: 7 February 2024
Location: Online Via Teams

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

1. Opening of the Meeting

a) The President welcomed the Board to the meeting.

b) Vice President Özlem Akdurak sent apologies.

c) Declarations of interest.
Vice President Tomasz Chamera declared that he had been involved in preparing the bid from Poland for World Sailing Championships. The Board noted the declaration.

d) Minutes
The minutes of the Board meeting held 14 December 2023 were approved subject to further amends which were raised at the meeting.

e) Matters arising to add to any other business.
Facebook complaint.

f) Decisions by email.
None

2. Executive Office

a) Commercial Update
The Board noted the verbal report from the CEO.

b) Events Director Recruitment Update
The Board noted the verbal report from the CEO, and it was also noted that Vice President Sarah Kenny, as the Director with the Events portfolio, would be involved in the process before any appointment was made.

3. International Relations & Brand

a) 2024 Annual Conference

Director of International Relations and Brand gave a verbal update on her site visit to Singapore in January. Three suitable venues had been identified and the contract was therefore in the process of being finalised. It was noted that the official conference hotel would be slightly more expensive than Malaga but also that there were other cheaper options available.

4. Legal and Governance

a) Neutral Athlete Policy

Director of Legal and Governance had prepared a draft, Neutrality Policy, AIN Application Form and wording for the Notice of Race, this had been done in consultation with a working group of legal and rules experts. Several points were noted in relation to the drafting, firstly the IOC had confirmed RUS and BLR are considered as two separate NOCs for qualification purposes, therefore for the purposes of World Sailing policy they would be designated AIN (1) and AIN (2) Secondly the AIN would not be represented by an MNA they would be completely independent and therefore representing themselves.

It was agreed that the Board would delegate authority to a smaller working group to finalise the documents with a view to completing these within 10 – 14 days.

b) CAS Case Update

The Board noted the verbal update provided by the Director of Legal and Governance

c) Review of Temporary Suspensions

The Board reviewed the temporary suspensions on Council Members, Committee Members and Sailors. It was agreed that since the last review in November 2023, there had been no material change in the circumstances which led to the imposition of temporary suspensions and that the temporary suspensions would therefore remain in place until the date of the next review which would be on or before 22 May 2024.

d) Transfer of Allegiance and Residency Certificates

The Board noted that a Residence Certificate would be granted by the CEO to two applicants, and it was noted that several other applications would be re- presented via email in a consistent format.

e) Russian MNA

The Board noted a verbal update from the Director of Legal and Governance.

f) Safeguarding. Standing item, it was noted there were no new cases.

The Board noted the report circulated on preparations for the Youth Sailing World Championships 2024 in Italy and the work being done in relation to amends to the policy which would be presented at the Mid-Year Council meeting for approval.

g) Transgender

The Board noted a verbal update from the Director of Legal and Governance, the policy was in development and would be presented to the Mid-Year Council meeting for approval.

h) Election Regulation Change

The Board noted the report and the recommendation that Regulation 35 be amended to include an accelerated disciplinary process specifically for a breach of the Election Rules was approved. It was also agreed that the Chair of the Constitution Committee, the Chair of the Judicial Board and the Chair of the Ethics Commission should be consulted about any changes specifically for the elections.

i) Case List Update

The Board noted the report of pending cases.

j) Governance Reform Update

Vice President Philip Baum gave a verbal update to the Board and thanked Jon Napier for the extensive work which he had done on preparing the documents for the next stage in the implementation. It was also noted that work was being done on creating a portal/web solution for the submissions process.

5. <u>Events</u>

a) Sailing World Championships Update

It was noted that there were 7 active bids, and the item was postponed until the March Board meeting.

b) Paris 2024 Update

The Board noted a progress report from the Chief Executive. It was especially pleasing to note that there were no anticipated problems which needed to be escalated to Paris 2024 senior leadership and that the tickets for the sailing event had sold out.

c) Youth and Women Match Racing World Championships

Several recommendations were made for preliminary approval as further and final information would be presented at the March Board meeting.

Vice President Cory Sertl made the Board aware that one of the recommendations from the Match Racing Committee was for Saudi Arabia to host in December 2024.

6. AOB

a) E Sports

The President gave an update on the creation of the IOC E Sports Games. There was a possibility that the first edition could be as early as 2025. It was noted that World Sailing would need to be prepared for this and that a smaller working group should be established to work on improving World Sailing's esailing product.

b) Offshore Advisory Group

The CEO reported that the Oceanic and Offshore Committee had requested that the Board once again appoint a Double Handed (DH) Offshore Advisory Group, the members being Matt Allen, Corinne Migraine, Stan Honey, Daniel Belcher and Stacey Clark and Vice President Philip Baum. DH Offshore is the fastest growth area in offshore sailing. For instance, in last year's Fastnet Race 96 (22%) of the 430 starters were Double Handed boats. By setting up the working party the Oceanic& Offshore Committee on behalf of WS is providing leadership in the growth and development of our sport in a very attractive format. It was agreed that the Group would be appointed but that they would be asked to give some consideration to widening the membership of the Group to incorporate representation from smaller MNA's.

c) Facebook Complaint

The CEO reported that the complaint regarding an offensive Facebook post had been sent to the relevant MNA and he would keep the Board informed of the outcome.

d) The Director of International Relations and Brand advised the Board that she would be the main contact in relation to any requests regarding the Board attendance at the Olympic Games.

The President closed the meeting.