

Safeguarding Policy and Procedures May 2024

1. Introduction

- 1.1 World Sailing's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures were approved by the Council at the Annual Conference 2023.
- 1.2 At the Annual Conference several suggestions were made to improve the Safeguarding Policy. Working with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Constitution Committee, the amended documents are now proposed for Council's approval.

2. Main Amendments

- 2.1 Events scope – We have made this much clearer. We are only going to have jurisdiction over World Sailing events and the Olympic Games. Our resources are limited, to do safeguarding well, you have to be at the events and on the ground to deal with incidents as they arise. We will start with this scope and if the need arises, we will expand later.
- 2.2 Jurisdiction - It was always intended that the definitions of affected people included attendees at WS conferences and meetings, and this is clearer now.
- 2.3 Membership conditions - We have amended to reflect that MNAs, Classes and Special Events shall have a safeguarding policy and that they can adopt the policy of their NOC if they do not have their own policy.
- 2.4 Relationship with MNA. – We have tried to make it clearer that if World Sailing does not have jurisdiction, it is the MNA of the alleged perpetrator who is responsible for handling the case, however the other MNA (victim/OA) may be kept informed as appropriate.
- 2.5 Ability to sanction – We have made it clearer that interim sanctions can be imposed whilst a local authority case is pending and also that WS may act independently i.e., police may decide no further action, but WS may decide to take action because the threshold is not criminal, and a breach of the policy may still have been committed.
- 2.6 Language – We have tried to address all the content issues regarding inconsistencies, using preferred WS terminology and avoiding repetition.

3. The documents have been reviewed and approved by the Board.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Council is requested to note the report.
- 4.2 The Council is requested to approve the amended Safeguarding Policy and amended Safeguarding Procedures.

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