



World Sailing Athletes Committee Guide for Athletes

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Athletes' Committee (AC) is a non-political consultative body that offers advice and assistance to World Sailing on matters and issues of relevance to Olympic and Paralympic sailors, and acts as a link between active Olympic and Paralympic sailors and World Sailing.
- 1.2 Candidates for membership shall pledge to represent all Olympic and Paralympic sailors, rather than act as a representative of a particular Class or Event.
- 1.3 The World Sailing President may, at the request of the Chair of the Committee, appoint as additional honorary members former Olympians or Paralympians whose expertise or experience will be of value to the Committee in the execution of its responsibilities.

2. Usual Term of Membership

- 2.1 As per the IOC Athletes Commission, the term of membership shall be 8 years. 8-year terms allow members to "learn the ropes", and then become effective committee members.

3. Composition

- 3.1 The World Sailing AC shall be comprised of 9 members. In 2024, 5 members shall retire, and 6 new members join, following an election to be held during the Olympic Sailing Competition.
- 3.2 In 2024, Four of the new members shall be elected by the sailors participating at Paris 2024 Olympics.
- 3.3 Only Olympians from the current (Paris 2024) or immediately previous Olympic Sailing Competition (Tokyo 2020) shall be eligible to become members representing Olympic sailors;
- 3.4 To further assist the balance of the Committee, there shall not be more than one member from any Olympic or Paralympic sailing discipline on the Commission. (Where a member changes discipline/event after election, it is their discipline/event at time of election that counts).

- 3.5 Until sailing is re-included in the Paralympics the Para World Sailing Championships will be used instead of the. One member of the Committee will be elected by those para sailors who participated in the last Para World Sailing Championships at the Hague in 2023.
- 3.6 One further sailor shall then be appointed to the Committee by the World Sailing President to assist in ensuring a good balance between regions, genders and Events.
- 3.7 In the event of a resignation, a replacement member shall be elected by the sailors from the previous Olympic or Paralympic Sailing Competition. However, if the resignation occurs in the 12-month period prior to the next Olympic or Para World Sailing Competition, a replacement member shall be elected by the sailors participating at that event instead.
- 3.8 Any Honorary Members are in addition to the above.

4. Election

Olympians

- 4.1 Any Olympian from the current or the immediately preceding Olympics may be a candidate for election, except that no candidate shall be from the same Event or Nation as an existing World Sailing AC member who will remain a member after the election. (Where an AC candidate has competed in more than one Event, it is the Event at his / her last Olympics that counts).
- 4.2 For the coming 2024-2028 Olympic quad the AC members remaining members of the AC will be:
- David Hughes (USA) 470
 - Pawel Kolodzinski (POL) 49er
 - Pavlos Kontides (CYP) ILCA 7
- Therefore, no candidate for election can be from the 470, 49er or ILCA7 Events, or from USA, POL or CYP.
- 4.3 Online voting will take place during the Olympic Games in Paris. All current Olympians are entitled to vote during the Olympic Sailing Competition and may cast a vote for up to 3 candidates. Each candidate voted for shall be from a different Event.
- 4.4 The 4 candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for an 8 year term.

Para Sailors

- 4.4 Any Para Sailor from the most current or immediately previous Para World Sailing Championships may be a candidate for election. (Where an AC candidate has competed in more than one Event, it is the Event at his / her last Para World Sailing Championships that counts).
- 4.5 Online voting will take place during the Olympic Games in Paris. One member shall be elected by and from the sailors who participated in the most

recent Para World Sailing Championships held prior to the election (ie the Hague 2023).

- 4.6 The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for an 8 year term.

Notes

- 4.7 If there is more than one candidate from the same Event, only the candidate from that Event receiving the highest number of votes will be considered for election.
- 4.8 In the event of a tie that needs to be resolved, the non-retiring members of the existing AC shall vote to resolve the tie; in the event that the tie remains, the World Sailing President shall have the casting vote

TERMS OF REFERENCE

ATHLETES' COMMITTEE

NB: Sections in italics are from the Constitution

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Athletes' Committee is to advise and report to the Board on the views of Olympic and Para Sailing athletes. The Committee is a non-political body that offers advice and assistance to World Sailing on matters and issues of relevance to Olympic and Para Sailing sailors, and acts as a link between active Olympic and Para Sailing sailors and World Sailing.

2. Membership

- 2.1 *The Committee will consist of a Chair, Vice-Chair and other members elected in accordance with the Regulations.*

3. Remit

- 3.1 The remit of the Committee is to advise and report to the Board on:
- (a) the views and needs of Olympic and Para Sailing athletes, in particular at World Sailing Events;
 - (b) the promotion of the rights of athletes within the sport;
 - (c) the promotion of high standards of sportsmanship and ethical performance when competing and participating; and
 - (d) establishing relationships to promote feedback to World Sailing bodies from Olympic and Para Sailing athletes.
- 3.2 Under Article 51.2(b), the Committee may appoint, from its own members, a member to each Committee or Sub-committee and may change that member from time to time. However, if the appointed member is the Chair of the Athletes' Committee, then he or she does not have a vote on the Committee or Subcommittee they have been appointed under this Article to.

4. Authority

- 4.1 *The role of the Committee is to advise and report to the Board on matters within its remit. It does not make decisions on behalf of World Sailing except:*
- (a) *as set out in this section 4; or*
 - (b) *or as permitted by the Constitution, Regulations or any minuted decision of the Board.*

5. Procedures

- 5.1 The Committee must meet at least once per year. *At least one meeting must be in person* but remote attendance by members who cannot attend in person is permitted. *The date and location of any in-person meeting must be approved by the Board* on proposal by the Chair and the Chair must consult with the Committee before making a proposal.

- 5.2 *The Committee may meet around the date of the ordinary annual meeting of the General Assembly, but must not make a recommendation to be considered by another body which is meeting around the date of the same General Assembly (except in exceptional circumstances approved by the Board).*
- 5.3 *Meetings of the Committee are formally convened by the Chief Executive Officer on instruction from the Chair. The Chief Executive Officer must also convene a meeting when instructed by at least one-third of the Committee's members to do so.*
- 5.4 The agenda of meetings of the Committee is set by the Chair in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer. The agenda must include:
- (a) apologies for absence;
 - (b) declarations of conflicts of interest;
 - (c) amendments to the minutes of the last meeting (if any are proposed under section 5.14);
 - (d) any outstanding Proposals assigned to the Committee;
 - (e) any items of business supported by at least one-third of the Committee's members; and
 - (f) a review of the Committee's annual work plan and progress made against it.
- 5.5 The agenda and supporting papers of each meeting must be published at least fourteen days before the meeting (unless the Chair decides there is good reason to circulate a paper in a shorter time). The agenda must be published on the World Sailing website.
- 5.6 Committee members must inform the Chair of any potential conflict of interests as required by the World Sailing Conflict of Interests Policy.
- 5.7 *The quorum for a meeting of the Committee is one-third of the total number of members.*
- 5.8 *If the Chair is unavailable, or unable to chair, the Vice-Chair will act as chair. If the Vice-Chair is unavailable, or unable to chair, the members present at the meeting must appoint one of their number to chair.*
- 5.9 *The Committee must allow any representative of a World Sailing Member to attend and observe its meetings, unless the Committee decides to hold a part or all of a meeting in private to discuss matters which are:*
- (a) *confidential;*
 - (b) *legally privileged;*
 - (c) *commercially sensitive; or*
 - (d) *involve matters of personal privacy.*
- The decision to hold a meeting in private should only be taken following consultation with the Chief Executive Officer.
- 5.10 The Committee may decide its own procedure (but must always comply with the Constitution, the Regulations and these terms of reference).
- 5.11 The Chair is responsible for conducting the meeting in a fair and neutral manner and must respect all different points of view. Members must respect the Chair's decisions. As a guide:

- (a) Each member of the Committee should be allowed to speak at least once on any item of business (unless they have a conflict of interest).
 - (b) Debate and discussion should be open and constructive. Remarks must be respectful and not negatively directed to any Committee member or other person present.
 - (c) Remarks must be kept short and relevant to the item of business.
 - (d) Members must not interrupt other members whilst they are speaking.
 - (e) Members should not expect to speak more than once on any item of business.
- 5.12 *Article 62 applies to voting and resolutions of the Committee.* There is no requirement for items of business to be proposed or seconded unless required by the Constitution or Regulations.
- 5.13 Secret ballots should only be held in exceptional circumstances *and then only as permitted by Article 62.1(e).*
- 5.14 Following the meeting, the Chief Executive Officer will prepare the draft minutes for the approval of the chair of the meeting. Once approved, the Chief Executive Officer must circulate them promptly to the Committee. Unless any amendments are proposed within seven days, the minutes are deemed approved. If any amendment is proposed, the chair of the meeting must decide whether to accept or reject the amendment. If the amendment is rejected, its proposer may require the next meeting to consider whether or not to make the amendment. This request must be made within seven days of the rejection being notified.
- 5.15 *The minutes must be published within 14 days of their approval on the World Sailing website unless the Committee decides that, for reasons of confidentiality, legal privilege, commercial sensitivity or personal privacy, a specific part of the minutes is to be redacted. The reason for any redaction must be stated.*
- 5.16 Committee members must not disclose any confidential information they receive without permission of the Chair and the Chief Executive Officer.

6. Reporting

- 6.1 The Chair of the Committee shall provide a written report to the Board after each meeting and attach to it the approved minutes of the meeting.
- 6.2 *The Committee must prepare an annual work plan which is aligned to the World Sailing Strategy. The annual work plan must be approved by the Board and be published with the Committee's minutes.*

7. Terms of Reference

- 7.1 The Board may amend these terms of reference from time to time and the Committee may propose amendments for the Board's consideration.
- 7.2 *The Committee must review these terms of reference at least once every four years with any amendments decided no later than 31 December in the year before nominations open for committee appointments.*
- 7.3 *These terms of reference must be published on the World Sailing website.*

NOTES and TIMELINE

1. Meetings

- 1.1 The World Sailing AC shall meet in person annually.
- 1.2 The World Sailing AC may meet electronically at other times.
- 1.3 At its first meeting after the Annual Conference 2024 the World Sailing AC members shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from among their members to serve in that role for four years.
- 1.4 World Sailing shall provide Executive support to the World Sailing AC and shall meet the travel expenses of its members to attend the AC annual meeting in person, and for the nominated representatives to attend World Sailing committee meetings which are being held in person.

2. Committee Representation

- 2.1 The World Sailing AC Chair shall be a member of World Sailing Council and a member of the World Sailing Board.
- 2.2 The World Sailing AC shall nominate representatives to the Events, Equipment and Race Officials Committees
- 2.3 The World Sailing AC shall also be invited to nominate representatives to Working Parties considering Olympic sailing matters, and selection of World Sailing World Championships venues.
- 2.4 The Committee representatives may change in line with the Olympic Cycle', and the usual 4-yearly change of World Sailing committee members.

Timeline for Applications and Voting

3rd June Nominations Open

Pack and Application Form available online and via email.

30th June Nominations Close

26th July Voting Opens

11th August Voting Closes

Results notified to Board to enable President to decide 5th appointment.

Results announced week commencing 19th August.

Athletes Committee meeting 6th November 2024 Singapore.

Athletes Committee choose Chair and Vice Chair after the World Sailing AGM 2024.