

**The World Sailing Classes Committee met from 13:30 – 17:00 on Monday, 13 November 2023 in Málaga.**

***Please refer to the World Sailing website [www.sailing.org](http://www.sailing.org) for the details of the submissions in these minutes.***

**Present:**

Jan Martin Wilschut – Chair

Markus Schwendtner – Vice Chair & Events  
Committee rep.

Marcus Spillane – Vice-President  
Yann Rocherieux – Vice-President

Dimitris Dimou – Equipment Rules Sub-  
Committee rep.

Alistair Deaves – International Measurers  
Sub-Committee rep.

Cary Lee Byerly – Women's Forum rep.

**Apologies:**

Eric Faust – Equipment Committee rep.

Michael Clark – Flying Fifteen Class Association

**Class Representatives in attendance:**

Dimitris Dimou – 420 Class Association

Andreas Kosmatopoulos – 470 Class

David Hughes – 6 Metre Class Association

Jan Martin Wilschut – Cadet Class  
Association

Paul Depoorter – Europe Class Union

Robert Deaves – Finn Association Inc.

Markus Schwendtner – IKA Formula Kite/IKA  
class

Mirco Babini – IKA KiteFoil Open Class

Gonzalo Costa-Hoevel – iQFOiL Class

David Sprague – Lightning Class Association

Piret Salmistu – Melges 24 Class Association

Edwin Lodder – Nacra 15 Class Association

Alistair Deaves – OK Dinghy Association

Piotr Oleksiak – O'pen Skiff Class Association

Antonio Gonzalez de la Madrid – Optimist  
Dinghy Association (IODA)

Peter Hall – Soling Class Association

Hector Duval-Sunfish Class Association

Matthias Dahlstrom – Yngling

Association/M32 Class Association

Chris Turner – 49er and 49er FX Class

David Bower – International GP14 class

Bill Abott – Etchells Class

Pieter Kok – Flying Junior

Christian Scherrer – GC32 Class Association

David Brookes – Hobie 14 Class Association

Klaus Wagner – L30

Andrew Mcirvine – Maxi Class

Mike Hecky – Star Class Yacht Racing

Leocadio Sanchez – Tornado Class  
Association

Rob Sperna Weiland – TP52

Harold Elfring – Windsurfer

Anita Yngve – Zoom8 Class

Pippa Kenton-Page – 29er class

Alistair Deaves – OKDIA

## **World Sailing Technical and Offshore Department**

Jaime Navarro – Director of Technical and Offshore

Antonio Saporito – Technical Specialist

Francesco Gulizzi – Technical Specialist

Pilar López Fernández – World Sailing Classes Executive

### **1 Opening of the Meeting**

#### **1.1 Welcome from Committee Chair**

Jan Martin Wilschut welcomed Committee members and invited speakers and observers to the meeting.

1.2. Marcus Spillane, the Vice-President of World Sailing, extended a warm welcome to all meeting attendees on behalf of the board. He emphasized the pivotal role of classes in organizing sailors and events, expressing gratitude to committee members for their invaluable contributions to the sport's advancement. Spillane also provided an update on the board's progress regarding the Olympic vision, highlighting the dedicated effort and commitment invested in realizing these goals. Additionally, he expressed appreciation to Jan Martin for his extensive work engaging with classes over the past years, acknowledging the invaluable contributions of volunteers beyond the class structures.

1.3. The Committee members were invited to disclose any potential conflicts of interest that could impede the discussion or decisions on the agenda. No conflicts of interest were identified.

### **2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the World Sailing Classes Committee meeting of 23 October 2023 (circulated and approved after the meeting). The minutes can be downloaded at this [link](#).

There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

### **3 Committee Reports**

The Committee activity reports were distributed before the meeting and are available as supporting documents on the World Sailing website. No questions or comments were received during the meeting.

### **4. Executive Office Report – from the Technical and Offshore Department.**

Jaime Navarro thanked the classes for their cooperation in these challenging years. He introduced the team members. The team is also reviewing classes to identify those that do not comply with regulations. Looking ahead, the team strives to improve the service to classes, and part of the review will enable WS to focus resources on the classes that fulfill all the requirements. The office is looking at the possibility of allowing classes to hold a World Championship without being a WS class. The

office is also looking to provide rankings for all classes and develop engagement with offshore classes, including double-handed ones.

The Technical and Offshore executive report included an update on the following areas:

**a) Classes Review Working Party – update**

Pilar Lopez outlined the Working Party's role: to regularly review World Sailing Classes as per Regulation 10.13 and recommend withdrawals if needed.

In 2022, Byte Class and Farr 40 Class lost World Sailing status due to non-compliance found in their annual reports. Only 11 out of 118 classes met regulations, prompting reflection.

The Chair emphasized compliance for relevance. Despite proactive efforts, regulating 118 classes with limited staff remains a challenge.

**b) Changes to the Builder's Licensing fee policy**

Pilar mentioned the changes to the Builder's Licensing fee policy for builders licensed by World Sailing.

**c) Plaques Report**

Pilar presented the plaque report, emphasizing that in 2022, World Sailing sold a total of 7,861 plaques across 118 classes. Interestingly, only 6 classes contributed to 80% of plaque sales, while a broader range of 12 classes encompassed 90% of these sales. Notably, 46 classes reported no new equipment sales during this period.

**d) In-House Certification Programme:**

The In-House Certification report was distributed before the meeting and is available on the World Sailing website.

Francesco Gulizzi, World Sailing Technical Specialist, summarised the programme, remarking on the benefits to sailors of buying certified sails. WS runs the programme and trains the builders to ensure their sails are certified to the required standard.

**e) Class Rules Change procedure**

Francesco Gulizzi reported on the number of class rule changes received by the office and the corresponding approvals. Additionally, he provided a comprehensive summary of the current status of these changes.

**f) WS partners and benefits for WS Classes**

WS partners and the benefits offered to WS Classes were discussed.

**g) Post-event Form**

Pilar López elaborated on the purpose of the form, aiming to assist classes in adhering to regulations. Between January and September, there were 77 Class World Championships, out of which 50 classes successfully completed the necessary report, marking a 65% completion rate.

This process will aid the office in assessing the WS status of these classes.

**5. Olympic Vision**

Markus Schwendtner gives an update on the Olympic Vision. The information was circulated previous to the meeting.

## 6. Submissions

The submissions can be found at this [link](#).

### **Proposal 1: Proposal to Removing Conflicting And Ambiguous Sections Of RRS 60.4(A)**

**023-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules.**

Other Committee: Race officials

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

### **Proposal 2: Proposal to Removing Conflicting And Ambiguous Sections Of RRS 60.4(A)**

**023-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules.**

Other Committee: Race officials

*Opinion: Reject*

Notes:

### **Proposal To Include The Equipment Regulations In The List Of Rules And Documents That A Boat Shall Comply With.**

**036-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**

Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Reject*

Notes:

### **Proposal To Clarify The Responsibility Of An Event Technical Committee With Regards To The Certificates.**

**037-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**

Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Reject*

Notes:

### **Proposal To Bring Rule 78.2 In Line With Practice. Often It Is The Technical Committee That Manages Class Certificates.**

**038-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**

Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

### **Proposal To Allow MNA To Prescribe That Its Approval Is Required To Organise An Event And To Appoint Race Officials**

**043-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**

Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Reject*

Notes:

**Proposal To Improve The Name Of The Technical Committee And To Introduce The Equipment Regulations Document.**

**044-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal To Regulate Off-Site Protest Committees And Juries In Order To Offer Sailors A Fair And Transparent Procedure In Case Of A Hearing And When Judging Rule 42**

**088-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee:

Opinion: Reject

Notes: all 3 proposals rejected

**Proposal To Amend Regulation 10.2.1 to allow for recognition of offshore classes providing competition for a diverse range of nationalities that do not meet the current criteria.**

**098-23**      **Reporting Committee: Oceanic and Offshore**  
Other Committee: events, equipment and Constitution

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal To Amend Regulation 10.3(c) to clarify what plaque fees World Sailing Classes can expect to be required to pay to World Sailing**

**100-23**      **Reporting Committee: Board**  
Other Committee: Classes, Constitution, equipment

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal To Amend Regulation 10.4(d) to clarify that the chair of the Event Technical Committee is an International Measurer of the class**

**102-23**      **Reporting Committee: equipment**  
Other Committee: Classes, events, Constitution

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal To Amend Regulation 25.2.1(a)(ii) to enable Classes to have a Transgender Policy awarding female World Championship titles and World Championship titles open to any gender**

**109-23**      **Reporting Committee: Classes**  
Other Committee: Board, women forum, events, Medical, Constitution

Recommendation to Council: Approve

Notes: The Classes Committee supports the initiative to have a transgender policy

**Proposal To Amend Regulation 10.2.1 to have additional methods for determining designation as a World Sailing Class Association**

**150-23**      **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Events, Constitution, Classes

Opinion: No opinion

Notes:

**Proposal To Amend Regulation 10.2.1 and 10.4 to correct regulations linking designation as a World Sailing Class Association and the right to hold a World Championship**

**151-23**      **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Events, Constitution, Classes

Opinion: No opinion

Notes:

**Proposal To Prevent issues when Olympic Equipment is selected, but the class is not recognised as a World Sailing Class Association, and to provide added value to the Olympic classes' world championship**

**152-23**      **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Events, Constitution, Classes

Opinion: No opinion

Notes:

**To remove the requirement for a trapeze harness to comply with an ISO standard for quick release from the RRS. This can be specified in class rules.**

**18-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Delete the requirement for a trapeze harness to comply with an ISO standard for quick release. Make it clear that harnesses used by wing foils, kiteboards and windsurfers are covered by this rule.**

**19-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

**To Remove The Requirement For A Trapeze Harness To Comply With An ISO Standard For Quick Release From The RRS**

**20-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee: Classes/Equipment

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To Clarify What Are The Relevant Authorities To Be Informed About Class Rule Related Penalties**

**29-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Quite often, the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions for an event provide that class rules are subject to discretionary penalties. However, not complying with class rules implies breaking rule 78.1 as well. Yet, breaking rule 78 is seldom marked as No concern was raised [DP] or [SP].**

**35-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee:

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the conditions for changing a class rule at an event and bring the RRS in line with the WS Regulations.**

**41-23**      **Reporting Committee: Racing Rules**  
Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**A proposal to amend Regulation 10.4(a) To adjust the timeline to notify World Sailing of the next World Championship of an international class.**

**101-23**      **Reporting Committee: Equipment**  
Other Committee: Events, Classes, Constitution

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal to amend Regulation 23.3.1 and 25.8.2 For the Board to approve the Chief and Deputy Chiefs to the Olympic Games**

**108-23**      **Reporting Committee: Race Officials**  
Other Committee: Events

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal to amend new constitution article 51.10 to Correct minor differences between current and new regulations.**

**117-23**      **Reporting Committee: Race Officials**  
Other Committee: Events

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**119-23**      **To clarify the term of ICA and to introduce abbreviations for the Technical Committee and the Equipment Regulations.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Racing Rules

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the applicability of the ERS**

120-23

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee:

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the applicability of the ERS**

121-23

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To improve and clarify the positioning of mainsails on the rig**

122-23

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee:

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the use of the actual measurement points on booms and bowsprits for the positioning of equipment**

123-23

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee:

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To introduce a new term for the authority responsible for interpreting class rules for the purpose of RRS 64.4(b)**

124-23

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Racing Rules & Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To add the ICA in the list of bodies which may be certification authorities**

125-23

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve



Notes:

**To add the licensed manufacturer's mark which is referenced by certain Class rules**

**126-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

**To improve the wording and clarify the actions and functions of certain officials and marks on equipment.**

**127-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

**To add the Equipment Regulations as a term**

**128-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

**To add a term for a crew member which is needed in certain class rules.**

**129-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

**To add new terms for personal equipment types and improve the wording of existing ones.**

**130-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

**To add missing definitions and improve the wording in existing terms.**

**131-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

*Opinion: Approve*

Notes:

**To improve the wording of existing terms.**

**132-23** **Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**  
Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To introduce a separate term for polishing and two new terms for locking equipment in place or to block access**

**133-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee:

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To improve the definition of Hull, and to make it possible to be used by the RRS.**

**134-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the way of measuring weight of appendages.**

**135-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To add the various forms of boom Vang as an ERS term.**

**136-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To fix errors in the form of missing lines in specific rig diagrams.**

**137-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To move the backstay into the standing rigging.**

**138-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**139-23 To remove obsolete examples from the definition and amend the drawing accordingly to match the text.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the definitions of Headsail, Spinnaker and Quadrilateral sails.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

**140-23**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the conditions for extending sail edges to find a corner point.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

**141-23**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To add an alternative method of controlling spinnaker size, still used by certain classes.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

**142-23**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To use the new term of Certification Measurer, to clean up the text and to make it gender neutral.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

**143-23**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To use the new term of event class rules authority.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

**144-23**

Other Committee: Racing Rules

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify and unify the measurement condition for tip weight and centre of gravity of masts.**

**Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

**145-23**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To clarify the conditions for extending sail edges to find a corner point and to remove a method which is in contradiction to the principles shown in the various ERS diagrams for corner points.**

**146-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**To make minor improvements or re-arrangements in the text as part of a general housekeeping.**

**147-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal to amend Regulation 23 to have certainty about the process on how and when to select events and equipment for future Olympic Games.**

**153-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal to amend Regulation 23 to have certainty about the process on how and when to select events and equipment for future Olympic Games.**

**154-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Approve

Notes:

**Proposal to delete Rule B5.62 to standardising the rules for giving redress**

**214-23 Reporting Committee: Equipment Committee**

Other Committee: Classes

Opinion: Reject

Notes:

## **7. Nominations to committees**

There was a discussion about nominating individuals on behalf of the Classes Committee to other Committees for the upcoming year. There was a request for assistance from the legal department at the office regarding the formal process for submitting names. The deadline for submissions is set for August 1st.

## **8. Update on the Special Events Working Party**

Marcus Spillane, Vice-President and Chair of the Working Party, of which Jan Martin is a member, updated the Committee on the progress made.

## **9. Keelboat Champion-of-Champions Event**

Peter Hall raised the issue of the Keelboat Champion-of-Champions Event with David Graham. In 2018, there were plans to hold the championships with the Far East 28 in China. The format included a crew of 4, including a member from a different gender, and one Chinese participant per boat for a crew of 5. Ten boats were to be supplied for this event, scheduled for 3 or 4 weeks in November.

David informed the Committee that the proposed name for this event is the 'Champions of Champions Regatta', slated to be a Special Event in 2024.

## **10. Youth Olympics 2026**

Alistair Fox provided an update on the current status of the organization for the Youth Olympics. It's confirmed that there will be windsurfers and possibly kitesurfers, but the selection of other equipment has not been finalized yet.

## **11. 2024 Other Committee's Agenda Items relating to World Sailing Classes**

Not any other matter arising.

## **12. Other Items Related to World Sailing Classes**

11.2 Discussion on youth and women's sailing.

The Committee noted that the updated "Connect to Sailing" programme for Youth and associated guidelines should be made available online and promoted to MNA to help guide them on the development of youth classes. [Irina Perez Leroux, Vice-Chair of the Development and Regions Committee, updated the Committee on the progress made.](#)

## **13. World Sailing Classes priorities 2023-2024**

No new priorities added.

## **14. Any other business**

Hector Duval addressed the committee regarding the challenges faced in organizing the Sunfish World Championship due to issues with the builder, posing a threat to its international status. He appealed for support in maintaining this international standing.

David Sprague proposed establishing a Working Party (WP) to assist classes in enhancing their activities.

When faced with a decline in classes meeting regulatory requirements and reduced participation, it's crucial to contemplate the future. It's time for classes to form a WP to comprehensively assess the current status, regulations, programs, and data, emphasizing the need for thorough analysis and solutions.

The World Sailing Classes Committee (WSCC) recommends creating a WP to tackle participation decline and aid in activity development for struggling classes. Collecting data will be vital in analyzing participation and equipment status.

The Chair, on behalf of the Classes Committee, thanked Alistair Fox for his work over the past fifteen years and his collaboration with the classes, and wished him well in his future endeavours.

**Not any other matter arising, the Chair concluded the meeting.**