

Item 2 - Events Committee Minutes



The Events Committee met online on Monday 13th May 2024 at 1900 UTC.

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Present:

John Derbyshire (GBR) Chair	Sofia Tedin (ARG) EC Vice Chair
David Abercrombie (NZL)	Anna Holmdahl White (SWE)
Aiko Saito (JPN)	Guillaume Chiellino (FRA)
Ben Remocker (CAN)	Walter Boddener (BRA)
Piotr Oleksiak (POL)	Graham Biehl (USA)
Marco Predieri (ITA)	Eliane Fierro (MEX)
Markus Schwendtner (GER) Olympic Classes	David Hughes (USA) Athletes' Commission
Michael Rollich (FIN) Match Racing Sub Committee	

Apologies:

Daniel Belcher (AUS)	Ke Su (CHN)
Gelly Skartlatou (GRE)	

In attendance:

Sarah Kenny (AUS) WS Vice President	Cory Sertl (USA) WS Vice President
Michael Downing (Interim Director of Events)	Matt Wheaton (Competitions Manager)
Corinne McKenzie (Events Consultant)	Pedro Rodrigues (Events Manager)
Fiona Kidd (Development Manager)	

1. Opening of the Meeting

- 1.1 The Committee received an update from the Committee Chair. The Chair thanked the Committee and the Working Parties for all of their work and wished those athletes attending Paris 2024 Olympic Games all the best.
- 1.2 The Committee noted the declared Conflicts of Interest. The Chair reminded the meeting that the WPs decision and decision on the hosts for the 2026 and 2027 World Sailing Championships should remain confidential until announced by the Board.

2. Minutes

- 2.1 The Committee approved the meetings of Thursday 16th November 2023 (circulated and approved after the meeting). The minutes can be downloaded at <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/organisation/governance/conferences/past-conferences/previous-conference-papers/>
- 2.2 There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere.

3. Update from the Board

- 3.1 The Committee noted the Board minutes from their meetings since last the Events Committee meeting.

3.2 The Committee received an update from the Events Committee Vice President.

The Committee noted the following:

- Considerable Board effort consumed with legal matters surrounding the AIN and RUS/BLR matters
- The Board continues to oversee the implementation of the new governance model
- New policies on safeguarding, transgender, inclusion have been approved by the Board
- Various competition hosts have been decided by the Board
- The Board continues to have careful monitoring of the financial activities of the federation

4. Olympic Vision

4.1 The Committee VP led a discussion around the Olympic Vision that was approved by Council at 2023 Annual Conference. It was noted that the report had been well received by stakeholders such as ASOIF and the IOC. Work now commences to ensure the vision is incorporated to all the relevant areas of the federation.

5. Paris 2024 Olympic Games

5.1 The Committee received a report on the plans for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games from the Interim Director of Events.

The Committee noted the report and the following:

- Planning has mostly concluded and the OCOG is finalising its move into delivery mode; the budget constraints will become more prevalent as the Games approach
- The value of the Test Event has been proven again with those Functional Areas present implementing the lessons learnt; particular noteworthy is the strength of the FOP Medical Plan but this still needs integrating with the FOP operational plan that is still under development.
- Integration with the OBS, the host broadcaster, continues. Onboard cameras are a particular focal point, especially for the board events and the proposed helmet camera.
- The availability of high precision trackers has been confirmed finalising the use of Digital Officiating at the Games, as well as supporting the use of augmented graphics for broadcast.

5.2 The Committee received a report from the Quotas and Qualification Working Party on the implementation of the Qualification System for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

The Committee noted the following in addition the report:

- the final qualifier, the Last Chance Regatta, has been completed and the concept has been proven.
- Thanks to the French MNA (FFV) for their considerable efforts to bring the concept to life whilst also running the Semaine Olympique Francais.

5.3 The Committee received a paper and report from the Format Working Party on the implementation of the formats for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The report contained 10 recommendations for Paris 2024 that were all approved by Events Committee.

6. LA28 Olympic Games

6.1 The Committee received a report from the Format Working Party on progress towards formats for the LA 2028 Olympic Sailing Competition. The report was endorsed by the Committee including the request for Olympic Classes to send their proposals to the WP by 1 July 2024.

The WP received feedback to their interim report asking for it to expand on the benefits of shared equipment and further specify where a new format fits amongst traditional and high engagement formats. A note was requested to provide an update on how shared equipment will be used for training and where more than 2 formats might be used.

- 6.2 The Committee received a report from the Quotas and Qualification Working Party regarding possible approaches for the LA28 Olympic Games and how they impact the scheduling of the World Sailing Championships. This work was shared with the WSC bid evaluation group ahead of the Events Committee meeting.

The Committee suggested removing the ILCA World Championships as a qualifier and increasing the quota available at the Last Chance Regatta. There was further discussion on limiting continental qualification to a defined group (e.g. ENP, developing nations) and revisiting how the Developing Nations quota places were utilised.

7. World Sailing Event Strategy

- 7.1 The Committee received a verbal update from the Board regarding progress on the plans for the 2026 / 2027 World Sailing Championships ahead of the announcement of the hosts.
- 7.2 This item was discussed with 6.2. The position of the World Cup Series in the calendar was questioned as called for by the Olympic vision as the existing regattas leave limited options.

8. Regulation 23

- 8.1 The committee received an update on the progress towards a new Regulation 23. The Committee asked the Vice Presidents to convey urgency to the Board as the new Regulations are being drafted. This matter should be addressed as part of that process and concluded in 2024.
- The place of potential new Olympic events and their invitation to the World Sailing Championships was raised. The process and timeline for events to be invited the World Sailing Championships requires development as a priority.
- 8.2 The Committee reviewed Submission M09-24 regarding Regulation 23 from the International Formula Kite Class Association regarding Regulation 23 and makes the following recommendation to the Council:
- Proposed by Markus Schwendtner; seconded by Ben Remocker
- Recommendation to Council: Reject**
For: 3; Against: 10; Abstain: 0
- 8.3 The Committee reviewed Submission M10-24 regarding Regulation 23 from the International Formula Kite Class Association regarding Regulation 23 and makes the following recommendation to the Council:
- Proposed by Markus Schwendtner; seconded by Piotr Oleksiak
- Recommendation to Council: Reject**
For: 1; Against: 12; Abstain: 0
- 8.4 The Committee reviewed Submission M11-24 regarding Regulation 23 from the International 49er Class Association regarding Regulation 23 and makes the following recommendation to the Council:
- Proposed by Markus Schwendtner; seconded by Ben Remocker
- Recommendation to Council: Reject**
For: 3; Against: 10; Abstain: 0

9. Rankings

- 9.1 The Committee received a report from the Rankings Working Party.
- 9.2 The Committee supported the following recommendation to the Board:
- The EC support the Fleet Race Ranking WP by requesting the WS Board approve appropriate funding to develop the approved, new Ranking system. In addition there are three further**

development requests that would automate some of the workflow that go towards maintaining the rankings as well as to enable rankings to be able to all WS Classes.

Calendar Upgrade – Enable MNAs and Class Associations to register regattas into the World Sailing systems. The current system is inadequate using a google- form and email.

XRR ‘Builder’ – Enables MNAs and Class Associations to enter results into the WS systems directly. The result would be linked with a World Sailing ID and would feature on the Sailor Bio and Rankings as applicable.

XRR Extension – Increases the data exchanged in the XRR message to include Race Officials who officiated at the regatta, enabling their Official’s resume to be updated and simplifying the process for their race official qualification renewal. The next step evolution would be to upgrade the system to receive TR & MR data automatically (as per the original XRR concept).

10. Youth Events Sub-committee

10.1 The Committee received a report from the Chair of the Youth Events Sub-committee.

The Committee supported the concept of Windsurfing events being non foiling. It did not support the proposal for foiling wing board equipment. The YESC will progress this events and equipment selection process when the IOC confirm the athlete quota and events offered to World Sailing; anticipated to be in June.

11. Match Racing Sub-committee

11.1 The Committee received a report from the Match Racing Sub-committee.

11.2 The Committee supported the following two recommendations to the Board:

The EC recommends that WS Board dedicate resources to make sure that all necessary match racing data is available for easy access for skippers, teams and regatta organisers by implementing a search function in the ranking.

The EC recommends that WS Board dedicate resources to reintroduce a Match Racing portal on sailing.org where all information concerning match racing can be easily easy accessed and presented.

This is particularly important for new event organisers looking for information on how to set up and organize match racing regattas, the information for which is currently in multiple areas of the World Sailing website.

12. Team Racing Sub-committee

12.1 The Committee received a report from the Team Racing Sub-committee.

12.2 The Committee supported the following recommendation to the Board:

At the 2023 Annual Conference, the Events Committee supported the formalization of the Team Racing Grading/Ranking Platform that has been developed by Arnaud Mante, a member of the TRSC over the past several years into the World Sailing Website. This has not been implemented.

At the 2023 Annual Conference, the Events Committee supported the request from the TRSC that the World Sailing Team Racing microsite be re-created as an element within the World Sailing platform. However, due to technical issues with the WS website platform this has not been implemented.

13. Any Other Business