

## Team Leaders & Coaches Commission Minutes



**Team Leaders & Coaches Commission met from 09:30 – 13:00 on Wednesday 15 November 2023 at the Hotel NH, Malaga.**

|                                     |   |                                                        |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Opening of the Meeting           | 1 | 8. Training & Development                              | 3 |
| 2. Minutes                          | 1 | 9. Technical & Offshore                                | 3 |
| 3. Update from the Board            | 2 | 10. Youth Events                                       | 3 |
| 4. Safety Commission                | 2 | 11. Policies at World Sailing Events and Olympic Games | 3 |
| 5. Paris 2024 Olympic Games         | 2 | 12. Any Other Business                                 | 3 |
| 6. Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games   | 2 |                                                        |   |
| 7. 2023 Sailing World Championships | 2 |                                                        |   |

### **Present:**

Nadine Stegenwalner (GER) Chair  
Aiko Saito (JPN) Vice-chair  
Michele Marchesini (ITA)

Yann Rocherieux (FRA) Vice President WS Board  
David Hughes (USA) Athletes' Commission  
Ana Sanchez (ESP)

### **In attendance:**

Alastair Fox (Director of Events)  
Michael Downing (Olympic Manager)  
Matt Wheaton (Competitions Manager)

Catherine Duncan (Training & Development Executive)  
Pedro Rodrigues (Events Manager)

### **Apologies:**

Victor Kovalenko (AUS)  
Linda Toumi (TUN)

Walter Boddener (BRA)

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

- 1.1 The Team Leaders and Coaches Commission opened with a welcome from the Chair who also gave personal thanks to Aiko Saito for compiling data and reporting from many regattas over the past twelve months.
- 1.2 The Commission noted the departure of the Director of Events within 8 months of the Paris Olympic Games would leave a considerable knowledge gap within the World Sailing Events Team and was keen to hear from the WS Board regarding new direction and a possible replacement.

### **Recommendation:**

The Board appoint a suitable Director of Events as soon as possible and when required, appoint additional persons to ease the workload on existing staff.

## **2. Minutes**

- 2.2 The Commission noted the minutes from the meetings in October 2022. The minutes can be downloaded at <https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/organisation/governance/conferences/past-conferences/>
- 2.3 The minutes were approved with no matters arising

### 3. Update from the Board

#### **The Team Leaders and Coaches Commission received an update from Mr Rocherieux.**

- Noted that the work and representation of the TL/C Commission was closely linked to the Olympic Vision.
- Noted challenges ahead for Paris
- The Board are looking at future distribution of workload for the WS Events Team.
- Discussed revival of the Sailing World Cup. The Chair commented that the World Cup is a well known product which makes applying for government funding easier.

### 4. Safety Commission

- 4.1 The Commission received an update on the newly formed 'Safety Commission'. It was noted that there was a strong correlation between the two Commissions and working together could be a real driving force for change. The Safety Panel will continue to be staff-led and will record, monitor, and report incidents of interest to the Safety Commission.
- 4.2 It is the strong view of both the Medical and TL/C Commission that any Support Staff and Support Vessel on the water should have a minimum valid First Aid certificate in addition to approved safety equipment onboard, especially important with the rise and development of foiling equipment.

### 5. Paris 2024 Olympic Games

- 5.1 The Commission received a report on the Paris 2024 Olympic Games from the Olympic Manager, including learnings taken from the 2023 Test Event.
- 5.2 It was noted that:
  - Construction of Venue is ongoing with the WS Olympic Manager to visit the following week.
  - Training opens in June 2024
  - Sourcing of ice a challenge
  - There will be a 'lane' across beach to access the containers and spares stored.
  - Athlete Accommodation plan is to be confirmed. It was agreed that all athletes should enter the venue via the same security access, so that N HOW Residents do not have any advantage.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Field of Play is fairly and affordably available for all NOCs for training in the lead up to the Games.

### 6. Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games

- 6.1 The Commission have great concerns about Los Angeles 2028, in particular the venue and Field of Play, noting that very little progress appears to have been made in last twelve months.

**Recommendation:** The WS Board must press LA28 OCOG and US Sailing to progress their programme to avoid last minute changes or even a radical change of venue.

### 7. 2023 Sailing World Championships

- 7.1 The Commission reviewed the Hague Sailing World Championships. It was agreed that the reduction of Support Vessels was acceptable and should be replicated at all World Sailing regattas. It was also noted that Fleet sizes may also have to be reduced with fewer support vessels in place.
- 7.2 Regarding the Olympic Vision, the concept of splitting the Sailing World Championships into two separate events was discussed and it was agreed that – although a single event is in some areas positive (organisation, media etc) - this could be beneficial for a number of reasons including suitability and size of venue, which have different requirements according to equipment however it

was noted that it should not become a foiling only event and there should be some degree of variety.

**Recommendation:** For early decisions on the 2025-2028 Calendar which will be busy with the re-introduction of the World Cup, World Championships. It is hoped that the US Sailing Series may bring some opportunity to train in the region of Los Angeles.

## **8. Training & Development**

8.1 The Commission received an update on ongoing projects from the WS Training and Development Team, including an update from the Women in High Performance Sport 'WISH' project.

## **9. Technical & Offshore**

9.1 The commission was due to receive an update from the T&O Director, however due to time constraints, this item was not presented.

## **10. Youth Events**

10.1 The Commission heard an update on plans for 2023 and 2024 Youth Sailing World Championships and welcomed a review of the format for 2025 onwards.  
It was noted that there were no proposed changes for coaching at the Youth Worlds.

## **11. Policies at World Sailing Events and Olympic Games**

11.1 To review any policy documents including electronics within the Support Team Regulations.

**Recommendation:** STR should become part of RRS

Received a positive update on a Coaches and Support Team Registration System noting that Funding from the IOC had been applied for and subject to a project specification, the funds would be received as soon as January 2024.

**Recommendation:** A central World Sailing license and registration system for coaches should be implemented.

**Action:** The Commission to immediately start work with Staff to collate a list of deliverables and provide guidance and review any updates towards a digital officiating policy

## **12. Any Other Business**

12.1 The Commission had some discussion with the following recommendations:

- Greater representation required on Commission.
- Request for 2 x three hour meetings at Conference in 2024 with the possibility of an 'open' session for observers.
- Full Name of Commission to be implemented on website and schedule.
- WS must appoint a full-time IT / web administrator to support the working group and wider projects within the organisation.
- Submission 025-22. Commission indicated no support at this time.