

The World Sailing Classes Committee met from 14:00 – 17:00 on Monday, 4 November 2024.

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Present:

Jan Martin Wilschut – Chairman

Markus Schwendtner – Vice Chair & Events
Committee rep.

Cory Sertl – Vice-President

Dimitris Dimou – Equipment Rules Sub-
Committee rep.

Alistair Deaves – International Measurers
Sub-Committee rep.

Eric Faust - Equipment Committee rep.

Class Representatives in attendance:

29er Class Association-Peter Lubeck

420 Class Association-Dimitris Dimou

470 Class Association-Andreas

Kosmatopoulos

49er Class Association-Ben Remocker

5.5 Metre Class Association-Robert Deaves

Cadet Class-Jan Martin Wilschut

Etchells Class Association-Steve Benjamin

Finn Association Inc.-Robert Deaves

Hobie 16 Class Association-Cary Byerley

Hobie Tiger Class Association-Tom Clarke

ILCA 6 Class-Eric Faust

ILCA 7 Class-Tracy Usher

IQFoil Class Association-Gonzalo Costa

Hoevel

IQFoil Youth & Junior Class Association-

Ronnie Meir

J70 Class Association-Dina Kowalyshyn

IKA - Formula Kite-Mirco Babini

IKA - KiteFoil Open Class-Markus

Schwendtner

IKA - Open Class-Marina Psychogyiou

L30 one design-Rodiion Luka

Lightning Class Association-David Sprague

OK Dinghy Association-Alistair Deaves

Optimist Dinghy Association-Antonio

González de la Madrid

Soling Class Association-Peter Hall

Sunfish Class Association-Hector Duval

Techno 293 Class Association-Piotr Oleksiak

World Sailing Technical and Offshore Department

Jaime Navarro – Director of Technical and Offshore

Antonio Saporito – Technical Specialist

Francesco Gulizzi – Technical Specialist

1. Opening of the Meeting

- Welcome from the Committee Chair

The meeting was opened by the Chair, Jan Martin Wilschut, who welcomed all attendees.

- Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from the following representatives:

- Francesca Incardona & Peter Kok – Flying Junior Class
- Edwin Lodder – Nacra 15 Class
- Rob Weiland – TP52 Class
- Anita Yngve – Zoom8 Class
- Mattias Dahlström – M32 Class
- Andrew McIrvine – Maxi Class

- Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the World Sailing Classes Committee meeting held on 23 October 2022 were noted as circulated and approved. These minutes are available at:

<http://www.sailing.org/meetings>

A typo in the previous minutes regarding the date was acknowledged.

A question was raised about the discussion on non-World Sailing Classes hosting World Championships. Jaime Navarro clarified that a review of the minutes is necessary, but a key focus from the last Annual Conference was ensuring services are prioritised for WS Classes rather than simply allowing classes to host World Championships.

- Matters arising not covered elsewhere on this agenda

No additional matters were raised that were not covered in the agenda.

2. Committee Reports

The Committee Reports were circulated prior to the meeting for review.

- Report from the Committee Chairman.
- Updates from the representative of the Events Committee.
- Updates from the representative of the Equipment Committee
- Updates from the representative of the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee
- Updates from the representative of the International Measurers Sub-Committee

3. Executive Office Report SP

- The office provided an overview of its work related to the outlined agenda points:
 - (a) Class review working party: Updates on progress and ongoing reviews.
 - (b) Plaque report: Noted trends and observations, including a decline in plaque sales linked to reduced sailor participation.

- (c) Worlds report: Summary of World Championships activity and support provided to classes
- (d) WS Classes Satisfaction Survey: Presented findings and actionable feedback.
Special Events:
Jim Morris, Director of Events department, emphasised the goal of improving the relationship between WS and special events.
Markus Schwendtner stressed the importance of fair rules and ensuring consequences for rule breaches.
Jaime Navarro mentioned the recognition of events that may not seek WS Class status.
- (e) E-Sailing. Updates on the growth and development of e-sailing initiatives.
- (f) ERS & RRS 2025-2028- Confirmed new rules will take effect from 1 January 2025.
- (g) IHC report: Shared progress on IHC work.
- (h) Board registration report: Updates on ongoing registration efforts.

4. Governance Reform

An update on the new Constitution was provided by Urvasi Naidoo, Director of Legal Department, highlighting:

The introduction of a new electronic system that allows proposal submissions year-round.

Jan Martin's Question: Clarified that proposals could bypass the Chair under the new system, which Urvasi confirmed.

5. Submissions

To note on submission 030-24 from the Board and the Oceanic and Offshore Committee regarding Regulation 38 – Safety incident Reporting. The submissions can be found on: [Link](#)

The Committee gave no formal opinion on the submission.

6. Sustainability

Alexandra Rickman, Director of the Sustainability Department, provided an update on progress and challenges in implementing sustainability initiatives. She highlighted key goals for Agenda 2030, including achieving net-zero emissions, promoting sustainable materials, expanding education programs, and strengthening partnerships for ocean health.

7. Other Committee's Agenda Items relating to World Sailing Classes

No Other Committee's Agenda Items relating to World Sailing Classes were raised.

8. Other Items Related to World Sailing Classes

- (a) RRS 50 Discussion: Revisit the discussion on RRS 50 following the Racing Rules Committee's previous handling of the matter.

Discussion on RRS 50 highlighted questions about the definition of "easily disconnected."

Dimitris Dimou noted that he could not interpret RRS 50.1(c) and suggested that the Racing Rules Sub-Committee (RRS) provide clarification.

It was also noted that the ERS states that Class Rules should define these standards.

- (b) Request to the IM Subcommittee: Through the Classes IM representative, a proposal was raised for a modification to the IM championship report submission deadline. The aim is to prevent invalidation of championships for IMs due to late submission of the report.

The request was heard by the representative for the International Measurers (IM) Subcommittee, who stated that the current timeframe is sufficient and declined to raise the matter further to the IM Subcommittee

9. World Sailing Classes priorities 2024-2025

WS Classes Committee will work on the priorities for 2025-2026 with emphasis on working proactively closer together with all the Classes in line with the new Strategy.

10. Any other business

Yearbook 2025: A request was made for an updated yearbook, including the new RRS, ERS, Constitution, and WS Officials' information.

Decline in Sailor Participation: The plaque report highlighted a decline in participation, which will be evaluated further in the coming year to address its causes and reverse the trend.

Keelboats: The importance of involving keelboats in the future was noted.

Request to share the link to the 2023 yearbook after the Annual Conference.

11. Elections

Elections were conducted for the 2025-2029 term for Chair and Vice-Chair.

For the Chair position, Jan Martin Wilschut was re-elected as Chair, with David Sprague as his alternate.

For the Vice-Chair position, Andreas Kosmatopoulos from the 470 Class was elected unopposed as Vice-Chair representing the Olympic Classes Sub-Committee.