

World Sailing
Development & Regions Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Friday 8 November 2024

Location: Room 311, Suntec Convention Centre, Singapore

Present:	
Pinar Coşkuner Genç (TUR) – Chair	Charles Glover (GBR)
Irina Perez (DOM) – Vice Chair	Smadar Pintov (ISR)
Stratis Andreadis (GRE)	Ed Russo (FRA)
Mirco Babini (ITA)	Sachiko Sault (JPN)
David Covo (CAN)	Malav Shroff (IND)
Penny McIntyre (BAR)	Maciej Szafran (POL)
Ana Jansa Gamulin (SLO)	Inga Jakobsone (LAT)
Mohamed Alobeidli (UAE)	
Also in Attendance:	
Özlem Akdurak (TUR) – Vice President	Cory Sertl (USA) – Vice President
Fiona Kidd – WS Head of International Development	Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (MEX) – Chair, Regional Games Sub-Committee
Catherine Duncan – WS Development Manager	Hannah Stodel - Para World Sailing Manager
Apologies for Absence:	
Raynor Haagh (NZL)	Alberto Dana (MEX)
Hocine Lali (ALG)	

1. Opening of the Meeting

- a. Chair's Opening Remarks
Pinar opened the meeting and thanked to committee for their tremendous work during the term of the committee. Pinar noted that whilst the committee will change with the new name, Growth of Sailing Committee, for the next term, the mission remains the same, to ensure that the sport grows inclusively and sustainably, fostering opportunities for all sailors regardless, regardless of background and geography. Pinar then gave the floor to Özlem, Cory and Irina for opening remarks.
- b. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
There were no new declarations of conflicts of interest to note. Apologies for absence were received from Raynor Haagh, Alberto Dana and Hocine Lali.
- c. Minutes of the meetings on 17 November 2023
The Committee formally approved the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 17 November at the Hotel NH, Malaga Spain which had already been circulated in December 2023.
- d. Matters Arising from the previous minutes
There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

2. Chair's Annual Report

- a. To receive the annual report from the Chair regarding committee activities from November 2023 to date

Pinar provided her report to the committee covering to key achievements from the committee in both 2024, and their whole term as a group. This included the detailed conversation and meetings of the committee, having monthly meetings throughout the period, except for during the northern hemisphere summers. Pinar also noted the 6 working parties the committee formed, which were: Inspiration & participation, Leadership, Regional Collaboration, The Joint working party with the youth events Sub-Committee, Pathways and most recently the Strategy working party. Each working party has contributed greatly to the committee. Other key work included the translation of the Technical Course for Coaches materials into Spanish and the update to the Emerging Nations Definition. Finally, Pinar spoke to the Webinars the committee has ran over the term, firstly with EUROSAF, then ASAF and as part of Steering the Course. Pinar finished by thanking the committee and noting her honour to be Chair.

3. Working Party Activity Reports

- a. Inspiration and Participation WP
Maciej gave an update on the work of the Working party. Across the four years, they have held 18 meetings, with the key outcomes being: Preparing the board recommendation on the Connect to Sailing program, feedback on the continental development plan, running a survey regarding Learn to Sail programs in different countries and finally the 4 Let's Go Sailing webinars held in 2024. Maciej finished by thanking all of the Working Party members.
- b. Leadership WP
Smadar gave an update on the working party including an overview of the presentation regarding leadership values in sailing
- c. Continental and Regional Collaboration WP
David provided an overview of the survey the working party conducted with each of the Continental Associations and was presented in Abu Dhabi in 2022. This then helped lead to the formation of the working group that met in Malaga in 2023 and created a list of 12 priorities that the continental associations have. David then thanked all of the members of the working party for their work and input.
It was suggested for the continental survey to continue each year in the new Growth of Sailing Committee to keep understanding the different areas.
- d. Joint WP – Development and Regions Committee and Youth Events Sub-Committee.
Charles updated on the work of the group including establishing three focuses for the Youth World Championships being Competition, Development and Commercial. This then lead to further areas of discussion including multi-year venue deals, the events alignment with the Olympics and the format for the event.
It was suggested a general area for future focus could be affordability/cost reduction in Sailing and that it might be best to create a survey to understand this in different areas. This could then lead to a guide for creating commercially sustainable events and funding sponsors.

4. Report from the Regional Games Sub-Committee

- a. To receive a report from the Chair of the Regional Games Sub-Committee on activities from November 2023 to date
Beatriz gave an update from the Sub-committee including the major regional games held since the last meeting. Beatriz also spoke to the role of the games in athlete's journeys, technical delegates and collaboration with other groups such as the navy.

Discussion then moved to the importance of capturing data from the regional games including countries and sailors participating and the different classes amongst the games.

5. Participation and Development Department Update

- a. Receive a short update on key Participation and Development department activities
Catherine gave an update on the different Participation & Development Department Activities, including first of all, Technical Courses for Coaches. This covered the courses since the last meeting in November 2023 to date, as well as the difference between the 2021 – 2024 quadrennial and 2017 – 2020 quadrennial. Catherine then presented on the Training Scholarship across the same period, as well as the plans for the changes to the program for 2025 – 2028. These plans were based on the paper from the November 2023 meeting. The performance scholarship was already presented to the Coaches and Team Leaders Commission who were supportive. A suggestion from the committee is to collect some case studies on previous scholarship attendees.
Other topics covered the WISH program, DNSS and Youth Worlds Emerging Nations Program and Senior Emerging Nations Program. Questions focused on the possibility to include a double handed boat in the Emerging Nations Program.
Other feedback spoke about creating guides to help MNAs apply for programs.
Final topics covered included Steering the Course, Fiona presented the 2025 -2029 World Sailing Strategy and Hannah spoke about the Inclusive Development Program.

6. Development of Sailing in the Continental Regions

An open discussion on development in each of the following regions:

- a. Africa:
Alain Alcindor provided an update on activity within Africa, including a push for MNAs to utilise Olympic Solidarity funding. Regular competition is held each year in the Optimist class. Challenges for Africa include travel across the continent, which is expensive, as well as challenges with equipment.
- b. Asia
Malav presented about the growth of ASAF, to including now a regular events calendar. Malav also shared the drive for development in the region including a focus on race officials, para sailing and regional hubs.
- c. Americas
Fred Hagerdorn shared an update from Pan Am Sailing, especially with the Junior Pan American Games, as well as the focus on regional equipment at the Pan Am Games. Fred then spoke to the focus to try and combine development activity with events, so as the help combine costs for activities.
- d. Europe
Josep Pla spoke about EUROSAF and some of the challenges faced, this includes the drop out of millennials and the focus now to have data available for all countries to support their development. Other focuses include the Race Officials Exchange and also focusing on participation as well as competition.
- e. Oceania
Daniel Belcher shared an overview on two projects in Oceania. The first being the support of the Pacific Games in the Solomon Islands, through the Australian department for

Foreign Affairs and Trade. The second project involved using regattas for family sailing holidays in countries in the region.
7. <u>2024 Development Symposium</u> a. Receive an update on the 2024 Development Symposium, due to be held from 10-11 November in Singapore. Catherine and Fiona gave a short update on the upcoming Development Symposium, which had reached 115 registrations. The new format and variety of speakers was also discussed.
8. <u>Any Other Business</u> Rebecca Videlo presented an update from the Sustainability Department on the work towards agenda 2030, as well as the Sustainability Sessions and the 2023 impact report. Further discussions around the Youth Olympic Games was held, and the committee suggested working with the MNA's in Africa so understand the current landscape with windsurfing, including the numbers of sailors and equipment being used.
9. <u>Closed Session – Coach Developers</u> An update on the training and skills development of the 11 Coach Developers was shared with the committee
10. <u>Closed Session – Emerging Nations Definition</u> The committee made decisions based on the Supporting paper. The decisions were as follows: Decision 1 – Approved Decision 2 – Rejected Decision 3 – Approved The decisions will now be reflected in the Emerging Nations definition, which will be circulated in December 2024. The recommendation was made that the Growth of Sailing Committee reviews the financial measurement during its term.