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World Sailing
Regional Games Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 19, 2025

Location: Teams Meeting

Commencement Time: 13:00 UTC

Attendees:

Captain Abdur Rehman Arshad (Chair)	Jorge Barreda	Elias Gonzalez Robles
Sofia Papadopoulou (Vice Chair)	Hocine Lali	Martha Juliana Acevedo Danner
David Brookes	Penny McIntyre	Sharon Hardwick
Ioannis Papazoglou	Ricardo Navarro	Antonietta de Falco

In attendance:

Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (World Sailing Vice President)

Josep M. Pla (World Sailing Vice President)

Fiona Kidd (Head of World Sailing International Development)

Absent:

Cristian Daianu

Zouhair Lebbat

<u>Agenda Items</u>	<u>Action/Person</u>
1. <u>Opening of the Meeting</u> a. Chair's Opening Remarks The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all the members to the Regional Games Committee Meeting. b. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest The following people were unable to attend the meeting: Cristian Daianu and Zouhair Lebbat. c. Minutes of the Meeting on April 14 2025 The Meeting Minutes for the meeting held on April 14, 2025 were circulated and approved on April 30th. They were subsequently uploaded onto the World Sailing website. d. Matters Arising There were no matters arising. e. Decisions by Email There were no decisions made by email.	CA
2. <u>Report from the Executive Office</u> a. Report from the Board Representative(s) Joseph M. Pla (JMP) provided insights from the May 6th to 7th Board meetings. The Work Plans that were submitted for approval were deferred to the next Board Meeting in June to give Committees time to review them and fully complete all items of the template	BGL/JMP/FK



document used (e.g. KPI's, reporting, etc). He explained that there is a difference between working groups and working teams. Teams consist of people from a Committee doing its work; Committees are free to organize themselves as they see fit and teams do not need Board approval. Working Groups consist of Committee members and additional people from outside the Committee when it believes extra skillsets and knowledge are required to do the work; these additions, if any, need to be approved by the Board. He encouraged that everyone to continue their work despite the Work Plans not being approved yet. Action: The current Working Groups are to determine if they require any additional skillsets to complete their work and if so, to inform the Chairman for further action. Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (BGL) added that effective communication and a balanced representation in committees in terms of gender and diversity are important for World Sailing. b. Report from the Executive Office Fiona Kidd (FK) reported on the development of the World Sailing Academy online platform which aims to enhance education and training within the sailing community. The platform includes training courses for various stakeholders, including race officials and coaches and a knowledge hub for additional resources. FK highlighted the successful 'soft launch' on April 15th of the World Sailing Academy, the new online learning platform that is scheduled to be launched at the beginning of June.	
3. <u>Annual Work Plan</u> a. To review the Work Plan presented to the Board for Approval. This item was discussed under Item 2 above by JMP and BGL. The Work Plan submitted for approval, with any amendments following Board's comments above, will be reviewed by the Board at their next meeting in June.	CA/ FK
4. <u>Working Groups</u> a. Development Working Group Report The Development Working Group would like to send out a Survey to MNAs who have participated in selected Regional Games. Sharon Hardwick (SH) has asked that the Committee to assist the WP with the questions. Action: SH to work with FK to draft survey questions and circulate to Committee Members for input & feedback.	CA/FK

b. Calendar Working Group Report

Hocine Lali (HL) circulated the Calendar of Regional Games 2025 to 2028) to the Committee. JMP updated the calendar by adding 3 additional Regional Games. HL commented that the calendar can be sorted by date/year or by continent or by equipment or by MNAs to illustrate different attributes of the Regional Games.

There was discussion regarding the different sizes of Regional Games. JMP commented on the need to categorize the list of Regional Games according to relevance for sailing. Some Regional Games require that WS appoints a TD, and officials, Olympic qualifiers and others do not due to their size. It was felt that the Regional Games should be organized by size over the 4 year period to determine their relationship with World Sailing.

Action: The Calendar WG to determine the criteria how the Regional Games can be segmented and organized.

Action: The Calendar WG to apply the criteria to the Regional Games and segment them into events based on that criteria.

c. Impact Working Group Report

Sofia Papadopoulou circulated a paper on past Regional Games. The WG identified four Regional Games that they want to include in the Impact Pilot Study out of a shortlisted group of eight event.

The four Regional Games under Review are:

XIX Mediterranean Games – Oran, Algeria

Dates: 25 June – 6 July 2022 (postponed from 2021)

Sailing: Yes. Events included iQFoil (Men & Women), ILCA 6, and

ILCA Junior Pan American Games – Cali, Colombia

Dates: 25 November – 5 December 2021

Sailing: Yes. Sailing was featured, with competitions held from 2 to 4 December 2021.

I Virtus Oceania Asia Games – Gold Coast, Australia

Dates: 5 – 12 November 2022

Sailing: Yes. The inaugural Para Sailing World Championship for athletes with intellectual impairments was held in the Hansa 303 class.

XIX Asian Games in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China. were successfully held from 23 September to 8 October 2023

Action: The Impact WG is to create a survey. It is to be sent to MNAs that participated in the four identified Regional Games to determine the impact of the Games in developing the sport.

d. Technical Working Group Report Jerry Rollin (JR) sent in a report prior to the meeting. The Technical WG is gathering information on TD Reports. They are also concerned about the different sizes of Regional Games similar to the issue that was discussed during the Calendar Working Group Report. The 'Guidelines for Sailing Events at the Regional Games' revised in Nov 2019 was sent to JR prior to the meeting. It requires updating by the WG as the regulations & Rule are outdated. Action: FK to send past TD reports to the WG for review. Action: FK to circulate to the WG the 'Guidelines for Sailing Events at the Regional Games' document for review.	
5. <u>2025 Events</u> a. Race Officials Appointments 2025 Junior Pan-Am Games – Ricardo Navarro 2025 Bolivarian Games – Ricardo Navarro 2025 TBC - World AbilitySports Beach Games – TUR - Oct 18-25 2026 Central American and Caribbean Games – Francisco Jauregui 2026 Mediterranean Games – Bruno De Wannemaeker 2026 South American Games – Jorge Barreda 2026 Asian Games – Qu Chun 2027 Pan-Am Games – Ricardo Navarro	
6. <u>Para Regional Games</u> The World AbilitySports Beach Games is taking place in Mersin, TUR from Oct 18-25. The equipment in the competition is the Hansa 303. World Sailing is working with the Turkish Sailing Federation on the planning and delivery of the games. TUR has confirmed that they have purchased 12 Hansa 303's that will be used in the event.	
7. <u>Para Sailing Representative on RG Committee</u> The Terms of Reference of the Regional Games indicates that under 3.1 (iii) and b) and c) it is involved in para sailing activity. As a result, it is desirable for a member of the Para Sailing Committee be appointed to the Regional Games Committee, and/or vice versa. This can be done by making a single /or joint proposal by the Regional Games Committee and Para Sailing Committee to change the Constitution for ratification at the 2025 Annual Conference in November: 1. Request to appoint a member of the Para Sailing Committee to the Regional Games Committee. 2. Request to appoint a member of the Regional Games Committee to the Para Sailing Committee.	



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Another option for the short-term that does not require a change in the constitution but does require Board approval, is for the Regional Games Committee to seek a member of the Para Sailing Committee to join a Regional Games Working Group. Action: FK to investigate the above mentioned options and report back to the Committee.	
8. <u>AOB</u> David Brooks expressed frustration over the Pacific Games repeated attempts to gain Olympic qualifier status, emphasizing the negative impact on sailing as a sport in the region. FK confirmed that the Events Committee is responsible for establishing the Qualification System and suggested that a proposal could be made to explore this possibility for the Pacific Games. Action: FK to inquire how a proposal for an Olympic Qualifier can be achieved. The meeting was closed at 14:00 UTC.	