

World Sailing Classes Committee (WSCC) Quadrennial Working Plan (2025–2028)

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Mission Statement:

To support, represent, and advance the interests of all World Sailing Classes through governance, advocacy, and collaboration—ensuring accessible, fair, and sustainable competition globally.

Our main focal point for this quad is getting the large body of Classes more involved in the work of the WSCC, especially non-Olympic Classes. The WSCC has identified four priorities:

1. Third-Party Liability Insurance (TPLI)

Objective: Improve access to affordable and effective third-party liability insurance for sailors, especially for international and intercontinental events. This should be done in close collaboration with the World Sailing (WS) Office because our federation is the only entity who could broker a global insurance deal.

Actions:

- **Global Audit:** Conduct a comprehensive audit of current TPLI availability and constraints across member countries.
 - **Insurance Partnership Initiative:** Establish partnerships with global and regional insurers to create tailored TPLI packages for sailors and Classes.
 - **Event Organizer Toolkit:** Develop standard TPLI requirements and implementation guidelines for event organizers, including options for onsite short-term coverage.
 - **Lobbying & Advocacy:** Collaborate with World Sailing and MNAs to advocate for recognition of international TPLI policies at national borders.
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2. Policy (former Regulation 10) Reassessment (including Special Events)

Objective: Reexamine and reinforce the framework of the new Policy with a focus on WS Class-friendliness to increase a quid pro quo need and eagerness for affiliation as an international class (also see Point 4) with services and benefits.

Actions:

- **Policy Review Taskforce:** Establish a temporary working group with legal, class, and event management expertise to redraft the policy.
 - **Strengthened Compliance Protocols:** Introduce clearer accountability measures and enforcement mechanisms for event organizers of Special Events to safeguard WS Classes' rights.
 - **Stakeholder Consultation:** Engage with Classes, Event Organizers, and Special Events rights holders for feedback and endorsement.
 - **Timeline & Milestones:** Complete draft by end of 2025, pilot implementation in 2026, and full rollout by 2027.
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3. Cost Management of Standards & Mandates

Objective: Alleviate financial strain on Classes and organizers from rising costs associated with World Sailing compliance requirements.

Actions:

- **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** Review current financial burdens—particularly related to International Jury panels, Race Officials, and compliance infrastructure.
 - **Scalable Event Models:** Propose tiered standards (e.g., Gold/Silver/Bronze model) for events based on size, participation, location, and budget.
 - **Official Support Fund:** Advocate for the creation of a (sponsored?) World Sailing support fund to subsidize smaller classes/events for key officials.
 - **Digital Transformation:** Promote virtual meetings, remote jury panels, and digital tools to reduce logistical expenses.
 - **Class Feedback Loops:** Regularly survey Class Associations to monitor impact and adjust strategies accordingly.
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4. Exploring the Possibility of Reinstatement and Strengthening of the Class Progression Pathway (R-W-O Model)

Objective: Reinstate the “Recognized Class” category and implement a transparent, structured, and aspirational pathway (Recognized → World → Olympic) that supports sustainable Class growth and ensures equipment maturity before reaching elite competition levels.

Actions:

- **Pathway Framework Update:** Redefine and publish a clear, step-by-step roadmap for Class development—from initial recognition to Olympic status—emphasizing quality, global reach, and technical readiness.

- **Matrix of Requirements & Benefits:** Introduce a formal matrix that outlines both the **criteria** for each Class status and the **services/benefits** WS offers in return.
- **Minimum Progression Timelines:** Require a minimum 2-year duration at each category level before progression and a maximum 4-year interval before mandatory reevaluation.
- **Continental Representation Standard:** Reinforce the need for genuine global fleets—e.g., meaningful presence in at least three(!) continents—before awarding World Championship titles.
- **Equipment Validation Period:** Ensure that new equipment and formats undergo a multi-year testing and measurement phase within the Recognized and World stages before eligibility for Olympic consideration.
- **Monitoring & Support:** Assign dedicated liaisons to support Recognized Classes in development, technical compliance, and international outreach.

Monitoring & Reporting

- **Annual Progress Reports** to the World Sailing Council and broader stakeholders.
 - **Quadrennial Review and Recommendations** by late 2028 to inform the next cycle.
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