



World Sailing Classes Committee Minutes

The World Sailing Classes Committee met in person at 17:00 UTC on 17th July 2025

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Chairs Report
3. Presentation of the Workplan 2025-2028
4. Composition of the proposed working groups
5. AOB

Members Present:

Jan Martin Wilschut – WSCC Chair and Int. Cadet Association	David Brookes Int. Hobie 14 and Hobie 16 Class Associations	Laura Jeffers Int. lightning Class Association
Andreas Kosmatopoulos – WSCC Vice Chair and Int.470 class Association	Dimitris Dimou Int. 420 class association	Maria Tsaousidou Int. Tornado class Association
Tomasz Chamera – WS Vice President	Eric Faust Int. ILCA Class Association	Obi Groombarke – WS Staff
David Sprague – Int. Lightning Class Association	Tracy Usher Int. ILCA Class Association	Francesco Gulizzi – WS Staff
Mike Hecky – International Star Class Association	Andrus Poski Int. ILCA Class Association	Nelia Smith – WS Staff

1. Opening of the Meeting

- a. Chair's Opening Remarks
- b. Apologies for Absence
No Apologies for absence were received
- c. Declaration of conflicts of interest:
No Conflicts of interest were declared
- d. Minutes of the meetings on 27th March and 24th November.
Approval of minutes was noted as there had been no objections. No Questions raised.

2. Chairs Report

- a. Jan Martin opened the meeting, introducing the workplan and insurance whitepapers. Issues with Special Events and the Birdyfish class awarding a world title at Foiling Week were raised.

3. WSCC Working Plan 2025-2028

- a. Tomasz noted approval of the working plan by the board. It was suggested members started working in-line with the plan whilst awaiting final approval from the council.
- b. Feedback from the latest board meeting in relation to the issues seen with special events and the issue raised by Jan Martin was presented by Tomasz. It was noted that the board is working to deal with the situation in order to avoid future difficulties.
- c. Jan Martin noted additional issues with the scheduling of Special Events and a lack of control from WS

d. 4 Main points from the workplan were outlined:

- Improving global access to affordable and effective third-party liability insurance for sailors
- Reassess and reinforce World Sailings Special Event and Class policy framework to better support international classes
- Reduce compliance costs for Class Associations and event organisers whilst maintaining quality and fairness
- Research possibilities to reinstate and enhance the recognized-World-Olympic Class progression model to promote long-term development

e. Jan Martin Wilschut introduced the first item noting the lack of insurance availability and the effect on sailors competing at international events. He emphasized his hopes that Allianz could become a provider to World Sailing and International Classes with a global policy.

David Sprague spoke to the damage that insurance is causing to World Sailing and that it has been an ongoing issue for many years. He also attested that it should be seen as a key service that World Sailing provides to member classes.

Eric Faust spoke on previous experience, with frequent review of insurance to no avail due to differing insurance standards between countries.

Jan Martin Wilschut provided encouragement on the matter and suggested World Sailing looks to other international sports.

David Sprague Spoke on Eric Faust's earlier point, attesting to past success with international coverage.

David Brookes also highlighted insurers often only providing insurance for a single event, with time and effort involved to source.

f. The second item was introduced with Andreas Kosmatopoulos invited to speak on the matter.

Andreas Kosmatopoulos emphasised the issues with Special Events circumventing requirements that Classes must adhere to and the unfairness of the situation, especially the lack of control over World Titles. Funds involved in Special Events was also highlighted.

Jan Martin Wilschut commented on his previous experience within the Special Events Working Party, particularly on the lack of robust contracts allowing for control by World Sailing. It was suggested that special events be required to submit proposed dates to World Sailing.

g. David Sprague was invited to speak on the compliance costs for Class Associations and event organisers.

Financial burdens on the classes due to requirements by World Sailing were raised with potential actions from World Sailing to reduce them:

- RRS requirement that there must be an IJ panel at all World Title Events.
- Restrictions on modification of rules by Classes but not by Organising Authorities
- Fee cost to classes, but a lack of representation and votes within council and World Sailing
- IHC and the cost to manufacturers in certification of sails

- Lack of funding and training for Measurers, with a lack of focus on classes and instead being on coaches and MNA's

Francesco Gulizzi spoke on the view that the IHC system is being run as revenue for world sailing, attesting the system does not generate revenue, highlighting the purpose of the system is to provide a service to sail-lofts and sailors with improved access to class legal sails at a reduced cost. Jan Martin also provided support for the IHC system and benefits to the Cadet class.

- h. The final item on the workplan was presented by Andreas Kosmatopoulos. He proposed a more tiered class structure:

- Recognised Classes
- World Sailing Classes
- Olympic Classes

Suggesting classes work their way through the structure to Olympic status, rather than the current method of selecting a class to be Olympic, ensuring the classes are well established before selection.

- i. Jan Martin asked members to volunteer themselves for the 4 working groups within the committee and closed the discussion on the Working Plan.

4. Any other Business

- a. No other business raised