

**Para World Sailing Committee Minutes****The PWSC met virtually at 1500 UTC on 14th August 2025**

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| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 6. Visual Impairment Match |
| 2. World Sailing Updates | Racing update |
| 3. World Sailing Inclusion
Championships update | 7. Social Inclusion guidebook |
| 4. Para Inclusive Rankings Update | 8. Emerging Nations definition |
| 5. Magenta Project | 9. AOB |
| | 10. Thank you and next meeting |

Members Present:

Kay Rawbone	Emma Hallen	Paul Adrien Cuvillier
Sarah Oglivie	Jenny Davey	Elliot Levy
Betsy Alison	Marco Predieri	Henriette Smith
Alfred Pelinka	Irina Perez	Yuki Hagiwara
Gabriel Barosso de Maria		

Staff Present:

Hannah Stodel	Larisa Zenjen	Fiona Kidd
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Board Present:

Cory Sertl	Daniel Belcher	
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Also Present:

Victoria Low		
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Agenda Items

1. Opening of the Meeting

- a. **Housekeeping (HS):** Hannah Stodel welcomed attendees, outlined housekeeping rules (muted mics for observers, use of Q&A/chat, respectful conduct, no private recordings). Larissa (Development Executive) supported in the background.
- b. **Chair's Opening Remarks (KR):** Kay Rawbone welcomed participants, highlighted the large agenda, and encouraged concise participation (one question per point).
- c. **Apologies for Absence:** Jazz Turner (attending STEM clinic with Magenta Project).
- d. **Minutes of July Meeting:** Confirmed as read, no amendments.
- e. **Matters Arising:** None noted.

2. World Sailing Updates

a. **Office Updates (HS):**

Ongoing preparation for IPC bid submission (deadline 15 December).

Webinars delivered to community on reinstatement pathways (IPC route and Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee route).

Staff-wide update session held; IPC bid documents now received.

Inclusive Development Programme (IDP) continues with three further camps in 2025: Wingfoil test (Sardinia), 2.4mR Worlds, and WS Inclusion Championships. Registration to open shortly.

b. **Board Updates (CS, DB):**

Cory Sertl: Reaffirmed board support; Paralympic reinstatement confirmed as Board's No. 1 priority.

Daniel Belcher: Emphasised digital systems upgrade to ease data burden, with scoping underway. Advised community to start visa applications early for WS Annual Conference.

3. World Sailing Inclusion Championships update

- a. Hannah updated the committee on preparations for the Inclusion Championships in Muscat, Oman. Weekly meetings with Oman Sail were ongoing, and technical officials were being finalised. The international jury and umpire team had been confirmed, with thanks recorded to Elliot Levy for volunteering as an umpire. Two classification panels, including one for intellectual impairment through Virtus, would be present. The event dates were confirmed as 3–8 December 2025, with registration now open and the early-bird deadline set for the end of September. Countries such as Taiwan, Bali, and St Vincent had expressed interest. Festival elements are planned to coincide with the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, including inclusive sports demonstrations and accessible tourism experiences. Questions were raised on minimum entry numbers, with Alfred asking specifically about VI classification and minimum fleet sizes. Hannah confirmed VI classification was in place and that a minimum of six teams was required, with eleven countries already expected. Henriette Smith raised concerns about late notice and funding barriers, and Hannah responded that IDP grants were being explored, while MNAs were being urged to step up in support of their sailors. Henriette suggested regional pooling of resources to encourage participation, and the committee agreed to encourage this. Elliot Levy asked about collective sponsorship opportunities, which Hannah confirmed were under active discussion with the commercial team.

4. Para Rankings

- a. Hannah explained the distinction between the Para rankings, which are currently equipment-specific, and the Inclusive rankings, which are based on disciplines. The PWSC had previously voted offline using the nemo voting system with 11 in favor, none against, and two abstentions, to

move towards removing equipment-specific tagging from Para rankings.

In the short term, the Asian Inclusive Sailing Series (AISS) in India would be used as a test event, with Hansa 2.3 results to be tagged as Hansa 303 to fit the current system.

In the longer term, a formal proposal would be prepared for submission to the World Sailing Council, with a deadline of 13 September.

During discussion, Yuki Hagiwara emphasized the importance of the 2.3 in Asia due to its affordability and accessibility, highlighting that it often provides government support and broader participation.

Betsy Alison noted that World Sailing policy has historically recognised multiple equipment types within disciplines and urged that the system should be framed by discipline rather than class.

Henriette suggested that updating the system should not be technically difficult, but Hannah noted challenges around retroactive data due to IPC requirements.

Alfred cautioned that consistency and long-term alignment with Paralympic standards was crucial. The committee agreed to proceed with the test at the AISS and to draft the formal Council proposal.

5. Magenta Project update

- a. Victoria Low presented an update on the Magenta Project, including the expansion of the Women in Sailing Review from 2019 to cover issues such as racism, ableism, and ageism. She outlined the broadening of pathways offered by the project, including STEM, leadership, race management, and media, and noted that applications were open for the 2025 mentoring programme, with a target of 50 female mentees. She invited committee members to volunteer as mentors, with Para and visually impaired sailors actively encouraged to participate.

Hannah noted the positive outcomes already seen, citing the example of Camille's coaching debut at the Hansa Worlds. The committee strongly endorsed support for the Magenta Project and its mentoring opportunities.

6. Visual Impairment Match racing update

- a. Betsy Alison updated the committee on work around visually impaired match racing. A survey is being developed for past participants since 2016, as well as the wider community, to identify barriers and opportunities. This will be distributed in the September newsletter.

She also confirmed that work is underway to update Appendix CBS, the rules for blind match racing, with the aim of completing this by the end of 2025.

She explained that these updates could be implemented without the need for Council approval. Betsy stressed the importance of ensuring sailor voices were central to this process.

7. Social Inclusion Guidebook

- a. Larissa introduced the new Guidebook for Building Socially Inclusive Sailing Programmes. The guidebook is designed to help clubs run inclusive programmes and includes case studies from Make Them Sailors, Project Grael, Scaramouche, and the Skipper Foundation.

There are plans to expand coverage to all regions.

The guidebook has not yet been made public but will be released alongside a press launch in the near future.

Committee members were invited to submit additional case studies for consideration.

8. Emerging Nations Definition

- a. Hannah explained that work was underway to adapt the Olympic "Emerging Nations" definition for Para inclusive sailing, so that targeted support could be better directed.

A working group was established with volunteers including Sarah, Jazz, Henriette, Elliot, and Betsy.

Hannah confirmed she would provide facilitation and administrative support, and the group will confirm a lead among themselves.

9. Any Other Business

- a. Yuki Hagiwara provided an update on the Asian Inclusive Sailing Series, due to take place in Mysore from 8–13 October 2025.

The fleet would include thirteen Hansa 2.3 and five Hansa 303 boats, with the potential inclusion of mixed crew events combining disabled and sighted sailors.

The Organising Authority would cover accommodation, meals, and domestic transport, and outreach was ongoing with an expectation of 27 new Indian athletes to be classified at the event. Helen and Stephen were confirmed to be on site for classification, and sponsorship discussions were underway with regional brands.

Hannah thanked Yuki and highlighted the importance of the classification opportunities being provided at the AISS.

10. Next Meeting

- a. The next meeting of the PWSC will take place on 18 September 2025 at 1300 UTC / 1400 BST.
- b. The meeting closed at 1225 UTC.

Action Points

- Support Executive office by ensuring that national level events are submitted to the World Sailing website, using the form here: [World Sailing - Para Inclusive Calendar](#)

- Support Executive Office by submitting results in the correct format using this form here:

[World Sailing - Past Para Inclusive Event Results](#)

- Ensure all Sailors in local and regional Para Inclusive groups have a sailor ID