



Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

The PWSC met virtually at 1300 UTC on 18th September 2025

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. World Sailing Updates
3. Return to the Paralympics
Communication Update
4. World Sailing Inclusion
Championships update
5. Participation Update
6. VI Survey and CBS Update
7. Emerging Nations Definition
8. Classification Update
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
Efstratios Aklatis		

Staff Present:

Hannah Stodel	Leo af Rosenborg	Fiona Kidd
Scott Dougal		

Board Present:

Cory Sertl		
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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). Leo (Para Assistant) supported in the background.
- b. **Chair's Opening Remarks (KR):** Kay Rawbone highlighted the positive reception of sailing's inclusiveness at a national Games meeting and mentioned plans for engagement in China. She also reminded attendees about the registration deadline for an upcoming World Abilitysport Games event in Turkey.
- c. **Apologies for Absence:** Yuki Hagiwara and Daniel Belcher.
- d. **Minutes of August Meeting:** Confirmed as read.
- e. **Matters Arising:** None noted.

2. World Sailing Updates

- a. **Office updates (HS):** Hannah Stodel announced Leo af Rosenborg's role as Para assistant at World Sailing, where he will support the IPC bid and day-to-day operations. She urged attendees to finalise visa arrangements for the World Sailing Annual conference and register for the development symposium, which will feature various sessions on Para inclusive sailing.
- Board updates (CS):** Cory Sertl noted once again the board's commitment to supporting Para initiatives and the importance of equipping leadership with effective communication for upcoming IPC meetings.

3. Return to the Paralympics Communication update

- a. **To receive an update on the current timelines and return to the Paralympics bid plan. (SD):** Scott Dougal discussed the timeline for applying for inclusion in the Brisbane program, noting that decisions will be made by the IPC governing board in late 2026. He mentioned the significance of the

IPC General Assembly in Seoul, where World Sailing President and CEO will present their commitment to Para sailing. Additionally, he outlined plans for an in-person meeting with IPC officials to strengthen relationships and clarify submission expectations on the 9th October, as well as other engagement opportunities.

4. World Sailing Inclusion Championships Update

- a. **To receive an internal update on the progression of the Championship (HS):** Hannah Stodel discussed the progress of the World Sailing Inclusion Championships, including the release of the sailor guide and noted that the event launch will be on December 3rd, coinciding with International Day of Persons with Disabilities. She noted strong participation in several classes and encouraged registrations, particularly for the visual impairment class. Additionally, she mentioned the inclusion of Para wing foiling as a demonstration event.

5. Participation Update

- a. **To receive an update on the MNA and Para Inclusive classes emails and system for participation data pull. (HS):** Hannah Stodel outlined the critical timeline for data collection related to the IPC bid, highlighting the necessity for accurate country participation data. A Google Drive has been set up to streamline submissions, providing resources such as templates and guides for clubs and event hosts. Hannah urged all stakeholders to contribute to ensure comprehensive data is available by the December 15th deadline.
The need was highlighted for solid data collection for regional and world championships, asking committee members to manage their country folders and engage with neighbouring nations.
Betsy Alison suggested developing a QR code to simplify the registration process for sailors when applying for the

SailorID, especially for a Mexican national competing in the U.S. Para champs.

Henriette volunteered to assist with the data collection effort and raised questions about encouraging participation from non-competitive sailors. It was noted that all participation data is welcomed to the google drive.

6. VI Survey and CBS update

a. To receive an update on the VI Survey results and the working groups progress on reviewing the CBS (BA):

Betsy Alison discussed the results of the visual impairment survey, highlighting that only 11 responses have been received, mostly from North America.

She urged committee members to distribute the survey link to blind sailors and race officials to better understand the challenges they face in match racing and to gather more diverse input. Betsy discussed the need for data collection on the experiences of visually impaired sailors, particularly regarding the use of masks and the perceived advantages of those who are blind from birth versus those who acquire blindness later.

Jenny Davey highlighted the complexities of physical literacy in children with congenital versus acquired blindness, while Scott Dougal raised questions about best practices in visually impaired sports classification.

Betsy Alison provided an update on the CBS rules, indicating that revisions are underway with Elliot and Bernard's assistance, and emphasized that only committee approval is needed for the changes.

7. Emerging Nations Definition

- ### **a. Discussion on the creation of an Emerging Nations Definition that is Para Inclusive specific to support the IDP/ Event support from WS (HS):**
- Hannah Stodel acknowledged the volunteers for the Emerging Nations working group and mentioned the need for a leader to drive the initiative forward.

Sarah Ogilvie expressed her willingness to help once her current commitments allow.

b. **Recognition of the Working group and review of the work plan (HS):** As Above

It was noted that the previous work document would be recirculated to the group.

8. Classification Update

a. **To receive an update from the Chair of the Classification Working Group (HM):**

Chair sends apologies for her absence from the meeting.

b. **Process for Classification sub- committee (proposal):** Hannah discussed the ongoing work of the classification team, including the IPC's 287-question health assessment survey due by November 30th.

She noted the creation of a new classification database and portal by Globacol, which will simplify the classification process for athletes.

Additionally, a proposal for a classification subcommittee has been initiated to better align with the Para World Sailing Committee.

c. **Process for updating the Classification Rules of Sailing**

It was noted that the new Para sailing rules for classification will be updated in line with the IPC code, and those would be submitted for Board approval by the end of the year, following the submission of the proposal for a sub-committee to represent all the International Classifiers under the PWSC.

9. Any Other Business

a. **Regional Games Committee representation (FK):** Fiona Kidd discussed a proposal from the Regional Games Committee to enhance oversight and representation, which is expected to be approved at the General Assembly in November.

b. **Language definitions – to discuss the use of the term skipper (HS):** Postponed to October Meeting.

10. Thank you and next meeting

a. To decide the dates for the October Meeting: The next meeting will be 16th of October 1100 BST.

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
- The Committee will consult with their local MNAs, Classes and organisations to fill in the data of the Google Drive
- Hannah Stodel and Fiona Kidd will discuss the possibility of extending the registration deadline for the wing foiling event to allow more time for training.
- Leo af Rosenborg will monitor the Para inclusive email address and assist with inquiries related to registrations and classifications.
- Hannah Stodel will create a QR code for easy registration of the World Sailing Sailor ID.
- Hannah Stodel will share the document regarding the Emerging Nations definition with the working group.
- Hannah Stodel will ensure that the classification subcommittee proposal is submitted by the deadline.
- Kay Rawbone will appoint a member to the Regional Games Committee in consultation with committee members.

- Hannah Stodel will circulate key dates leading up to the conference to all committee members.
- Hannah Stodel will publish the details of the next meeting as soon as possible so observers can sign up.