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World Sailing
Regional Games Meeting Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 24, 2025

Location: Teams Meeting

Commencement Time: 13:00 UTC

Attendees:

Sofia Papadopoulou (Vice Chair)	Jorge Barreda	Zouhair Lebbat
David Brookes	Jerry Rollin	Martha Juliana Acevedo Danner
Ioannis Papazoglou	Penny McIntyre	Sharon Hardwick
Elias Conzalez Robles	Ricardo Navarro	Penny McIntyre

In Attendance:

Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (World Sailing Vice President)
 Josep M. Pla (World Sailing Vice President)
 Fred Hagedorn (President, Pan Am Sailing Federation)
 Fiona Kidd (Head of World Sailing International Development)
 Larisa Zejen (Development Assistant)

Committee Member Apologies:

Captain Abdur Rehman Arshad
 Antonietta de Falco
 Hocine Lali

<u>Agenda Items</u>	<u>Action/Person</u>
1. <u>Opening of the Meeting</u> a. Chair's Opening Remark Sofia Papadopoulou (Vice Chair), was appointed Chair of the Meeting by Captain Abdur Arshad who was unable to attend the meeting. The Chair welcomed all of the Committee Members to the meeting. b. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest Captain Abdur Rehman Arshad, Antonietta de Falco, Hocine Lali sent their apologies for their absence to the meeting. No new declarations of Conflicts of Interest were received. c. Minutes of the meetings on August 25, 2025 The Minutes were approved by the Chair and Vice Chair and circulated and approved by the Committee. d. Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the Minutes. e. Decisions by Email There were no decisions my email.	CA/FK
2. <u>Report from Executive Office</u> a. Report from the Board Representative(s) Beatriz Gonzalez Luna wished as many Committee Members as possible would be able to attend the Regional Games Committee Meeting held during the Annual Conference on November 5 th .	BGL/JMP FK

She recognized the TD reports that have been submitted, in particular Ricardo Navarro's report from the Junior Pan Am Games in Paraguay. She would like us to use these reports to make future editions of the Games stronger.

Beatriz commented that she did not have enough time to read the reports prior to the meeting, so would like to see the Working Party and TD Reports sent out well in advance of the meeting.

Action: FK to move the deadline for the submission of reports from 2 days to 5 days prior to the meeting.

Josep M. Pla was delayed in joining the meeting but welcomed everyone.

b. Report from the Staff

Fiona Kidd (FK) presented her Staff Report on the 6 areas that the office has been working on that relates to the activity of the Regional Games Committee.

1. New Staff Member on Development Team –

- Leo af Rosenberg has joined the Development Team as the Para Assistant. He will be working with Hannah supporting her efforts in gathering data and information in the preparation of the IPC Application in December

2. Development Symposium

- FK encouraged those Committee Members that are attending the Regional Games Committee during the Conference in November to attend the Development Symposium Nov 2 to 7. There are 10 sessions intergrated into the Annual Conference, from Lunch & Learn Panel Discussions, to a Keynote speaker, Presentations, Workshops and [more](#).
- Sign up to the sessions is available on the registration App.
- Information on the Session Topics & times can be found at the following [link](#) on the World Sailing website.

3. Conference Preparation

In preparation for the Annual Conference under the new Governance Structure, we need to prepair the Committee Meeting Agendas and other papers for the Board and Council.

Key Dates:

- Proposal Deadline for General Assembly – Sept 19th
- Proposal Deadline for Council – Oct 2nd
- Committee Agenda Deadline – Oct 15th

• General Assembly Papers – Oct 10th • Council Papers – Oct 23rd • FK to work with Committee to ensure that deadlines are met. 4. Youth Olympic Games ▪ 1st IOC Funded Clinic in Africa is taking place in Hammamet, TUN – Sept 29 to Oct 3rd ▪ Techno293 Class has shipped 14 Boards for sailors to use for the clinic. ▪ FK & Larisa Zejan will be attending the clinic. ▪ Clinic #2 – Nov 18-23rd in Sali, Senegal – NROTP Level 1 to taking place prior to event. 5. ENP Program ▪ The ENP Program is gearing up for the Youth Worlds taking place December, 8-20th in Vilamoura, POR. ▪ Two remote sessions have taken place with the World Sailing Coaches and Youth World ENP participants – One more will take place prior to the event. ▪ The Senior ENP program is under development. 6. HP Coach Scholarship Program ▪ The new HP Coach Scholarship program started on Septemebr 15th and will continue to October 10th. ▪ Nine Coaches from all regions of the world are in attendance – ALG, ARU, CHI, HKG, LAT, LTH, PUR, SEY, FIJ. ▪ It includes the Level 2 & 3 Coaching courses, Sports psychology, nutrician, fitness, foiling etc	
3. <u>Impact Assessment & Development Survey</u> Two Working Groups (Impact & Development) presented their preliminary reports from the Impact Assessment & Development Survey. The Survey started on August 1st and closed on September 12th. a) Sharon Hardwick (SH) the Lead of the Development Working Group's analysis focused on the following: ▪ <i>Regional games and events referenced</i> ▪ <i>Perceived impact on visibility and participation</i> ▪ <i>Outreach, youth development, and inclusivity</i> ▪ <i>Sustainability and environmental aspects</i> ▪ <i>Funding, resources, and support</i> ▪ <i>Governance, capacity-building, and outcomes</i> ▪ <i>Notable challenges and recommendations</i> <i>Five barriers were identified to effect participation in the Regional Games in order of highest to lowest: :</i> 1. <i>Funding</i> 2. <i>Equipment</i> 3. <i>Logistics</i>	FK/SP/SH



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4. <i>Athletes</i> 5. <i>Coaching</i> The preliminary conclusion the Development Working Group is that the Regional Games are seen as valuable catalysts for youth development, regional visibility, and Olympic-pathway preparation, with sustainability and capacity-building gaining traction. However, the overall impact is uneven and heavily influenced by funding, logistics, and access to training and coaching resources. b) The Impact Working Group's preliminary report summarized the results of the Regional Games Impact Assessment Survey (September 2025). A total of 40 responses were collected; after removing duplicates, 38 unique responses were analyzed. Respondents represented multiple continents and leadership-level officials (Secretary Generals, Presidents, Sport Directors). Key Findings: ▪ <i>Participation in Regional Games increased visibility of sailing, especially where medal success or media coverage occurred.</i> ▪ <i>Outreach programs and school/club initiatives were noted as positive legacies.</i> ▪ <i>Volunteers and safeguarding measures were present in most events</i> ▪ <i>Sustainability efforts existed but were inconsistently applied.</i> ▪ <i>Local businesses benefited economically.</i> ▪ <i>Main barriers: funding, equipment, logistics, athlete availability, coaching capacity.</i> ▪ <i>Gender balance: near 50–50 among athletes, less balanced for coaches/officials.</i> ▪ <i>Regional Games viewed as stepping stones to the Olympics; improved recognition from NOCs in some cases.</i> The preliminary conclusions of the Impact Working Group were that the Regional Games play an essential role in sailing development worldwide. They enhance visibility, engage youth, and strengthen NOC collaboration. Persistent barriers such as funding, equipment, and inclusivity gaps must be addressed to maximize impact. Next steps include deeper data analysis, stronger visualization, and developing recommendations for World Sailing and Continental bodies. Action: The Development & Impact Working Groups are to present their final reports and recommendations at the next meeting in time for the Regional Games Committee to submit their recommendations to Council.	
4. <u>Working Group Reports</u> a. Development Working Group This item was discussed under Item 3. b. Calendar Working Group	WG Leads



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Hocine Lali (HL) the lead of the Calendar Working Group circulated and updated Calendar to the Committee prior to the meeting. Hocine was not able to attend the meeting. There were several verbal updates on Events, dates, and TD Appointments. Action: Committee Member are to send any changes or updates by email to Fiona Kidd Fiona.kidd@sailing.org so that they can be captured and the calendar updated. Action: The Calendar Working Group to present a draft report on the Regional Games segmentation at the next meeting. c. Impact Working Group This item was discussed under Item 3. d. Technical Working Group Jerry Rollin (JR), the lead on the Technical Working Group gave a brief report Elias Conzalez Robles and Martha Juliana Acevedo Danner, both members of the Technical Working Group have been working on the revisions to the Regional Games Guidelines. They have consulted with Ricardo Navarro for input and direction. They are working on a draft Spanish version of the Guidebook. Action: Elias and Martha to complete their draft Guidebook and have it translated into English so that it can be circulated to the Committee for feedback prior to the next meeting. Action: The Calendar WG to present a final draft of the Guidelines at the next meeting with the goal of obtaining final Committee approval at the November Conference Meeting.	
5. <u>2025 Regional Games Reports</u> a. Junior Pan Am Games Asuncion, PAR Aug 13-17th The Technical Delegate (TD), Ricardo Navarro's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Ricardo provided a verbal report with reference to the long-term legacy of the Junior Pan Am Games in Paraguay. RN reported that the Organizers did a great job delivering the Games at a very high level. The physical legacy for Paraguay involved the recovered pontoons for the city, brand new working boats, electronics, and equipment that is now available in Paraguay to run international events. The soft legacy was the opportunity to train local race officials that worked with a World Sailing appointed team in a multi class regatta. This experience will last in Paraguay for many years making it possible for the country to bid for major international events.	TDs/FK

The Regional Games Committee also received a written report on the Junior Pan Am Games from Fred Hagedorn (FH), President of Pan Am Sailing prior to the August 25th Meeting. He was invited to this meeting to provide a verbal report on the Games and the importance and impact of the Junior Pan Am Games in the Americas.

FH complemented the organizers from Paraguay in organizing and delivering an excellent event, from sailor development, to official training to the legacy of the games with the host MNA.

Growing the number of MNA's participating in the Pan Am Games has been a major focus of Pan Am Sailing. FH pointed out that at the 1st Junior Pan American Games in Cali, COL in 2021, Sailing, had 18 countries despite the pandemic, and were tied as the 3rd most popular sport by NOC participation, only behind athletics and aquatics. In 2025, participation grew 40% to 25 NOCs, coming in 4th, with Cycling at 27 countries.

FH reiterated that sailing is well valued by Panam Sports and their 41 NOC members. Pan Am Sailing is encouraged to grow into the 6 countries our sport does not yet have MNAs. Their next target is Costa Rica (CRC).

FH concluded that the biggest opportunity for sailing at these Regional Games is to encourage the NOCs to want to be more interested and to increase their investments in the Sailing NFs in their countries.

To gain insights into what World Sailing can do to improve and /or assist Games Organizers in the planning and delivery of Sailing in their sports program, FH suggested that World Sailing send out a survey to the hosts of Regional Games.

b. WorldAbility Beach Games

Mersin, Turkey October 12th to 20th.

FK reported on the Worldability Beach Games, hosted and organized by the Turkish Sailing Federation.

TD – **Fiona Kidd**

Equipment - Class Hansa 303 One Person

Registration is open

2 sailors per nation /gender

20 Male & 20 Female

(Note: Important for Reinstatement to Paralympics.)

c. XII Central American Games –

October 18-30th Guatemala City, GUA

2 Entries per event

Classes – ILCA 6, ILCA 7

Note: Small event but very important for the region.

d. Bolivarian Games

Lima, PER. Nov 22- 27th

TD - **Francisco Jauregui**



Classes – ILCA 6, ILCA 7, Sunfish M, Sunfish, W, Lightening Mixed. e. SEA Games Bangkok, THA – Dec 9-20th TD – Rut Subniran ILCA 4,6,7, 470, Kite, IQFoil, T293 f. Other 2026+ 2026 Central American & Caribbean Games Dominican Republic – July 24 to Aug 8 TD - Fransicso Jauregui 2026 South American Games Santa Fe, ARG – Sept 12-16 TD - Jorge Barreda 2027 Pacific Games Pirae, TAH – July 24 to Aug 8 TD - David Brooks David Brooks commented on the Olympic Qualifier Request fo the Pacific Games. The deadline for the tender to request an Olympic Qualifer it too late for the Pacific Games. 2027 Commonwealth Youth Games Malta TBC Action: All members are to send to FK & Hocine Lali any updates to the Regional Games Calendar, such as the 2025 GCC, 2026 Asian Beach Games, World Master Games etc.	
6. <u>Para Sailing Representative on Committee</u> The proposal to amend Article 51 to allow the Para Sailing Committee Chair to appoint a member of the Regional Games Committee was submitted to Monday.com on September 2nd. The Proposal is in process and is being reviewed. It requires Board and General Assembly approval in November. Josep M Pla suggested that we contact Antonio Cozzolino, World Sailing General Council to assist in getting our Proposal through the system. Action: FK to contact Antonio Cozzolino and monitor the situation and ensure that the Regional Games Proposal is being considered.	FK
7. <u>Annual Conference</u> The in-person Regional Games Committee Meeting is taking place on Wednesday, November 5th at 14:00 hrs. All Committee Members are encouraged to attend the meeting if possible. Having members attend the meeting remotely is under discussion. Action: FK to confirm if there will be a remote Teams Meeting allowed at the in-person Regional Games Meeting at the Annual Conference.	FK



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Action: Complete the November Meeting Agenda prior to October 15th so it can be posted on the Website. The Committee Chair and Vice Chair are to review the agenda and it will circulate to the committee members for final input. Action: FK to ensure that the following deadlines are met for the Regional Games Committee. ▪ Proposal Deadline for Council – Oct 2nd ▪ Committee Agenda Deadline – Oct 15th ▪ General Assembly Papers – Oct 10th ▪ Council Papers – Oct 23rd	
8. <u>AOB</u> There was no other business. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 16th at 13:00 UTC subject to the approval by the Chair, Captain Abdur Rehman Arshad. The meeting closed at 14:20 UTC.	FK/SP