

Withdraw of World Sailing Class Status

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its Mid-Year Meeting, the Equipment Committee conducted a review of World Sailing Class Associations in accordance with Policy D6. Following the implementation of the new governance model, responsibility for reviewing Class status and making recommendations to the General Assembly now rests with the Board.
- 1.2 At its meeting on June 30th, the Board noted and endorsed the Equipment Committee's recommendations to place certain classes under review. The Board directed the Executive Office to provide these classes with further opportunities to address identified non-compliances.
- 1.3 At its meeting on September, the Board took the decision to put forward this recommendation to the General Assembly.

2. Recommendation from the Board

- 2.1 To withdraw WS class status for the following classes due to persistent non-compliances, unpaid fees, lack of engagement, or failure to provide evidence of global distribution and active racing requirements:
 - (a) Melges 20
 - (b) X-35
 - (c) B14
 - (d) RS500

3. Reasons

- 3.1 The Executive Office notified the Classes under review and invited them to submit evidence of compliance. A total of six Classes were able to satisfy the requirements following further review.
- 3.2 The recommendation to withdraw the WS class status for the classes listed in item 2.3 is supported by the Equipment Committee and is based on the findings:
 - (a) Due notice has been given to all classes.
 - (b) The recommendations from the Equipment Committee are not based solely on global distribution. The Committee considered many elements of World Sailing policy and not meeting global distribution expectations on its own would not result in any of the classes being recommended for review and withdrawal of status. In each case there were other elements taking the given class over the threshold such as agreements not being signed, builder's specifications or World Championship reports not being received, or unpaid fees.
 - (i) Melges 20:
 - Has agreed to the findings, understands and agrees to the withdraw of their WS class status
 - Does not meet the minimum global distribution numbers and has not provided new evidence
 - Annual subscription remains unpaid
 - Did not submit annual report

- Has not provided evidence of meeting minimum global distribution numbers
- (ii) X35:
- Has agreed to the findings, understands and agrees to the withdraw of their WS class status
 - Does not meet the minimum global distribution numbers and has not provided new evidence.
 - Annual subscription remains unpaid
 - Did not submit annual report
 - Believed not to be active.
- (iii) B14:
- Does not meet the minimum global distribution numbers. The Class requested an exemption which is not supported by the Equipment Committee. The exemption permitted by Policy is reserved for classes that serve a unique aspect of Sailing.
 - Does not have a class IM.
- (iv) RS500:
- Does not meet the minimum global distribution numbers. The Class does not achieve the required number of boats actively racing from one MNA on a different continent to those already represented, as required under the Policies. The Class has committed to submitting a letter from the missing MNA as soon as possible.
 - Does not have a class IM
 - Class Agreement requires update

4. Background

- 4.1 World Sailing Class Associations must be regularly reviewed at least once every three years.
 - 4.2 A dedicated Working Group, established by the Equipment Committee, reviewed WS Classes, identifying that nearly 50% were not fully compliant, with 13 presenting significant issues (e.g. missing annual reports, unpaid fees, insufficient global activity, no recent World Championships, etc.). The need to review the Regulations to allow more Classes to maintain their WS class status was highlighted.
 - 4.3 Olympic Classes (Nacra 17, 49er, FX) were excluded from the Equipment Committee recommendation due to their Olympic Class designation.
 - 4.4 Policy D6 governs the process of the reviews. If a Class fails to meet the criteria, the Equipment Committee may recommend that the Class be reviewed by the Board, and the Board may then recommend to the General Assembly that its WS class status be withdrawn.
 - 4.5 If a Class is to have its status reviewed by the General Assembly, the World Sailing Class Association must be notified and is entitled to attend and speak at the General Assembly meeting.
 - 4.6 In addition, Regulation 15.8 provides that if a World Sailing Class Association is in arrears to World Sailing, the Board may suspend any or all of the rights of the Class Association to hold world championships or be selected for a World Sailing event.
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