

Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

The PWSC met in person on the 6th November at 1030 UTC

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| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 10. Growth Committee Update |
| 2. World Sailing Updates | 11. EDI Committee Update |
| 3. Chairs Annual Report | 12. Classification Update |
| 4. IPC Campaign Update | 13. Sustainability Update |
| 5. IPC Bid update | 14. Language Discussion |
| 6. Event and Format Discussion | 15. AOB |
| 7. Event Reports | 16. Thank you and Next Meeting |
| 8. VI Survey and CBS Update | |
| 9. Emerging Nations Definition | |

Members Present:

Kay Rawbone	Emma Hallen	Paul Adrien Cuvillier
Sarah Oglivie	Elliot Levy (virtual)	Jenny Davey
Betsy Alison	Henriette Smith	Marco Predieri
Alfred Pelinka	Yuki Hagiwara	Irina Perez
Jazz Tuner	Henriette Smith	

Invited Presenters:

Adrian Stoggall	Pinar Consuar Grec	Oonagh Healy
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Staff Present:

Hannah Stodel	Leo af Rosenborg	Daniel Nash
Scott Dougal	Fiona Kidd	Larisa Zenjen

Board Present:

Cory Sertl	Daniel Belcher	
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Agenda Items

1. Opening of the Meeting

a. WS Meeting Opening (HS):

Hannah welcomed attendees to the hybrid-format meeting, noting the use of OWL audio/visual technology and reminding everyone that the meeting was being recorded and would be made available with accompanying audio reports for accessibility after the meeting finished through the Annual Conference App. Observers were reminded of the rules of the meeting.

b. Chair's Opening Remarks (KR):

Kay thanked all attendees for their commitment and support of the para and inclusive sailing movement. Focus was placed on collaboration and momentum toward Paralympic reinstatement.

c. Apologies for Absence: None noted.

d. Minutes of October Meeting: Confirmed as read.

e. Matters Arising: None noted.

2. World Sailing Updates

a. Office Updates (HS):

HS provided an extensive update on office activities and the extraordinary workload undertaken across the year. It was noted that World Sailing had delivered a significant number of Para and Inclusive activities, including multiple Inclusive Development Programmes, international championships, and several visits to the IPC.

Hannah highlighted the substantial growth in participation and the logistical complexities surrounding the 2025 WSIC Oman, which exceeded initial expectations.

Hannah formally acknowledged Leo's critical contribution to logistics, liaison, and programme delivery.

b. Board Updates – CS/DB

The Board update, delivered by Daniel Belcher underlined the continued prioritisation of the Paralympic reinstatement campaign.

It was noted that the Board remains fully supportive of the Para Sailing Strategy and acknowledged the ongoing challenges in digital infrastructure, despite improvements through the Academy platform.

The Chair stressed the importance of collaboration between committees in supporting organisational goals.

3. Chairs Annual Report

a. To receive an Annual Report for the PWSC from the Chair (KR):

Kay presented her Annual Report, noting the strong progress made against Year 2 of the Para Sailing Strategy 2024–2029. It was noted that participation had grown to 34 nations, with IDPs reaching a wide global audience of coaches and sailors. Kay also highlighted the success of major events such as the Hansa Worlds, the Eurosaf Inclusive Europeans, and Inclusive Development Programme initiatives including the AISS India event.

The Chair emphasised that the growth of inclusive sailing was due to the significant voluntary contributions of committee members, supported by continuous work from HS, Leo, and the office team. She also noted the large evidence burden associated with the IPC bid and thanked those who had contributed to data collection and verification.

4. IPC Campaign Update

a. To receive an update on the current campaign status with the IPC (SD):

Scott provided an update on recent engagements with the IPC following meetings in Bonn. It was noted that the IPC was generally supportive of sailing's progress but required continued assurance on criteria such as universality, event deliverability, gender balance, and classification compliance.

Scott noted that the upcoming IPC Governing Board elections would be an important moment, as new leadership may shift areas of focus.

The committee acknowledged the need to maintain momentum and engagement with key decision-makers, with ongoing support from World Sailing's executive team.

5. IPC Bid Update

a. **To receive an update on the current status of the bid ahead of submission on the 15th December (HS/ LAR):**

Hannah delivered a comprehensive update on classification on behalf of Helen McKenzie, the Chair of the Classification Working Group, noting that the transition to the 2025 IPC Classification Code required a full system audit by 30 November. It was noted that all athletes would need to be reclassified due to rule changes, and that Global Coal had been appointed to rebuild the classification database with full data integrity and migration of historical records.

Members raised a number of points. Betsy highlighted the importance of clear guidance to MNAs on medical documentation, while Henriette expressed concerns about the experience of athletes with neuromuscular conditions during functional testing. Adrian noted that event hosts required more support and advance notice regarding classifier requirements. Hannah confirmed that remote classification and VR solutions were being trialled to reduce burdens on athletes and organisers alike.

On anti-doping, Hannah noted the increased number of registered para-athletes added to the testing pool and the ongoing emphasis on education through both in-person workshops and the World Sailing Academy. The committee discussed gaps in MNA-level reporting, and Gillian undertook to examine how such data could be better integrated into risk assessments.

Leo then presented the update on participation and event records, noting that sailing currently demonstrates strong universality with 34 nations active across four IPC regions. He stressed the importance of consolidating all national results and data for the initial IPC submission and noted that further data would be gathered from countries including Malta, whose events had not yet been fully captured.

The committee acknowledged the significant progress made and recognised the high administrative burden placed on HS and Leo in coordinating this work.

6. Event and Format Discussion:

a. To discuss the proposed sports programme for the Paralympic Games (HS).

The committee held an extended discussion on potential event formats for future Paralympic inclusion. It was noted that the 80-athlete IPC quota was restrictive and required careful structuring to ensure gender balance and representation of different impairment types.

Several members highlighted challenges in balancing one-person and two-person events while still maintaining fairness for athletes with higher support needs. Concerns were raised about combining classifications that may not be compatible, particularly when considering mixed-disability fleets.

The committee agreed that further work was required and that an offline vote would be conducted once the outstanding analyses were complete.

Vote deferred pending further offline analysis.

7. Event Reports

a. To receive a number of updates from various Para Inclusive Events around the World.

The committee received updates from members on recent major events.

Oonagh Healy reported on the Inclusion Games in Ireland, noting the continued success of the Irish inclusion model.

Yuki provided an update on the AISS India event, which hosted over 50 sailors from 12 countries and offered significant social inclusion benefits.

Pinar shared feedback from Barcolana, highlighting the value of integrating inclusive disciplines within large mainstream events.

Adrian presented the 2.4mR Worlds update, noting both successes and classification challenges.

Additional oral reports were provided on IDPs and national events. It was noted throughout that event organisers were increasingly committed to inclusion and were benefiting from World Sailing's strengthened support structures.
8. <u>VI Survey and CBS Update</u> a. To receive an update on the Visual Impairment Survey and the amendments to Appendix CBS (BA). Betsy presented the latest results of the VI survey and provided an update on the Classification Benchmarking System review. It was noted that the working group was progressing steadily and that further expert consultation would take place over the coming months.
9. <u>Emerging Nations Definition</u> a. To receive an update from the working group regarding the revision of the emerging nations definition with regards to Para (SO): Sarah provided an update from the Emerging Nations working group. It was noted that the existing definition did not fully reflect practical realities and that further refinement was necessary to ensure appropriate support pathways for developing nations engaged in Para and inclusive sailing.
10. <u>Growth Committee Update</u> a. To receive an update from the Vice Chair on the collaboration with the Growth Committee (EH): Emma summarised recent collaboration with the Growth Committee, noting the increased interest from sailing clubs in developing inclusive programmes. It was noted that further work was underway to provide tools and guidance to facilitate this expansion.
11. <u>EDI Committee Update</u> a. To receive an update from the EDI Committee (PCG): Pinar updated the committee on collaborative projects with the EDI Committee, including preparations for the upcoming EDI Forum. It was noted that inclusive language, representation, and structural diversity remained shared priorities across both committees.
12. <u>Classification Update</u>

a. To receive an update from the chair of the Classification working group on the ongoing compliance with the new IPC Classification Code (HM):

Helen provided an update on the progress of the Classification Working Group (read by Hannah), noting the ongoing work on the Sub-Committee proposal and the Classification Rules Change Proposal.

Hannah outlined the governance path required for approval, including internal review by legal, the Racing Rules Committee, and the Board, before returning to PWSC for final endorsement.

13. Sustainability Update

a. To receive an update from the Sustainability team at World Sailing regarding Agenda 2030 and other ongoing initiatives (RV):

Rebecca gave a brief update on sustainability initiatives, noting alignment with Agenda 2030 and the inclusion of Clean Regatta principles across Para events. The committee acknowledged the importance of maintaining environmental stewardship alongside sporting goals.

14. Language Discussion

a. To discuss the use of terms such as Skipper and the use of Inclusive Language etc (KR):

The committee discussed terminology usage, including the term "skipper," and the importance of consistent and inclusive language across World Sailing communications. Kay emphasised best practices and encouraged members to maintain sensitivity in all documentation and meetings.

It was noted that the World Sailing Academy has a course around language and EDI. Members were encouraged to sign up for the WSA if they haven't already and to access the free tools and resources.

Further language discussion deferred to the December meeting.

15. AOB

Hannah provided a short update on WSIC 2025 Oman, noting strong entry numbers and a substantial operational footprint.

Hannah also gave a preliminary update on WSIC 2026 planning and confirmed that further information would be circulated once the 2025 championship was complete, including the announcement of the next hosts and venue.

16. Thank you and Next Meeting

The Chair thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the meeting, noting that the date of the next meeting would be December 11 2025 at 1100 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
- The Committee will consult with their local MNAs, Classes and organisations to fill in the data of the Google Drive