

The World Sailing Board met in-person at the Annual Conference Dún Laoghaire on Sunday 2 November and Friday 7 November 2025.

<u>Present</u> 1. Quanhai Li - President 2. Daniel Belcher – Vice President 3. Tomasz Chamera – Vice President 4. Beatriz Gonzalez Luna – Vice President 5. Dave Hughes – Vice President 6. Josep M. Pla – Vice President 7. Cory Sertl – Vice President	<u>In Attendance</u> 1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer 2. Antonio Cozzolino – General Counsel 3. Raksha Patel – Director of Finance & Business Operations 4. Nelia Smith – Director of Partnerships & Brand 5. Jaime Navarro – Director of Technical & Offshore 6. Lisa Anderson – Director of Executive Office
1. <u>Opening of the Meeting</u> a) Presidents Opening Remarks The President welcomed everyone to the meeting. b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest. There were no apologies for absence. Vice President Tomasz Chamera declared his continued interest in the World Sailing Championships in Gdynia, Poland. c) Minutes of the 23 October 2025 Board Meeting The Minutes of the 23 October 2025 Board Meeting were approved. d) Matters Arising Appear below under Any Other Business. e) Decisions by email None	
2. <u>Executive Office</u> a) Management Report The Board noted the Management Report on the work of the Executive Office, which was taken as read. b) Commercial Update The Board received a verbal update from the Chief Executive Officer in relation to the current commercial activities and sales pipeline.	

3. Partnerships & Brand

a) 2026-2028 Annual Conference Host Venue

The Board noted a paper presented by the Director of Partnerships and Brand, outlining the current status of the host venue bidding process. It was highlighted that, after the conclusion of the in-person site visits to shortlisted countries, a final recommendation would be made to the Board for 2026 at their next meeting in December 2025 followed by an announcement to stakeholders in early January 2026 (subject to contract with the successful host country). The recommendations for the 2027 and 2028 venues will be presented to the board by May 2026.

4. Participation & Development

a) IPC Update

The Board reviewed and noted the supporting paper provided by the Director of Communications on the inclusion of sailing in the Paralympic Games in Brisbane 2032.

b) World Sailing Regional Hub Implementation Plan & Pilot Project

The Board reviewed and discussed a supporting paper provided by the Head of International Development covering (i) the Growth of Sailing Survey and the Regional Games Impact & Development Survey, and (ii) the Regional Training Hub Plan. The Board was very positive on the concept of the Regional Training Hubs and provided input on the implementation of the strategy.

5. Sustainability

a) Agenda2030 Refresh/Update

The Board noted a supporting paper from the Director of Sustainability on the Agenda2030 Refresh, which was taken as read.

6. Events

a) Race Officials Event Appointments

The Board were provided with an update with respect to the Fortaleza Test Event. Given the matter was still under discussion, the Board agreed to delegate the decision on the appointments to Cory Sertl and Tomasz Chamera as the two Vice-Presidents who have been involved in the discussions with the Race Officials Committee.

b) 2027 Sailing World Championships

The Board were provided with an update on the status of the Long Form Agreements for the Fortaleza and Gdynia.

7. Technical & Offshore

The Board reviewed supporting papers from the Director of Technical & Offshore on:

a) Helmets at the Olympics

The Board also reviewed a presentation on integrating cameras inside helmets and using stickers and other colourways as country identifying colours, which had already been discussed with various World Sailing Committees and Commissions. This was approved by the Board.

- b) Technical Auditors for the Manufacturer of Controlled Olympic equipment.

The Board approved the proposal, which is a mechanism that will facilitate the collection of data on the Olympic class equipment which can be provided to the Equipment Committee, amongst others, for their information.

8. Legal & Governance

The General Counsel addressed the Board on the following matters:

- a) Independent Bodies update

The General Counsel provided an update on the appointment processes for the Disciplinary Panel, the Ombudsman and the Investigations Panel for the Board's information.

- b) Vice-President Elections update

The General Counsel provided an update on the forthcoming elections of two female Vice-Presidents at the World Sailing Annual Conference.

- c) Applications for Committees and Sub-Committees

The General Counsel informed the Board about two applications for Sub-Committee positions. The Board resolved that before the application process was opened under the Constitution with reference to the previous list of applicants, the Chair of each Sub-Committee should determine whether additional members should be appointed to increase participants to 10 in each case. The Board endorses having full Committees and Sub-Committees, and where this is also approved by the Chairs of the relevant Sub-Committees they will be consulted on those who applied previously based on the provisions of the Constitution. Once the recommended applicants are reviewed by the Board, this matter will be brought to Council for a vote.

- d) Neutrality Applications update

The Board were informed that applicants were now being externally screened under a change of process, with the applicants being required to pay the external administration fee. This enabled a more detailed investigation into the personal circumstances of the applicants and enabled more applicants to be screened.

- e) Eligibility Case – France to Morocco

A supporting paper had been provided to the Board, which was taken as read. The Board approved the case, which both MNAs had consented to.

- f) Safeguarding (Standing item)

Nothing to report

- g) Case List Update (Standing item)

The Board were provided with an update.

- h) Safety (Standing Item)

Nothing to report

i) Proposals allocated to the Board:

The Board reviewed and recommended the approval of the following Proposals to the General Assembly, which had been allocated to the Board as matters of the Constitution:

- a. **GA-2025-004B** to add the Chair of the Classification Sub Committee to the Race Officials Committee. This had been approved by the Race Officials Committee. This was approved by the Board.
- b. **GA-2025-006** to add an Oceanic & Offshore Committee member to the Growth of Sailing Committee. This had been approved by the Growth of Sailing Committee. This was approved by the Board.
- c. **GA-2025-009** to appoint a representative of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee to the Racing Rules Committee as a non-voting member. This had been approved by the Racing Rules Committee. This was approved by the Board.

9. Committee Reports to the Board.

- a) Race Official Committee Report
- b) Racing Rules Committee Report
- c) Governance Committee Report
- d) Athletes Committee Report
- e) Audit Sub-Committee Report

The Race Officials Committee, the Racing Rules Committee and the Governance Committee had provided written reports to the Board, which were taken as read. The Chair of the Athletes Committee provided a verbal report to the Board, including the strong level of athlete engagement both generally throughout 2025 and in the Athlete Town Halls.

- f) To note any Committees' agenda items (if required)

10. Finance

- a) Management Accounts to September 2025 and re-forecast to December 2025

The Director of Finance and Business Operations took the Board through the Management Accounts for the year to date, in addition to a re-forecast for 2025, the budget for 2026 and the Quad forecast.

The Board approved the budget for 2026.

The Board received an update on the Audit Sub-Committee meeting on 2nd November 2025, including a report from Hottinger on the FX risk exposure and investment performance of the WS Investment Trust funds. It was agreed that the Executive Office will progress discussions with Hottinger to implement recommendations in relation to the fund management of WS Investment Trust Funds.

- b) MNA Debtors List – included in the finance papers and taken as read
- c) WS Investment Fund – as discussed above

11. Any Other Business

The detailed Growth of Sailing survey was discussed, in which 123 Member National Authorities had responded. Council is to receive a short summary at the Annual Conference as part of the usual Chairs' Reports, with additional detail to be provided to Council in 2026 once the data has received further analysis.

The Board approved the recommendation from the Oceanic and Offshore Committee on the use of storm sails under the OSR from a safety perspective.

12. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that a Board Meeting had already been scheduled for the morning of Sunday 9 November 2025, following the General Assembly meeting, to welcome the two new Vice-Presidents.

It was noted that the Board would have a further Board Meeting in early December 2025 to review the Format recommendation to Council from the Events Committee, to receive a recommendation on the venue for the 2026 Annual Conference and to more generally plan the meeting diary for 2026. The date of this December Board Meeting will be advised.

There being no further items the President closed the meeting.

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