

**Para World Sailing Committee Minutes****The PWSC met virtually at 1500 UTC on 24th July 2025**

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 5. Emerging Nations Definition - |
| 2. World Sailing Updates | Para inclusive discussion |
| 3. Para Inclusive Classes Meeting | 6. Classification update |
| Report | 7. AOB |
| 4. World Sailing Inclusion | 8. Thank you and next meeting |
| Championship Update | |

Members Present:

Kay Rawbone	Betsy Alison	Paul Adrien Cuvillier
Sarah Oglivie	Jenny Davey	Elliot Levy
Jazz Turner	Marco Predieri	Henriette Smith

Staff Present:

Hannah Stodel	Scott Dougal	Rebecca Videlo
---------------	--------------	----------------

Board Present:

Cory Sertl		
------------	--	--

Also Present:

Helen McKenzie	Adrian Stogall	
----------------	----------------	--

Agenda Items**1. Opening of the Meeting****a. Chair's Opening Remarks**

The meeting opened with a brief housekeeping note, and it was acknowledged that the format of the meeting had changed to enable members of the community to join.



Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

Kay welcomed members and acknowledged the workload being handled by Hannah and the WS team. She emphasized the importance of collective committee engagement and governance clarity. It was noted that the PWSC were encouraged to respect World Sailing's ToR and use their voice constructively within defined advisory parameters.

b. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were noted for Daniel and Emma.

c. Minutes of the meetings in June.

Hannah confirmed that the minutes of the meeting in June had been circulated and confirmed receipt with the members.

d. Matters Arising

It was noted that there were no matters arising.

2. World Sailing Updates

a. Office updates

Hannah delivered updates covering IPC compliance, classification standardisation, and planning for reinstatement. She urged the committee to step up and highlighted progress with ITO development and classification support. She also discussed continued engagement with external consultants on reinstatement strategy. It was also noted that the next edition of the Para Inclusive Newsletter is due at the end of the month, and members were encouraged to ensure that they are signed up to receive it.

b. Board Updates

Cory, representing the Board, reaffirmed the Board's strong support for sailing's return to the Paralympics, and thanked the Executive Office for its continued work.



Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

It was noted that the Board met on the 30th June and confirmed the recommendation to award the Para Visually Impaired (with sighted guides) title to the World Sailing Inclusion Championships to be hosted by Oman from the 3-8th December 2025.

The WS Council met on the 26th July, and it was noted that the neutrality policy to allow for Russian or Belarusian athletes at World Sailing events was approved.

It was also noted that we will be electing 2 additional Vice Presidents (who must be female) at the Annual Conference in November.

Cory also thanked the observers for participating in the meetings and that the new constitution requirements are positive and allow people to keep informed and up to date.

3. Para Inclusive Classes Meeting Report

- a. A summary of the Para Inclusive Classes meeting was provided by Hannah. It was noted that the majority of classes were responding and being supportive of the meetings and the strategy moving forward and had committed to World Sailing, but several classes were still resistant to change, and worried about losing their control and identity. She noted issues with results and sailor ID collection, and the need for aligned planning among classes. Several classes are showing strong participation but highlighted that further effort is needed to capture and submit data in a usable format. It was noted that the Para Inclusive Classes are being asked to become part of the combined events including the World Sailing Inclusion Championships 2026 and the World Sailing Championships 2027 in Gdynia, Poland. Of note is that World Sailing is not committing to specific equipment and that is deliberate as we move towards the submission to the IPC at the end of the year. World Sailing are looking to their classes to enter into an agreement and make a commitment to make further decisions on equipment that will be recommended to the IPC.



4. World Sailing Inclusion Championships Update

- a. Hannah briefed the committee on the current operational status of the event, noting that the contract is in place, and the NoR is published and on the WS website.
Pre-registration is open, and World Sailing recently finalised the agreement with manage2Sail for the registration, results and tracking package. It was noted that registration should be live on Monday 28th July.
The Sailing Instructions are in final stages and being reviewed by ITO's, and the other event logistics including hotel and flight deals are being finalised by Oman Sail.
- b. The PRO (Adrian Stoggall) gave an update to the members of the PWSC. It was noted that the venue is fantastic and they have great accessibility following being used as the venue for the 2022 Para 2 person keelboat World Championships.
It was noted that Hannah and Stoggs met with the Visually Impaired Community on 18th July and took feedback on the proposed league racing format.
The majority of the racing will be in a WW/LW course format, but that the options are there for the wing foiling and the RSVC to try some other course layouts.
Paul asked about the wingfoiling equipment as it is very new. It was noted that the equipment being used for the World Championships will be a full quiver from Gong.
Betsy also noted that consideration should be given to the overall costs of the package for the future of the event, and it was noted that currently the full quiver is around 1500 euros which is a low price point for a wingfoiling package.

5. Emerging Nations Definition

- a. Initial discussions began on how to revise the definition of 'Emerging Nations' for Para Inclusive sailing. Hannah noted the term's historical ties to financial status, and the current Olympic definition for the ENP. It was proposed including classification access and equipment development as additional factors.



Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

A working group was proposed to discuss and progress on a Para Inclusive specific definition. PWSC members are encouraged to share their interest in joining this group. Cory also noted the Boards favour to support as many nations as possible, especially given the unique nature of Para Inclusive sailing and that MNA's do not necessarily support PI sailing alongside their Olympic support.

6. Classification Update

- a. The PWSC received an update from Chair of Classification, Helen. It was noted that the International Classifiers are working on 3 work streams in this area; enhancing the Paralympic reinstatement bid, database upgrades and sports classes. It was noted that the focus is on supporting not only athletes with physical impairment, but also visual and intellectual impairments, maintaining a clear and structured sport classes set that is easy to understand. It was noted that the IPC are currently offering research grants, and a team is putting together abstracts in this area to bid for funding support, with particular focus in the intellectual impairment space within sailing. The database upgrade project is still undergoing with the software provider; Globacol. It was noted that the current database would be transferred, and the capability of the new system would improve things by its API links to the wider World Sailing SailorID system, as well as improving the UHC assessment process. Helen also outlined that the sports classes will no longer be specific to equipment but would likely focus on crew roles or events. This would create a clear structure for viewership of the sport but also give the sailors the ability to sail different events. Hannah noted her thanks to Helen and the team of International Classifiers.

7. Any Other Business

- a. Para Inclusive Webinars



Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

Hannah noted that World Sailing are hosting 3 Para Inclusive Webinars on the 24th and 25th July.

b. AISS

Yuki provided a brief update on the status of the AISS, and that it was now being hosted by the Royal Mysore YC in India, and thanks were given to YAI and the hosts for their support of Para Inclusive Sailing.

It was noted that there has been a request for the Hansa 2.3 to receive Para Ranking points instead of or as well as the Hansa 303 due to the number of pieces of equipment available in the region.

There are several issues with the ranking algorithm to consider, and it was noted that a working group and potentially an offline vote would be considered.

The PWSC would continue the conversation offline.

c. Terms of Reference

- d. Other – it was noted that the timelines for current event announcements make it really hard for the community to plan far enough in advance to gain funding etc. Hannah noted that there have been difficulties with the transition to the new governance structure. World Sailing fully take this onboard, and bids for the 2028, 2029 and 2030 World Sailing Inclusion Championships will take place later this year with an announcement of venues asap to allow event planning. It was noted that the announcement of the 2026 venue will also be asap after Board approval and contract signing, and that the commitment is already in place for the 2027 World Sailing Championships in Gdynia, Poland.

8. Thank you and next meeting

- a. Meeting concluded with thanks from Kay and Hannah.
The next meetings are scheduled for 14th August and 18th September.



Para World Sailing Committee Minutes

Members asked to begin proposing agenda items and to remain engaged in follow-up conversations and event promotion.

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