

The World Sailing Council Meeting Minutes



The World Sailing Council met remotely via Microsoft Teams on 25 February 2026
at 12:00 UTC

World Sailing

Present	Position/Representing
1. Quanhai Li (CHN)	President
2. Daniel Belcher (AUS)	Vice President
3. Tomasz Chamera (POL)	Vice President
4. Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (MEX)	Vice President
5. Dave Hughes (USA)	Vice President
6. Corinne Migraine (FRA)	Vice President
7. Sophia Papamichalopoulos OLY (CYP)	Vice President
8. Josep M Pla (AND)	Vice President
9. Cory Sertl (USA)	Vice President
10. Stacey Clark (GBR)	Group A
11. Diana Kissane (IRL)	Group A (Alternate)
12. Katrin Adloff (GER)	Group B
13. Martin Vogler (SUI)	Group B
14. Alexandru Micu (ROM)	Group C
15. Ewa Jodlowska (POL)	Group C
16. Emilios Papathanasiou (GRE)	Group D
17. Smadar Pintov (ISR)	Group D
18. Walter Cavallucci (ITA)	Group D
19. Peter van den Bossche (BEL)	Group F
20. Annika Ekman (SWE)	Group G
21. Tatiana Ermakova (RUS)	Group H
22. Xu Lijia (CHN)	Group J
23. Abdur Rehman Arshad (PAK)	Group K
24. Malav Shroff (IND)	Group K
25. David Tillett (AUS)	Group L (Alternate)
26. Marco Aurelio de Sa Ribeiro (BRA)	Group N
27. Tom Clarke (BER)	Group O
28. Irinia Perez (DOM)	Group O
29. Peter Hall (CAN)	Group P
30. Fred Hagedorn (USA)	Group P
31. Dina Kowalyshyn (USA)	Group P
32. Alain Alcindor (SEY)	Group Q
33. David Sprague (CAN)	WS Classes Committee Chair (Alternate)
34. Matthew Allen (AUS)	Oceanic & Offshore Committee Chair
35. Kay Rawbone (HKG)	Para Sailing Chair
36. Pinar Coskuner Genc (TUR)	EDI Committee Chair

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In Attendance

David Graham	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Antonio Cozzolino	General Counsel
Jaime Navarro	Director of Technical & Offshore
Raksha Patel	Director of Finance & Business Operations
Scott Dougal	Director of Communications & Digital
Michael Downing	Olympic and Youth Olympic Games
Lisa Anderson	Director of the Executive Office

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Welcome from the President

The President opened the meeting and welcomed Council Members to the meeting.

(b) Apologies for Absence and Alternates

Andrus Poksi (EST) provided a formal apology.

Council noted the following alternates were appointed:

- In Group A – Fiona Bolger appointed Diana Kissane as an alternate
- In Group I – Sheikh Ahmad Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan appointed Mohamed Al Obeidli as an alternate
- In Group L – Shevaun Bruland appointed David Tillett as an alternate
- Classes Representative – Jan Martin Wilscht appointed David Sprague as an alternate

(c) Declarations of Interests

Council noted the Register of Interest. No additional Interests were declared.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(a) Council Minutes

Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2025 which are available on the World Sailing website.

(b) Board Minutes

Council received information that the minutes of all Board meetings up to and including 27 January 2026 are available on the World Sailing website.

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(c) Matters Arising

Council noted that a Committee and Commission nomination for the International Measurers Sub-Committee will be deferred to the next meeting.

3. Reports

(a) President's Report

The President provided his update to Council.

(b) CEO Report

The CEO provided his update to Council.

4. Committees and Sub-Committees

- a. The following 2026 Workplans for Committees and Sub-Committees were provided to Council for their approval:
 - i. Equipment Committee
 - ii. Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee
 - iii. Events Committee
 - iv. Match Racing Committee
 - v. Oceanic & Offshore Committee
 - vi. Para World Sailing Committee
 - vii. Regional Games Committee
 - viii. Specialist Sailing Committee
 - ix. Team Racing Committee
 - x. Youth Events Committee
 - xi. Equipment Rules Sub-Committee
 - xii. Olympic Classes Sub-Committee
 - xiii. Special Regulations Sub-Committee

It is intended that the 2026 Workplans for the Classes Committee and the Growth of Sailing Committee will be provided at the next Council Meeting.

Council voted on approving the thirteen listed 2026 Workplans.

The motion was approved:

33 in Favour, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions.

*** Detailed Nemo voting results can be found in the Appendix*

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b. Appointment of members of Committees and Sub-Committees

- i. Natalia Chubenko's Committee and Commission Nomination Form was reviewed by Council, with her membership of the International Umpires Sub-Committee having previously been approved by the Chair of the Sub-Committee and the Board. Council voted on her appointment.

The motion was approved:

28 in Favour, 4 Against and 3 Abstentions

*** Detailed Nemo voting results can be found in the Appendix*

- ii. The appointment of eleven International Classifiers as members of the Classification Sub-Committee was reviewed by Council, having previously been approved by the Para World Sailing Committee and the Board. Council voted on block for the appointments.

The motion was approved:

35 in Favour, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions

*** Detailed Nemo voting results can be found in the Appendix*

c. Update on the Regulation 11.5 review of Olympic events

The Chair of the Events Committee provided Council with a summary of the Regulation 11.5 review for its information, outlining the formation of a joint working group, the proposal submission process with accompanying timeline and the commitment to synchronise recommendations for future Olympic events and equipment.

5. Legal and Governance

a. World Sailing Independent Bodies appointment update

Council was provided with an update on the World Sailing Independent Bodies appointments and the creation of a new section of the World Sailing website, with the Disciplinary Hub containing the relevant documents on the various Independent Bodies, their members and case information.

b. Proposals for consideration:

- i. CO-2025-004A - Amend the Para World Sailing Committee Terms of Reference with respect to the addition of the Classification Sub-Committee.

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This had previously been approved by the Para World Sailing Committee and the Board. This was reviewed by Council, who voted on the Proposal.

The motion was approved:

35 in Favour, 0 Against and 1 Abstention

*** Detailed Nemo voting results can be found in the Appendix*

- ii. CO-2025-008 – approve policy J5 on Sustainability, Manual Power and Outside Help; optional wording for Organising Authorities Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions

This had previously been approved by the Oceanic & Offshore Committee (“OOC”) and the Board. Both the Chair and a Board Liaison Vice-President of the OOC spoke to the Proposal to relocate the Policy on sustainability, manual power and outside help from the Offshore Special Regulations to a stand-alone World Sailing Policy J5. This was reviewed by Council, who voted on the Proposal.

The motion was approved:

33 in Favour, 0 Against and 1 Abstention

*** Detailed Nemo voting results can be found in the Appendix*

- iii. CO-2026-001 - Governance framework on Augmented Race Management Systems

The Board Liaison Vice-President for Technology and the Equipment Committee, alongside the Executive Office, jointly presented the Augmented Race Management Systems (ARMS) recognition framework for digital race management systems at Olympic Class events. This Policy provides direction for event organisers and technology providers. This will evolve as products develop and technical requirements are refined. This had previously been submitted for consultation to various World Sailing representative bodies (being the Equipment Committee, the Events Committee, the Race Officials Committee, the Athletes Committee, the Specialist Sailing Committee, the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee, the Olympic Classes Sub-Committee and the Board), all of which had recommended approval. After review by Council and the undertaking

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that the Classes Committee would be specifically included in the consultation, Council voted on the Proposal.

The motion was approved:

33 in Favour, 1 Against and 1 Abstention

*** Detailed Nemo voting results can be found in the Appendix*

6. Finance

The CEO presented highlights from the latest financial report for the period ended 31 December 2025. The full report had been published and shared with Council as a supporting paper.

7. Any Other Business

There were no items of any other business.

8. Next Meeting

The next Council Meeting would be held on Tuesday 9 June 2026.

9. Closing

Council received closing remarks from the President and closed the meeting.

The Council Meeting was livestreamed on the World Sailing YouTube channel and the recording can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3APpa_efNg

Appendix – Nemo Vote Analysis attached



World Sailing

Vote Name: 4a BLOCK VOTE for all Committee and Sub-Committee 2026 Workplans not including Classes Committee and Growth of Sailing Committee

Vote Settings

Vote Status:
Closed

Result visible to voters:
No

Live Results:
Enabled

Show who voted:
Enabled

Multiple vote choices:
No

Amount of vote choices:
1

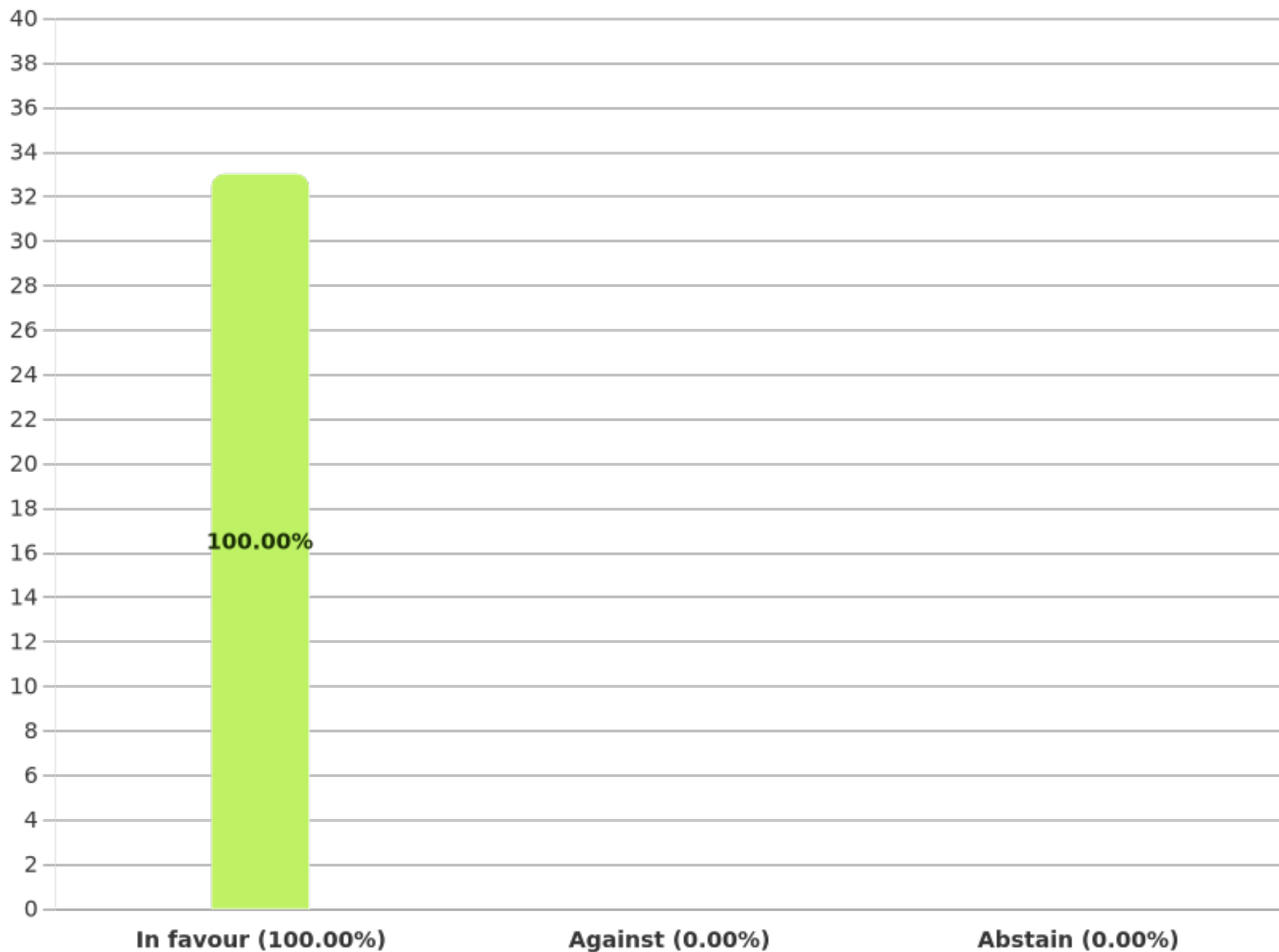
Ballot tracking:
Enabled

New voters have access to the voting after it has been opened:
Yes

Voting weight calculation based on:
Voter list

Results of this vote

No.	Choice	Total Sum	Individual Ballots
1	In favour	33 (100 %)	33 (100 %)
2	Against	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)
3	Abstain	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)
	Sum	33	33



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World Sailing

Vote Name: 4b VOTE for Natalia Chubenko to become a member of the International Umpires Sub-Committee

Vote Settings

Vote Status:
Closed

Result visible to voters:
No

Live Results:
Enabled

Show who voted:
Enabled

Multiple vote choices:
No

Amount of vote choices:
1

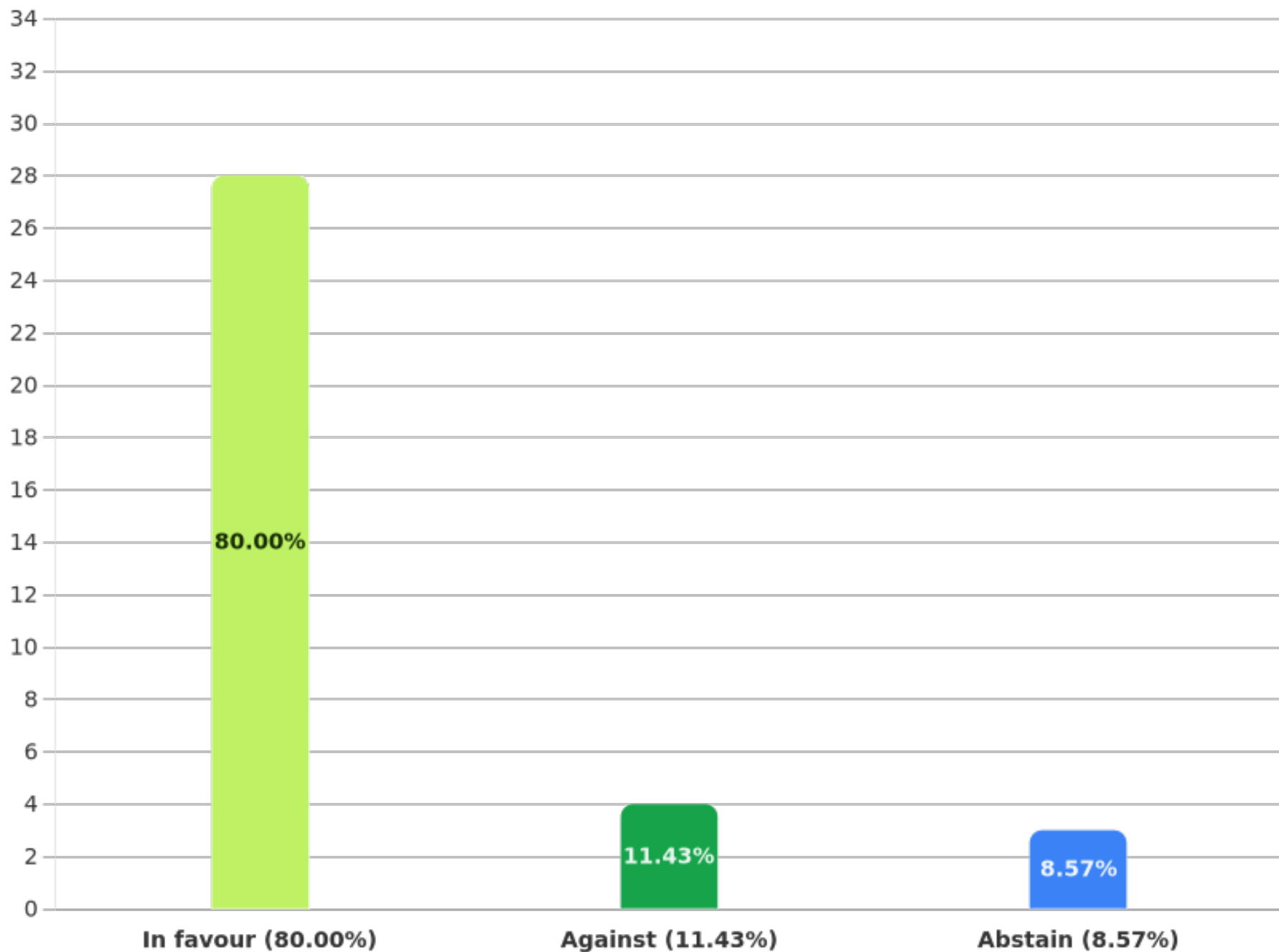
Ballot tracking:
Enabled

New voters have access to the voting after it has been
opened:
Yes

Voting weight calculation based on:
Voter list

Results of this vote

No.	Choice	Total Sum	Individual Ballots
1	In favour	28 (80 %)	28 (80 %)
2	Against	4 (11.43 %)	4 (11.43 %)
3	Abstain	3 (8.57 %)	3 (8.57 %)
	Sum	35	35



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World Sailing

Vote Name: 4c VOTE for the 11 International Classifiers approved by the Para Committee and Board to become members of the Classification Sub-Committee

Vote Description:

- Helen Mckenzie (NZL) - Chair
- Sarah Ross (AUS) - Vice-Chair
- Sue Parry (GBR)
- Bernard Destrube (FRA)
- Jurgen Schwittai (GER)
- Stephen Wilson (AUS)
- Yoshi Yamada (JPN)
- Barbara Caplan (USA)
- Jenny Molson (CAN)
- Akira Shimzu (JPN)
- Pedro Cunha (POR)

Vote Settings

Vote Status:
Closed

Result visible to voters:
No

Live Results:
Enabled

Show who voted:

Multiple vote choices:

Amount of vote choices:

Date of export: Feb 25, 2026, 1:40:43 PM

Enabled

No

1

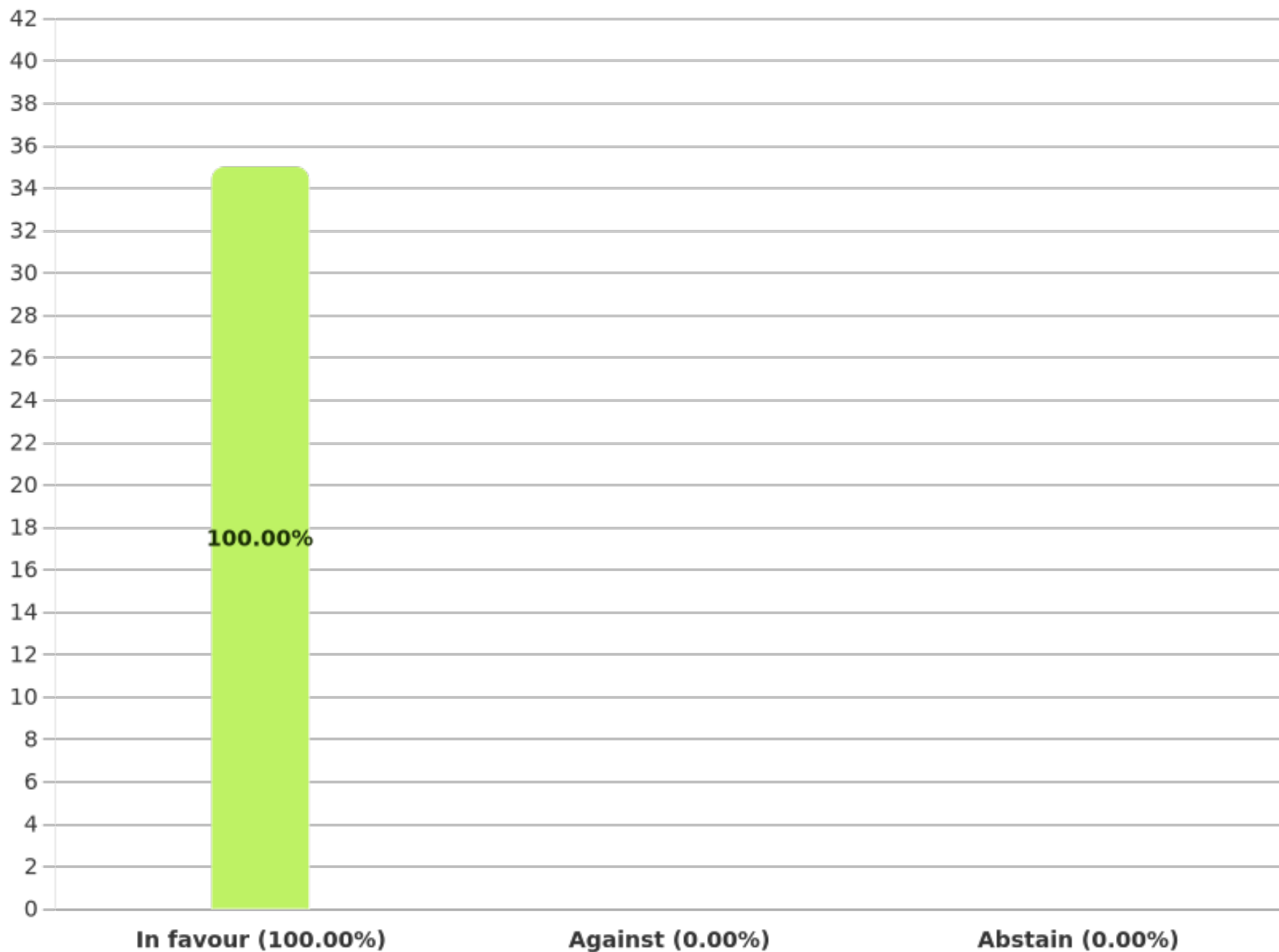
Ballot tracking:
Enabled

New voters have access to the voting after it has been
opened:
Yes

Voting weight calculation based on:
Voter list

Results of this vote

No.	Choice	Total Sum	Individual Ballots
1	In favour	35 (100 %)	35 (100 %)
2	Against	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)
3	Abstain	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)
	Sum	35	35



Date of export: Feb 25, 2026, 1:40:43 PM



World Sailing

Vote Name: 5b i CO-2025-004A - Amend the Para World Sailing Committee Terms of Reference with respect to the addition of the Classification Sub-Committee

Vote Settings

Vote Status:
Closed

Result visible to voters:
No

Live Results:
Enabled

Show who voted:
Enabled

Multiple vote choices:
No

Amount of vote choices:
1

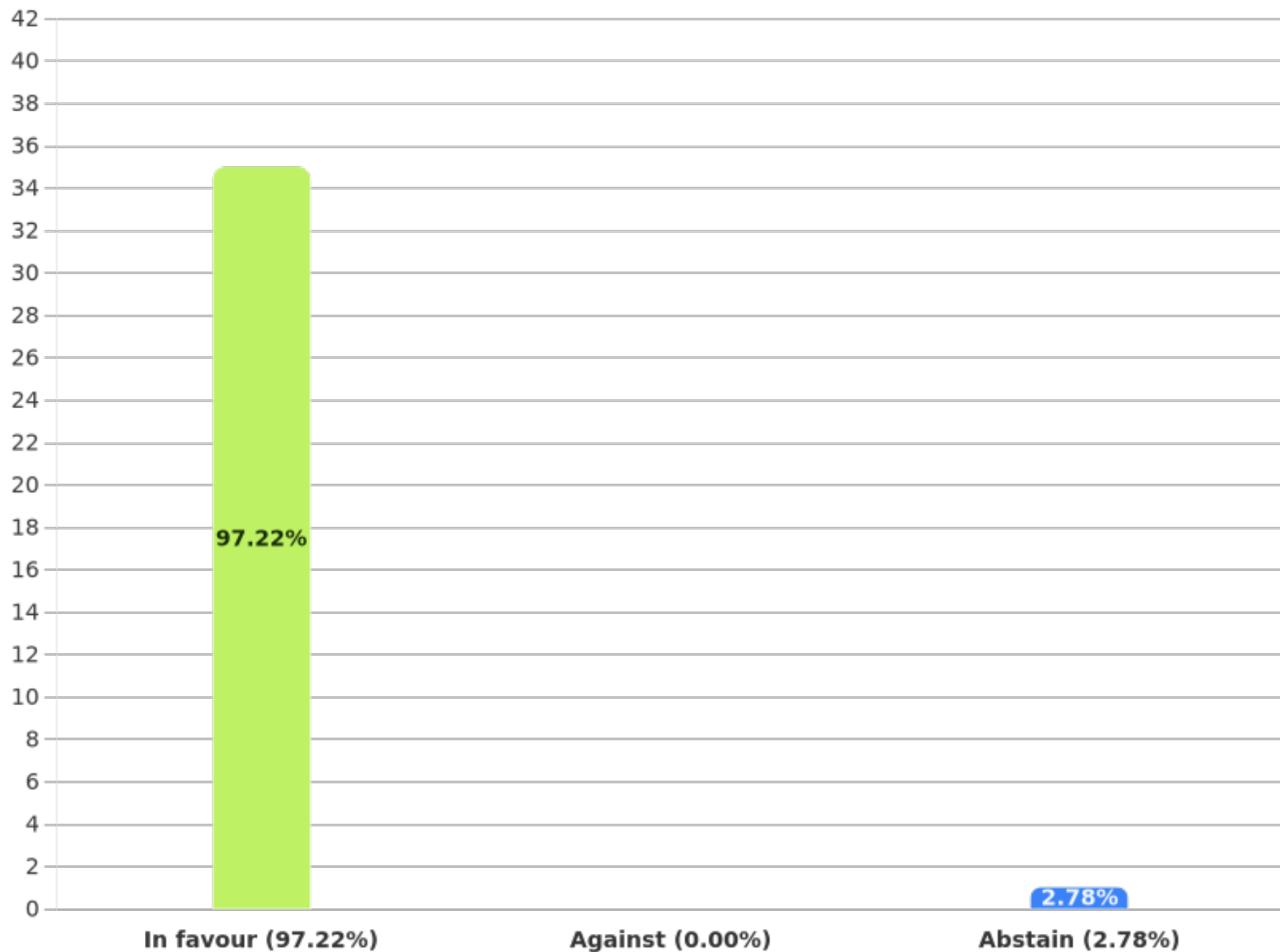
Ballot tracking:
Enabled

New voters have access to the voting after it has been opened:
Yes

Voting weight calculation based on:
Voter list

Results of this vote

No.	Choice	Total Sum	Individual Ballots
1	In favour	35 (97.22 %)	35 (97.22 %)
2	Against	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)
3	Abstain	1 (2.78 %)	1 (2.78 %)
	Sum	36	36



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World Sailing

Vote Name: 5b ii CO-2025-008 – approve policy J5 on Sustainability, Manual Power and Outside Help

Vote Settings

Vote Status:
Closed

Result visible to voters:
No

Live Results:
Enabled

Show who voted:
Enabled

Multiple vote choices:
No

Amount of vote choices:
1

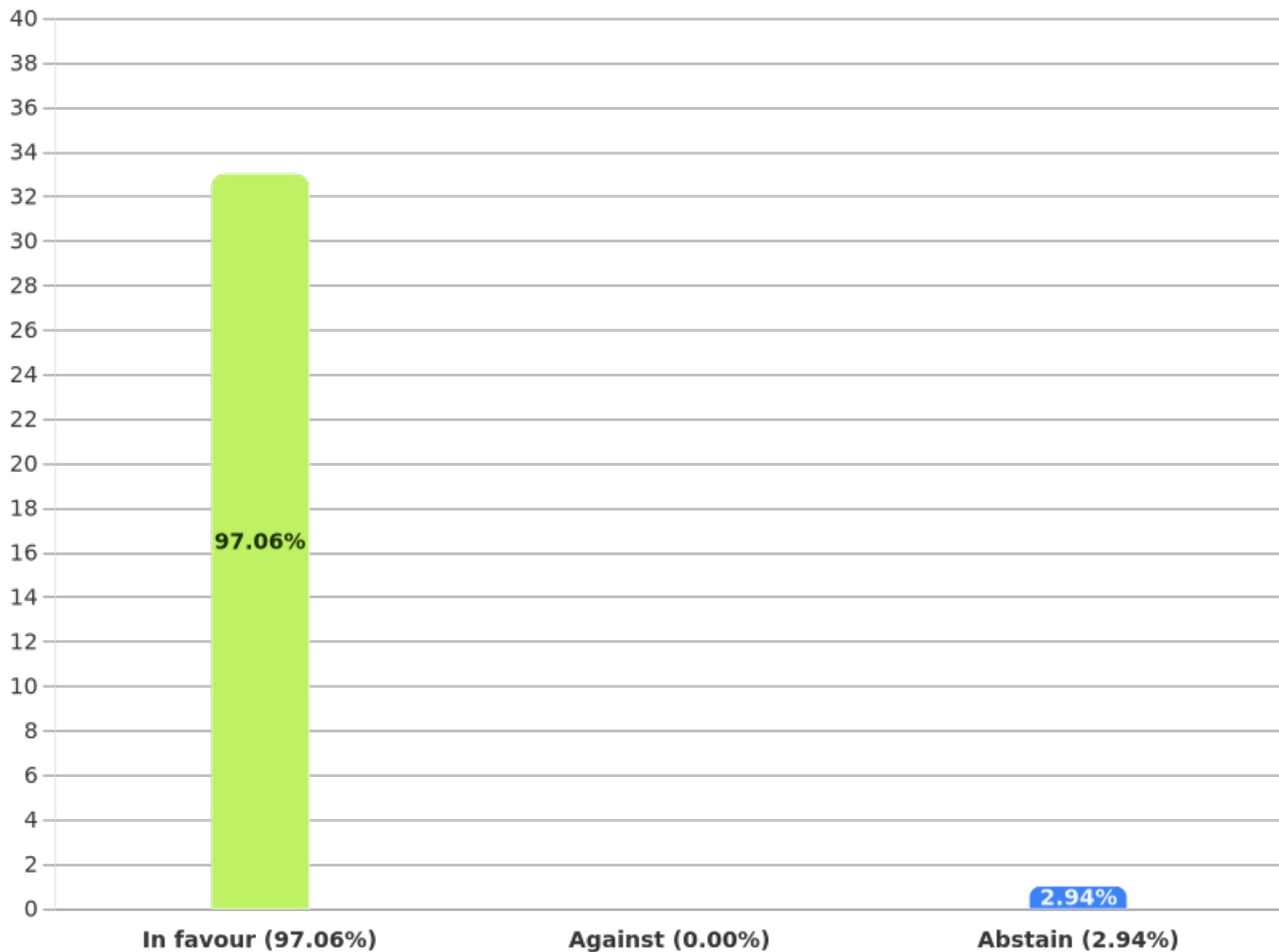
Ballot tracking:
Enabled

New voters have access to the voting after it has been
opened:
Yes

Voting weight calculation based on:
Voter list

Results of this vote

No.	Choice	Total Sum	Individual Ballots
1	In favour	33 (97.06 %)	33 (97.06 %)
2	Against	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)
3	Abstain	1 (2.94 %)	1 (2.94 %)
	Sum	34	34



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World Sailing

Vote Name: 5b iii CO-2026-001 - Governance framework on Augmented Race Management Systems

Vote Settings

Vote Status:
Closed

Result visible to voters:
No

Live Results:
Enabled

Show who voted:
Enabled

Multiple vote choices:
No

Amount of vote choices:
1

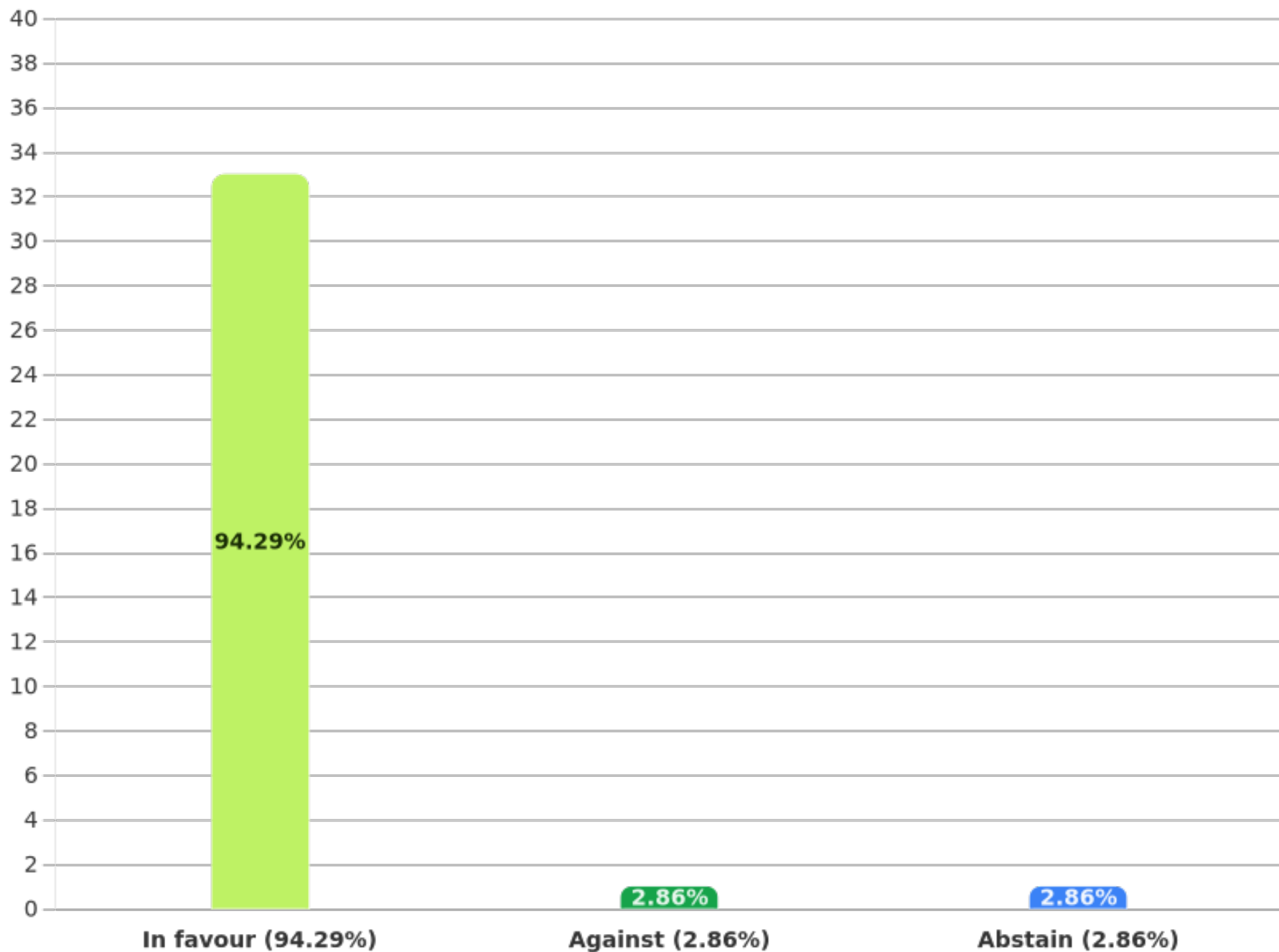
Ballot tracking:
Enabled

New voters have access to the voting after it has been
opened:
Yes

Voting weight calculation based on:
Voter list

Results of this vote

No.	Choice	Total Sum	Individual Ballots
1	In favour	33 (94.29 %)	33 (94.29 %)
2	Against	1 (2.86 %)	1 (2.86 %)
3	Abstain	1 (2.86 %)	1 (2.86 %)
	Sum	35	35



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