

World Sailing Regulations

New Regulation 7.2.3 – Distribution of Papers

A submission from the International 49er Class Association and International Nacra 17 Class Association

Purpose or Objective

To improve communication between World Sailing, its committees and working parties and to ensure enough time is granted for educated positions to be debated among constituents BEFORE the meetings.

Proposal

Add new Regulation 7.2.3 as follows:

7.2.3 Supporting and other position papers relevant to any agenda item or submission be circulated a minimum of (suggesting) 3 weeks in advance of the start of the meeting.

Current Position

As above.

The two Regulations governing communication ahead of meetings are Regulations 7.2.1 and 7.2.2, neither of which regulate the timing of the distribution of papers ahead of these meetings.

Reasons

1. Too often detailed supporting papers are circulated in the days before a meeting not allowing for considered debate or communication with other MNAs, committee members etc. The reality of late additions and circulation is understandable but for decisions that have profound implications for sailors, MNAs etc. it is not acceptable. A minimum time should be set which is both realistic but allows for such debate and communication.
2. The distribution and communication of papers has been irregular and inconsistent in recent years. Supporting Papers have become more important in swaying a debate and have become more complex. Ensuring these papers are communicated in good time is vital for efficient conduct at meetings and for the correct decision to be made.
3. Current procedure has led to both a real and perceived lack of transparency by World Sailing with a knock on effect of losing the trust of sailors.