2016 Olympic Sailing Competition

Submission: **052-11**

Regulation 23.1.4 - 29erXX for Women's Skiff

A submission from the Federación Argentina de Yachting, Chinese Yachting Association, Federacion Ecuatoriana de Yachting, Estonian Yachting Union, Finnish Sailing and Boating Federation and International 29er Class Association, Yachting Association of India, Polish Yachting Association, South African Sailing, Russian Yachting Federation and the Yacht Club Uruguayo

Purpose or Objective

Select the Equipment for the Women's Skiff event for the 2016 Olympics.

Proposal: ARG, ECU, EST, IND, POL, RSA, RUS and URU

To choose the 29erXX as Women's Skiff equipment for the 2016 Olympics.

Proposal: FIN and International 29er Class Association

Amend Regulation 23.1.4 as follows:

23.1.4 Olympic Events and Equipment:

Men's Board and/or Kiteboard - RS:X / kiteboard evaluation
Women's Board and/or Kiteboard - RS:X / kiteboard evaluation
Men's One Person Dinghy - Laser
Women's One Person Dinghy - Laser Radial
Men's 2nd One Person Dinghy - Finn
Men's Skiff - 49er
Women's Skiff - Evaluation 29erXX
Men's Two Person Dinghy - 470
Women's Two Person Dinghy - 470
Mixed Two Person Multihull - Evaluation

Current Position

Women's Skiff was selected as an event for the 2016 Olympics at the ISAF mid year meeting in May 2011. No equipment has yet been selected. An evaluation trials is due to be held at some point in the future. Female sailors are waiting on the outcome.

Reasons: ARG, CHN, ECU, IND, RUS

1. Evaluation trials are very expensive for ISAF. There is no need to go to the effort and expense of an evaluation event to determine the best equipment for the Women's Skiff event.

- 2. Evaluation trials have already been held though they are incomplete. The 29erXX was one of the choices evaluated and shortlisted. Changes arising from subsequent feedback have been made to bring the 29erXX more in line with expected criteria.
- 3. The 29erXX is already an established global class with ISAF recognised status and has active fleets across many parts of the world and is recognized as the go-to boat for women for Skiff sailing after the 29er. There are more than 2000 29ers sailed actively today across the world in more than 50 countries and 29erXX would be the ideal way to increase participation of women.
- 4. The average weight of women across the world (including Asia, Africa, Middle East and South America) is 50-60 kgs. Hence ISAF needs a Women's Skiff with a targeted combined weight of no more than 120 kgs to maximise participation across the world. The 29erXX fits this weight bracket perfectly with its new and improved sail plan and rig.
- 5. A new Women's Skiff which is expensive will be difficult to adopt by emerging nations due to non availability of funds and time required to change existing equipment. The 29er is easily upgraded to the 29erXX and is a perfect pathway from youth sailing where many nations and girls already actively sail the 29er.

	Euro	
29er	7,500	
29erXX complete	10,500	
29erXX upgrade package (includes 29erXX mast, sails, vang, rudder gantry & wings)	5,900	
29erXX sails	2,400	
*all prices are worldwide averages as of Q2 2011 and excluding VAT, GST and other taxes		

- 6. At a time when the sport of sailing needs to grow globally, and when the economic environment is difficult, ISAF should choose Equipment best suited for all criteria including global adoption at the lowest costs.
- 7. The 29erXX currently fills all the criteria of excitement, media appeal, cutting edge, ideal weight range, and low cost.
- 8. In view of the above reasons, ISAF can advance the decision of selection of Equipment for Women's Skiff. Female sailors do not have to wait before being able to make a decision about the Olympics in 2016 and their sailing future. Equipment is immediately available on a Global basis.

Reasons: EST

- 1. Evaluation trials are very expensive for ISAF. There is no need to go to the effort and expense of an evaluation event to determine the best equipment for the Women's Skiff event.
- 2. Evaluation trials have already been held though they are incomplete. The 29erXX was one of the choices evaluated and shortlisted. Changes arising from subsequent feedback have been made to bring the 29erXX more in line with expected criteria.

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- 8. In view of the above reasons, ISAF can advance the decision of selection of Equipment for Women's Skiff. Female sailors do not have to wait before being able to make a decision about the Olympics in 2016 and their sailing future. Equipment is immediately available on a Global basis.

Reasons: FIN and International 29er Class Association

- 1. Evaluation trials are very expensive for ISAF. Further expense can be avoided if the 2007 trials outcomes are considered.
- 2. The 29erXX was one of the choices evaluated and shortlisted. Changes arising from subsequent feedback have been made to bring the 29erXX more in line with expected criteria.
- 3. The 29erXX is already an established global class with ISAF recognised status and has active fleets across many parts of the world and is recognized as the go-to boat for women for Skiff sailing after the 29er. There are more than 2000 29ers sailed actively today across the world in more than 50 countries. Selecting the 29erXX as the 2016 Olympic equipment would be the ideal way to increase participation of women.
- 4. The 29erXX already has an active, worldwide schedule of over 25 events annually. The Class' first World Championship is scheduled for September 2012 in Lake Garda, Italy. It will be easy for sailors around the world to immediately begin racing.
- 5. Both new and used 29erXX parts are available worldwide. Sailors will be able to purchase equipment close to their home, making it easy for new sailors to start sailing the 29erXX quickly and affordably.
- 6. The average weight of women across the world (including Asia, Africa, Middle East and South America) is 50-60 kgs. Hence ISAF needs a Women's Skiff with a targeted combined weight of no more than 120 kgs to maximise participation across the world. The 29erXX fits this weight bracket perfectly with its new and improved sail plan and rig.

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- 8. At a time when the sport of sailing needs to grow globally, and when the economic environment is difficult, ISAF should choose Equipment best suited for all criteria including global adoption at the lowest costs.
- 9. The 29erXX currently fills all the criteria of excitement, media appeal, cutting edge, ideal weight range, and low cost.
- 10. In view of the above reasons, ISAF can advance the decision of selection of Equipment for Women's Skiff. Female sailors do not have to wait before being able to make a decision about the Olympics in 2016 and their sailing future. Equipment is immediately available on a Global basis, and the 29erXX is the best equipment option for the 2016 Olympic Games.

Reasons: POL

- 1. Initial evaluation trial was held in 2007. Evaluation trials are very expensive for ISAF. Further expense can be avoided if the 2007 trials outcomes are considered.
- 2. The 29erXX was one of the choices evaluated and shortlisted. Further changes to fulfil criteria have been made afterwards.
- 3. The 29erXX is an ISAF recognised Class having active fleets across many parts of the world.
- 4. The 29erXX requires teams weighing 120 kg. It goes in line with average weight of women across the world which is 50-60 kg.
- 5. The 29er may be easily upgraded to the 29erXX which gives easier opportunity for number of countries already having 29ers.
- 6. The 29erXX currently fills all the criteria of excitement, media appeal, cutting edge, ideal weight range, and low cost.
- 7. ISAF can advance the decision of selection of Equipment for Women's Skiff.

Reasons: RSA

1. ISAF must not underestimate the importance of the decision on the choice of boat for the Olympics on sailing around the world.

- 2. The MNA's in many countries find it difficult to attract participants and to grow the sport because of the initial costs involved. These countries, through necessity, are restricted in the number of classes they promote and in which they invest their financial and training resources. For sailing to be affordable and grow, they need to have larger fleets of fewer classes, which philosophy has implications from the attractiveness of larger fleets to the benefits of reduced unit costs through higher volumes.
- 3. These countries use the Olympic classes as a guideline for their choice of boat, not only to prepare their athletes for the Olympics, but also as to what to promote as the choice of boat for the country.
- 4. The uncertainty surrounding the choice of boat for the Olympics by ISAF does not help, as the longer it takes ISAF to make a decision, so too is the preparation time for these countries reduced, even to the point where the decision may be made to rather focus its efforts and resources on another discipline.
- 5. Evaluation trials are very expensive for ISAF. Further expense can be avoided if the 2007 trials outcomes are considered.
- 6. The 29erXX was one of the choices evaluated and shortlisted. Changes arising from subsequent feedback have been made to bring the 29erXX more in line with expected criteria.
- 7. The 29erXX is already an established global class with ISAF recognised status and has active fleets across many parts of the world. There are more than 2000 29ers sailed actively today across the world in more than 50 countries. Selecting the 29erXX as the 2016 Olympic equipment would be the ideal way to increase participation of women.
- 8. The 29erXX already has an active, worldwide schedule of events, including a 2012 World Championship scheduled for September in Lake Garda, Italy. It will be easy for sailors around the world to immediately begin racing.
- 9. Both new and used 29erXX parts are available worldwide. Sailors will be able to purchase equipment close to their home, making it easy for new sailors to start sailing the 29erXX quickly and affordably.
- 10. The average weight of women across the world (including Asia, Africa, Middle East and South America) is 50-60 kgs. Hence ISAF needs a Women's Skiff with a targeted combined weight of no more than 120 kgs to maximise participation across the world. The 29erXX fits this weight bracket perfectly with its new and improved sail plan and rig.

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