

## **2016 Olympic Sailing Competition**

### Final day format for the 49er and 49erFX

A submission from the International 49er Class Association

#### **Purpose or Objective**

To aid making the final day of the Olympic games both fair and exciting for sailing fans of the 49er and 49erFX classes.

#### **Proposal**

1. To use the 'Theatre Style' format for the final day of the Olympic games. Both the 49er and 49erFX classes should be scheduled to race 3 X 10 minute target time races.
2. Theatre Style means that the race course shall use, when appropriate, a continuous artificial boundary running parallel with the wind and on either side of the race course that the teams may not pass beyond.
3. To score each race single point (normally) as opposed to double points like in other medal racing.

#### **Current Position**

The current position is to use one medal races, where teams race on a normal racecourse with a target time of between 20 minutes with the race counted as double points.

#### **Reasons**

1. A 10 minute race is more suitable to television viewing than a 20 minute race.
  2. For live audiences 3 10 minutes races are exciting and engaging over just one 20 minutes race. At the Olympics this means fans get to see 6 short races etc.
  3. A 10 minute race without boundaries results in teams going straight to the laylines and is not exciting to watch.
  4. A continuous boundary allows media boats and fans to get very close to the sailing boats without being a navigable hazard to the sailors
  5. A series of 3 races increases the fairness of the result compared to a single race, aiding the goal of having the team who sails the best win the regatta.
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