

### ISAF Sailing World Championships

#### ISAF Sailing World Championships as Olympic Qualifier

A submission from the Executive Committee based on the recommendation of the Olympic Commission

#### Proposal

17.2.1 The Championships shall be held once every four years, two years prior to the Olympic Games. **It shall be the first Olympic Qualification event for all nations.**

#### Current Position

Regulation 17.2.1 as amended by Council at the Mid-Year Meeting 2010 (submission M09-10)

#### Reasons (for full reasons, please refer to Olympic Commission report section 2)

In October 2009 the IOC stated that:

- *“the principle of universality shall be reflected in qualification systems through continental representation;*
- *nations should have more than one opportunity to qualify. Where possible continental events should be used.”*

The Commission recommends that the ISAF Sailing World Championships should continue to be all sailing nations' first Olympic Qualifier, as it brings together the world's best sailors, and that scheduling this qualification event two years before the Olympics will put successful nations in the best position to secure NOC funding. Allocating Olympic Qualification to this event maximises its value and appeal to host venues.

The Commission recommends that this should be stated in the Regulations.

The Commission also recommends using the Continental SWC events in the year before the Olympics as the second Qualifier, as this means that ISAF is meeting IOC requirements, and will increase the value and appeal of SWC events to host venues. The ISAF Sailing World Championships is attended by all leading sailing nations. Scheduling this as the first Olympic Qualifier first (in year 2) will mean that leading nations are likely to qualify at this event. Non-qualified nations can then attend the lower cost, local Continental Qualifiers with reasonable chance of securing qualification. It will therefore maximise the number of nations taking part in sailing's Olympic Qualification events, the primary IOC measure of universality. In addition, it will enable ISAF to ensure that, if it so wishes, every continent is represented in every Event at the Olympics.

The allocation of places between Qualification events, and between continents, will be determined once the Olympic Events have been decided, but the Commission recommends that 50% of places

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in each Olympic Event are awarded to the first Qualification Event, the ISAF Sailing World Championships, and the remaining 50% is divided between the Continental Qualification Events.