

### **Prize Money**

Prize Money at Olympic Class Events and Championships

A submission from the International RS:X Class Association

#### **Proposal:**

That Prize Money may be made available and won at Olympic Class Events and championships.

#### **Current Position:**

Olympic Classes may not award prize money at their events and championships

#### **Reasons:**

- (a) The public and media link prize money with professionalism. Elite sailors in the Olympic Classes are professionals however they may not be perceived as such because of the current embargo on prize money
- (b) Other areas of sailing do provide prize money already. The athletes taking part in these non-Olympic class events are thus able to promote themselves as 'professionals' who are somehow perceived by the public to be ranked above an Olympic Class athlete in the hierarchy of sailing.
- (c) To compete with other sports for the attention of young people, sailing should use all of the tools at its disposal. Prize money is one such tool.
- (d) By agreeing that prize money may be won at Olympic Class Events, it does not become a mandatory requirement for such events to have prize money and it should not be so. However, if the organiser is in a position to provide prize money then he should be allowed to do so.

NB: The RS:X Class is seeking approval in principle to this submission which is not related to any particular event or series or the ISAF World Cup for Olympic Classes.