

EVENTS COMMITTEE



MET AT 0930 – 1800 HOURS ON FRIDAY 9 MAY 2008 AT THE SHANGRI LA HOTEL, QINGDAO, CHINA

MINUTES

Present:

Bjorn Unger – Chairman
Totos Theodossiou – Vice-Chairman
David Irish – Vice-President
Kim Andersen
Chris Atkins
Olivier Bovyn
Carolijn Brouwer
Gianfranco Brusatti
John Crebbin

Kamen Fillyov
Adrienne Greenwood
Hal Haenel
Oleg Ilyin
Phil Jones
Fiona Kidd
Takao Otani
Zvi Ziblat

Apologies:

Ion Echave
Achim Griesse
HRH Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark
Ahmet Mostar
David Sprague
George Wossala

Absent:

Lars Graef

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1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Minutes

The Committee noted the minutes of the Events Committee of 7 November 2007. The minutes can be downloaded at www.sailing.org/meetings.

(b) Minutes – matters arising

There were no matters arising (not covered elsewhere on this agenda).

EVENTS COMMITTEE (CONT).

2. 2012 OLYMPIC SAILING COMPETITION – EVENTS

(a) Submission M06-08 – Selection of Events

The Events Committee considered submission from the Executive Committee regarding the selection of events for the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to Council to reject M06/08).

Vote: 3 in favour, 9 against, 4 abstentions, for a motion to accept submission M06-08.

With regards to the second part of Submission M06/08, the Events Committee recommends that both the Men's Events and Women's Events be re-opened given the high level of concern about the November decision.

Men's

Vote: 10 in favour, 1 against, 5 abstentions.

Women's

Vote: 9 in favour, 4 against, 3 abstentions.

(b) Events Definitions

The Events Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Events and Equipment Selection Working Party and the ISAF Events Manager, see appendix A.

(c) Submission 079-07

The Events Committee considered deferred submission 079-07 from the Danish Sailing Federation about selection of events for the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to Council to approve 079-07.

Vote: Unanimous.

(d) Submission 110-07

The Events Committee consider deferred submission 110-07 from the Bermuda Sailing Association about the Women's Keelboat - Match Race. Council.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to Council to reject submission 110-07 as they felt that this was not the right approach.

Vote: 15 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention.

EVENTS COMMITTEE (CONT).

(e) Submission M03 -08

The Events Committee considered submission M03-08 from the Executive Committee to change Regulation 16.1 in respect of the requirement for equipment to have ISAF International Status to sail in the Olympic Sailing Competition.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to Council to defer submission M03-08 as they felt that there was not enough consistent information at this stage to make recommendations regarding the Women's Match Racing event. The Events Committee recommended that the Executive Committee created a new Working Party to look at the Women's Match Racing event. It was also agreed that the equipment chosen should meet IOC guidelines.

Vote: 14 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention

(f) Submission M04 -08

The Events Committee considered submission M04-08 from the Executive Committee to change the Regulation 16.1.2 in respect of the timescale for selecting the equipment for the women's match racing event at the 2012 Olympics.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to council to defer Submission M04-08 as they felt that there was not enough consistent information at this stage to make recommendations regarding the Women's Match Racing event. The Events Committee recommended that the Executive Committee created a new Working Party to look at the Women's Match Racing event. It was also agreed that the equipment chosen should meet IOC guidelines.

Vote: 14 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention

(g) Women's Match Racing

The Events Committee received a progress report from the Chairman of the Equipment Committee on issues regarding the Women's Match Racing event. It was suggested there should be a women's representative from the Events Committee on the Women's Match Racing Working Party.

3. 2012 OLYMPIC SAILING COMPETITION - EQUIPMENT

(a) Equipment Submissions EQ01-08 to EQ30-08 and EQ32-08 to EQ61-08

The Events Committee considered Equipment submissions on the list of possible Equipment for the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to Council that these submissions form the list of possible Equipment at the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition, see Appendix A.

EVENTS COMMITTEE (CONT).

Vote: 15 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

(b) Submission EQ31-08

The Events Committee considered the submission from the Ministry of Sports Affairs – Oman regarding mono and multihull dinghies.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee noted that Submission EQ31-08 will be on it's agenda at the 2008 Annual Conference

Vote: 15 in favour, 0 against, 1 abstention

(c) Voting Procedures

The Events Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Events and Equipment Selection Working Party and the ISAF Events Manager, see appendix A.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee agreed the voting procedure set out in the 2012 Olympic Sailing Competition Definitions of Events, Equipment Selection, Event Names paper and recommended it also be adopted by Council.

Vote: Unanimous in favour

4. 2008 OLYMPIC SAILING COMPETITION

(a) Technical Delegate Report

The Events Committee received a progress report from the Technical Delegate. The Technical Delegate reported that plans for the 2008 Olympic Sailing Competition were well advanced and that the venue was spectacular.

There was a broad discussion on the numbers of coach boats allowed at the 2008 Olympic Sailing Competition.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends that each MNA be allowed one coach boat for each event that they are represented in at the 2008 Olympic Sailing Competition.

5. 2010 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

(a) Youth Olympic Games Update

The Events Committee Representative from the Youth Olympic Games Working Party gave a progress report. It was advised that the Youth Olympic Games Working Party has representatives from the Events Committee, Equipment Committee, Executive Committee and Youth and Development Committee. The Working Party was working on issues relating to equipment, qualification and format of the Youth Olympic Games and will make recommendation directly to the Executive Committee. It was recommended that the Events Committee should be updated on a monthly basis.

EVENTS COMMITTEE (CONT).

6. ISAF WORLD CUP OF SAILING

(a) 2009 ISAF World Cup of Sailing

The Events Committee received a progress report from the ISAF Events Manager. It was noted that ISAF had appointed F10 to help implement and manage the ISAF SWC. It was reported that the six events, Sail Melbourne International Regatta, Rolex Miami OCR, HRH Princess Sophia Trophy, Semaine Olympique Francaise, Delta Lloyd (formerly Holland Regatta), Kiel Week had all signed a letter of intent and that there are plans to introduce an event in the 2012 Olympic Host nation.

(b) Submission 037-07

The Events Committee consider deferred submission 037-07 from the Chairman of the ISAF Classes Committee on behalf of the Olympic Classes about ISAF Events – ISAF Sailing World Cup Final.

Recommendation to Council

Withdrawn.

7. ISAF SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

(a) Submission 123-07

The Events Committee consider deferred submission 123-07 from the Executive Committee about the frequency of staging the ISAF Sailing World Championship.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to reject submission 123-07 as the Events Committee feels that this is not the correct time to consider holding the ISAF Sailing World Championship every two years mainly due to the introduction of the Sailing World Cup in 2009. Other concerns are that there are not enough suitable venues to hold this event.

Vote: 8 in favour, 4 against, 4 abstention

The Events Committee felt that holding the ISAF Worlds every two years would be worth considering for the future however, with the introduction of the ISAF Sailing World Cup now was not the right time.

(b) Submission 126-07

To reconsider deferred submission 126-07 from the Fédération Francaise de Voile about the frequency of staging the ISAF Sailing World Championship.

Recommendation to Council

The Events Committee recommends to reject submission 126-07 as the Events Committee feels that this is not the correct time to consider holding the ISAF Sailing World Championship every two years mainly due to the introduction of the Sailing World Cup in 2009. Other concerns are that there are not enough suitable venues to hold this event.

EVENTS COMMITTEE (CONT).

Vote: 8 in favour, 4 against, 4 abstention

The Events Committee felt that holding the ISAF Worlds every two years would be worth considering for the future however, with the introduction of the ISAF Sailing World Cup now was not the right time.

(c) 2011 ISAF Worlds Update

The Events Committee received a progress report from the ISAF Events Manager. It was reported that the Organisers of the Perth 2011 ISAF Worlds had made progress on areas such as sponsorship, administration of the event and long term legacy projects.

8. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Youth World Championship Sub-Committee

The Events Committee received a progress report from the Chairman of the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship Sub-Committee.

- Aarhus, Denmark 2008 progressing well. 59 Nations are registered to date. A large turnout of athletes.
- Buzios, Brazil 2009 progressing well.
- Istanbul, Turkey 2010 progressing well.
- Zadar, Croatia 2011. The ISAF Competitions Manager has made a site visit. Excellent venue and everything going to plan.
- The Events Committee noted the continuing support of Volvo with the ISAF Youth Worlds and is aware that the current contract is due to end in 2010.

(b) Team Racing Sub-Committee

The Chairman of the Team Racing Sub-Committee advised that there was nothing to report.

(c) Sail Rankings Sub-Committee

The Events Committee received a progress report from the Chairman of the Sail Rankings Sub-Committee. It was agreed that the Sailing World Cup would lead to possible changes in the sail rankings and that this would be looked at in further detail before the Annual Conference in November.

9. WORKING PARTIES

(a) Objectives and Members

The Chairman of the Events Format Working Party gave a progress report. It was explained that ISAF needs to look at the Terms of Reference and Membership to review and broaden the Working Party Terms of Reference and Membership.

EVENTS COMMITTEE (CONT).

The Events Committee would recommend that the Executive Committee set aside a budget to help develop ideas on future Olympic Sailing Competition format. It was felt that the onshore activities also needed further research.

(b) ISAF World Championships

Did not discuss. No report was received.

(c) Events Format for Major Events

The Chairman of the Events Format Working Party gave a progress report.

10. ISAF STRATEGIC PLAN

(a) ISAF Events Strategy

The Events Committee received a progress report from the Chairman of the Events & Equipment Selection Working Party.

(b) Calendar of Events

The Events Committee received a progress report from the ISAF Events Manager.

11. ISAF EQUIPMENT STRATEGY BEYOND 2012

(a) ISAF Events & Equipment Strategy

The Events Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Events & Equipment Selection Working Party, see Appendix B.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No further business.

There being no further business the meeting was closed

2012 Olympic Sailing Competition Definitions of Events, Equipment Selection, Event Names

The schedule for decisions relating to Events and Equipment for the 2012 Olympic Regatta is:

- in May 2008 ISAF agrees the options for Equipment to be chosen in November based on Equipment submissions received, and the voting process;
- in November 2008 ISAF decides the Equipment;
- in May 2009 ISAF confirms the names of Events for the 2012 Olympic Regatta.

Definitions of Events

Events Committee agreed in November 2002 that:

Recommendation 8: Definition of "Event"

What defines an "Event" should be specified. It should include one of each of the following:

- a) Gender: men, women, or mixed;
- b) Type: dinghy, multihull, keel-boat or windsurfer;
- c) Format: eg fleet racing, match racing or team racing.

Only when necessary to avoid two medals being allocated to the same Event, an Event should be further defined by number of crew, or descriptive terms such as "heavyweight" or "high performance".

Other Observation

Retaining "Open" as a gender option serves no purpose. Gender options should be Men, Women and (dependent on whether Recommendation 6 is accepted) Mixed.

ISAF decided in November 2007 that the Events at the 2012 Olympic Regatta will be (all fleet racing unless stated otherwise):

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| • Windsurfer Men | • Windsurfer Women |
| • 1 person dinghy Men | • 1 person dinghy Women |
| • 1 person dinghy Men (heavyweight) | |
| • 2 person dinghy Men | • 2 person dinghy Women |
| • 2 person dinghy Men (high performance) | |
| • Keelboat Men | • Keelboat Women Match Racing |

Is Multihull Equipment Eligible for Dinghy Events?

Submissions have been received proposing multihull equipment for the dinghy Events. ISAF has to decide whether multihull equipment is eligible equipment for these Events. It could be argued that on the one hand "dinghy" in the above Event titles has not previously been thought of as including multihull (see list below), but on the other hand the definition of "dinghy" does not limit itself to monohull.

- The November 2002 recommendation above separately identified "dinghy" and "multihull"
- No multihull has been proposed for dinghy Events before
- No multihull was entered into either of the two high-performance dinghy trials
- The November 2007 vote was seen as "multihull out of the Olympics".

It is recommended that the Events Committee debates in May 2008 whether or not to consider multihull equipment for dinghy Events in 2012, and votes at the end of that debate on the submission from Oman, EQ31-08:

“that the selection of Equipment for Dinghy Events for the 2012 Olympic Regatta be open to both mono- and multi-hull dinghies”.

This issue was considered by the Equipment Committee who recommended to reject Submission EQ31-08 unanimously.

It is recommended that this is limited to 2012 only, so ISAF can subsequently decide for future Olympic Events either:

- that dinghy events are explicitly identified as monohull or multihull; or
- to eliminate event differentiation on the basis of number of hulls, and always allow multihull and monohull submissions for the same events.

Equipment Submissions Received for 2012 Olympic Regatta

The following submissions have been received:

(indicates no submission received from the Class Association. Under Regulation 16.1.1(f)(i) Sec Gen should confirm with Class Assoc that it does not want to be withdrawn from the list, and that under Regulation 16.1.1(f)(ii) it will enter into an Olympic Class Contract by 1st November. ~~Strikethrough~~ indicates that the Class has already indicated it wishes to be withdrawn.)*

Men's Events <i>(see also submissions below where Event not specified)</i>	
Windsurfer	Formula One Design; RSX (9.5m ² sail)
1 Person Dinghy	Europe; Finn; *International Moth; Laser; Musto Skiff
1 Person Dinghy (heavyweight)	Finn; *Laser; Musto Skiff
2 Person Dinghy	49er; 470; *Hobie 16 ; Tornado
2 Person Dinghy (high performance)	*29erXX; 470; 49er; F18; *Capricorn, *Hobie Tiger, NACRA F18; Tornado
Keelboat	*Flying 15 ; *Melges 24 ; Star
Women's Events <i>(see also submissions below where Event not specified)</i>	
Windsurfer	Formula One Design; RSX (8.5m ² sail)
1 Person Dinghy	Byte CII; Europe; Laser Radial
2 Person Dinghy	29erXX; 470; *Hobie 16
Keelboat Match	Proposed by Olympic Organiser; ISAF Design; J22; J24; J80; SB3M; Sonar; "Sportboat"; Ultimate 20; Yngling
No Event Specified	2 person: Hobie Tiger

Notes:

1. Whether multihull equipment is included in the analysis of dinghy Event options will be decided by the earlier vote on the submission from Oman.
2. There are other submissions that address choice of Equipment in the event that the decision on Events is amended; these submissions do not introduce any additional Equipment choices.
3. The Secretary General should write to those Class Associations who did not identify which Event(s) they wished to be considered for, asking them to clarify this.
4. Council approved submission 044-05 requiring use of Standard Class Rule format by Olympic classes. Those classes that do not currently use this format should be asked to supply, in advance of the November 2008 conference, their plans for its adoption.

Recommended Voting Process

Notes:

1. In a ballot where one vote is to be cast and more than one option is available, if an option receives more than 50% of votes cast, it is elected. Failing this, a run-off ballot is held between the two options with most votes.
2. If Equipment has been chosen for an Event within a Gender Group, it is not eligible to be chosen for another Event within the same Gender Group.

Ballot 1:	Women's Windsurfing
Ballot 2:	Men's Windsurfing
Ballot 3:	Women's 1 Person Dinghy
Ballot 4:	Men's 1 Person Dinghy
Ballot 5:	Men's 1 Person Dinghy (heavyweight)
Ballot 6:	Women's 2 Person Dinghy
Ballot 7:	Men's 2 Person Dinghy
Ballot 8:	Men's 2 Person Dinghy (high performance)
Ballot 9:	Women's Keelboat Match
Ballot 10:	Men's Keelboat

Guidelines for Selection of Equipment

The 2004 guidelines have been updated to reflect Type 1 and Type 2 Events and are attached as Appendix A for review and agreement by Events Committee.

In preparation for the decisions in November 2008, it is recommended a Working Party is appointed, comprising Events and Equipment Committee representatives, to evaluate (based on the information supplied by the classes) the Equipment options against these guidelines.

An analysis of competitors at the 2004 Olympic Regatta is attached as Appendix B. This will be updated following the 2008 Regatta.

Prepared by Chris Atkins and Alastair Fox
April 2008

APPENDIX A: OLYMPIC EQUIPMENT SELECTION GUIDELINES

OLYMPIC SELECTION CRITERIA (Regulation 16.1.5(a))

- (i) Must allow athletes around the world, male, female and of different size and weight, to participate;
- (ii) Must achieve the current IOC objective of the minimum level of participation for women;
- (iii) Must give the best sailors in each country the opportunity to participate in readily accessible equipment;
- (iv) Must combine both traditional and modern events and classes, to reflect, display and promote competitive sailing;
- (v) Must meet the IOC's criteria for participation in the Olympic programme.

EQUIPMENT SELECTION GUIDELINES FOR ALL EVENTS

EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES FOR ALL EVENTS

- Commonality between Men's and Women's Equipment is beneficial when it is also appropriate
- Suitable for racing in wind strengths from light (5 knots) to strong (25 knots)
- Not unnecessarily expensive
- Relatively easily transportable for type of equipment
- Simple to ensure Equipment is fair and conforms to rules; low Equipment measurement costs at regattas
- Spectator and media-friendly: all Events should be suitable for TV and newspaper coverage

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES FOR TYPE 1 EVENTS (windsurfing; 1 person dinghy)

- Suitable to be supplied equipment
- Low cost and high global availability, ideally "out-of-the-box" equipment
- Rewards on-the-water sailing skills and athleticism rather than off-the-water technical development

EVENT SYNOPSES & EQUIPMENT SELECTION GUIDELINES FOR SPECIFIC EVENTS

WINDSURFING	1 PERSON DINGHY	2 PERSON DINGHY	KEEL-BOAT
The most athletic of Events, uses low cost, out of the box Equipment that is accessible to all sailing countries and is suitable for light to average weight athletes.	Uses simple and inexpensive Equipment to highlight on-the-water skills. Equipment should be accessible to all sailing countries and be suitable for average weight athletes.	Highlights on-the-water skills and team-work. Equipment should be accessible to most sailing countries and be suitable for a wide range of athlete physiques.	Promotes and reflects keel-boat racing as it is sailed today. Highlights technical skills as well as on-the-water skills and team-work.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewards athleticism and physical fitness • Rewards boat control & speed more than tactics • Suitable for light to average weight athletes • Inexpensive, out-of-the-box Equipment • Available and sailed worldwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewards on-the-water sailing skills and physical fitness • Suitable for average weight athletes • Inexpensive Equipment • Available and sailed worldwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewards on-the-water sailing skills, team-work and physical fitness • Suitable for a range of helm / crew weight and physique combinations • Relatively inexpensive Equipment • Available and sailed worldwide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rewards on-the-water sailing skills, tactics and team-work • Rewards technical skills • Suitable for a range of helm/crew weight and physique combinations, but without encouraging extreme physiques • Readily available to keel-boat-racing nations

EVENT SYNOPSES & EQUIPMENT SELECTION GUIDELINES FOR 2nd EVENT WITHIN A CATEGORY

2nd MEN'S 1 PERSON and 2 PERSON DINGHY

Enable Olympic regatta to reflect and promote 1- and 2-person sailing at its most demanding, and for a wider weight range. Equipment should reflect innovation in racing and / or demand extreme skills, and be accessible to most sailing countries.

- Rewards on-the-water sailing skills, physical fitness and technical skills
- Rewards team-work, and suitable for a range of helm/crew weight and physique combinations (2-person only)
- Innovative: design; technology; format of racing; courses
- Media appeal
- Fast and athletic
- Scope for development

APPENDIX B 2004 Competitor Analysis (Change from 2000 in *[italics]*)

Event	W/S	SH	SH	DH	DH	MH	KB	W/S	SH	DH	KB
Gender	M	O	M	M	O	O	M	F	F	F	F
Equipment	Mistral	Laser	Finn	470	49er	Tornado	Star	Mistral	Europe	470	Yngling
# boats/ athletes	34 / 34 [-2]	42 / 42 [-1]	25 / 25 [0]	27 / 54 [-2 / -4]	19 / 38 [+2 / +4]	17 / 34 [+1 / +2]	17 / 34 [+1 / +2]	26 / 26 [-3]	25 / 25 [-2]	20 / 40 [+1 / +2]	16 / 48

Africa I,Q	1 [-1]	3 [+1]	0 [-1]					0 [-1]			
Asia J,K	6 [-1]	5 [-1]	0 [-1]	2 [-1]	2 [+1]			3 [-2]	2 [+1]	1 [-1]	
Europe	19 [+2]	24 [0]	19 [+2]	20 [+1]	14 [+1]	11 [+1]	12 [+3]	16 [0]	18 [0]	13 [+1]	11
Oceania	2 [-1]	2 [0]	2 [0]	2 [0]	1 [-1]	1 [-1]	1 [-1]	2 [-1]	2 [0]	2 [0]	2
N America	2 [-2]	3 [-2]	2 [-1]	1 [-2]	1 [0]	3 [+1]	3 [0]	3 [0]	2 [-3]	2 [+1]	3
S America	4 [+1]	5 [+1]	2 [+1]	2 [0]	1 [+1]	2 [0]	1 [-1]	2 [+1]	1 [0]	2 [0]	

G height	179	188	187	172	185	173	181	171	180	185	181	163	165	172	169	169	180	168
S height	178	181	184	172	185	170	192	170	175	175	183	172	174	178	171	164	172	178
B height	180	189	193	167	174	176	183	180	170	188	194	167	165	167	178	167	176	168

G weight	69	78	93	68	70	70	81	70	73	85	106	55	65	60	67	66	76	63
S weight	68	84	104	60	70	70	85	79	72	78	100	57	61	65	68	52	75	75
B weight	69	80	100	58	75	69	80	77	70	100	103	56	56	61	68	75	67	622

G age	29	31	27	41	48	27	28	38	36	44	39	26	22	27	31	36	27	24
S age	36	27	29	27	25	32	30	37	37	39	34	26	29	31	31	34	25	23
B age	25	29	29	29	29	26	31	43	33	36	32	34	24	28	26	32	36	29

Notes

1. G = Gold; S = Silver; B = Bronze
2. Continents are defined by ISAF Groups as follows:
Africa: I & Q; Asia: J & K; Europe: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H;
Oceania: L; North America: O & P; South America: M & N.

ISAF Olympic Decision Process

Report to Events Committee, May 2008

ISAF's financial security, and the ability of MNAs to attract funding, is dependent on sailing's continued participation in the Olympic Games. The Olympic Games, and linked events during each quadrennium, also provide ISAF with its best opportunity to promote the sport and its heroes to a global audience.

This paper examines ISAF's decision processes regarding Olympic Events and Equipment in the light of this significance.

Comments on the current process

1. ISAF decides Events 5 years before the Olympic Regatta, and Equipment 4 years before. Submissions on both Events and Equipment are made in the normal way. MNAs, Class Associations, and Committee Chairmen can all make submissions.
2. While there is the opportunity for strategic considerations, the current process encourages each of the 10 Event and Equipment decisions to be made on its own merits and independent of any strategic plan.
3. **There is no single "recommendation" for sailing at the Olympic Regatta, and no opportunity to debate how well an overall "package" meets ISAF's goals.** In addition there is little attention paid to event (as opposed to racing) format, and how the Olympic Regatta as a whole promotes our sport to public, media and IOC.
4. The process therefore encourages lobbying by "vested interest" groups, such as Class Associations, specialist committees, and MNAs with Olympic prospects in particular Events or Equipment. It is hard to differentiate between "specialists" and "lobbyists" when building awareness of the issues before voting.

Possible opportunities for improvement

1. ISAF last updated its Olympic decision processes in November 2002. This introduced the vote on Events, and more formal timelines for supporting processes.
2. Compared to other sports, ISAF's processes mean that sailing has more uncertainty over its Olympic Events and Equipment than any other sport. Sailing is believed to be the only sport that reviews individually each of its Events, and the Equipment used, every 4 years.
3. These highly political and tactical decisions tend to dominate ISAF decision making, overwhelming any more strategic initiatives.
4. With other sports, Events typically do not change, and there are far fewer (if any) Equipment-based world championships. These sports can direct their focus at improving the overall event experience for competitor and spectator.
5. As one of the most equipment-driven Olympic sports, sailing nevertheless finds it very hard to change equipment, despite the evolution of new equipment that is often more widespread and lower cost, and capable of displaying the sport better.
6. Class Associations, and equipment-based world champions, are fundamental to the success of sailing as a participation sport. However the elite element of our sport should be looked at separately. In particular Olympic Events and Equipment choices should be driven by ISAF strategy and supporting regulations (in particular regulation 16.1.5(a)).
7. ISAF should consider revising its Olympic decision processes so that it can decide its strategy for sailing at an elite, Olympic level (as opposed to at a participation sport level), and then make Olympic decisions that support that strategy.
8. It is interesting to note that IOC has recently amended its processes so that the IOC Executive recommends the list of Olympic sports, rather than each sport being subject to a separate vote of the IOC.

Outline structure of possible enhancements to the process

1. Council remains responsible for deciding and reviewing overall ISAF strategy, including Olympic strategy, and for making the final decisions on Olympic Events and Equipment.
2. Events Committee remains responsible for deciding and reviewing ISAF Events strategy, including Olympic and Elite Events strategy. This strategy includes plans for continual improvement of the “event experience”, and is subject to Council’s approval to ensure it is consistent with overall ISAF strategy.
3. Equipment Committee remains responsible for deciding and reviewing ISAF Equipment strategy, including the Olympic and Elite Equipment strategy that supports the Events strategy. This strategy is also subject to Council’s approval.
4. ISAF Executive, in consultation with Events and Equipment Committee Chairmen, appoints an x-person Olympic Commission.
5. The Olympic Commission is responsible for:
 - a. 8 years before the Olympic Regatta, reporting on how successful that year’s Olympic Regatta was in terms of nation participation and media coverage.
 - b. 7 years before, reporting on options for change (both Events and Equipment) and recommending any Event / Equipment / format trials.
 - c. 6 years before, reporting on any new Events that could be included and recommending any that should be dropped.
 - d. 5 years before, recommending the 10 Events.
 - e. 4 years before, recommending Equipment for all Events.
6. Report (a) is delivered to all 4 committees (Executive, Council, Events, Equipment) for their debate and comment.
7. This comment is taken into account in the production of report (b), again delivered to all 4 committees for their comment. Executive and Events and/or Equipment Committees are responsible for agreeing which trials take place.
8. Report (c) is delivered to Executive and Events Committee. As the committee responsible, Events Committee scrutinises and may amend any recommendations of the Commission, and then forwards its decision to Council. Council may only accept or reject Events Committee decision; it may not amend it. If Council rejects Events Committee decision, the issue reverts to the Commission and the process is repeated the following May.
9. Report (d) is delivered to Executive and Events Committee and follows the same process as (c). Events Committee scrutinises and may amend the Commission’s recommendations prior to their submission to Council. Council however may only accept or reject the list of 10 Events.
10. Report (e) is delivered to Executive and Equipment Committee and follows the same process as (c). Equipment Committee scrutinises and may amend the Commission’s recommendations prior to their submission to Council. Council however may only accept or reject the list of Equipment for all Events.
11. The above process is consistent with current regulations, except that Event submissions would be required earlier. However it also offers the option of significant amendment and simplification of the submission process for Olympic decisions. Since Council becomes more responsible for reviewing overall strategy, and less responsible for individual Events and Equipment decisions, any Events and Equipment submissions could be made in the same way that Class rule changes are now made, and their receipt, and the Commission's decisions, reported in appropriate detail to the relevant committees.

Prepared by Bjorn Unger, Cory Sertl, Chris Atkins, April 2008