

### **11<sup>th</sup> Medal**

#### **Decision on Event/Equipment 2012 Olympic Regatta in the case of retaining the 11<sup>th</sup> Medal**

A submission from the International Tornado Association

##### **Proposal**

1. That at the Mid Year meeting 2009 the ISAF Council select the Event and equipment to be sailed if the 11th medal is retained for 2012 Olympic Regatta.
2. That the Event chosen be Multihull.
3. That the Equipment chosen be the International Tornado Catamaran.

##### **Current Position**

The IOC is still to decide on the 11th Medal for the 2012 Olympic Regatta.

At the November 2008 Events Committee and Council meeting the ISAF President Goran Petersson made a statement about the decision on the Event/Equipment for the possible 11th Event. The plan was set out that, unless the IOC had clearly stated that there would only be 10 Events in 2012, Council would make a decision in May 2009 on what the 11th Event would be and what Equipment would be used in order to give our sailors as much time as possible to prepare. The Annual conference in November 2009 would be too late.

##### **Reason**

1. A decision on this matter needs to be taken as soon as possible. It is urgent for all parties involved.  
If the decision is not taken in May 2009, it will not be dealt with before November 2009. As mentioned above, this will be too late.  
ISAF Regulation 16.1.1 states:  
Council shall make the following decisions on Olympic Events and Equipment (classes):
  - (b) at the November meeting of Council 5 years before the Olympic Sailing competition, decide the Events
  - (c) at the November meeting of Council 4 years before the Olympic Sailing Competition, decide the Equipment.

The purpose of this is to give all parties involved the chance to plan and prepare their Olympic campaigns.

For the same reason the decision on the 11<sup>th</sup> Event should be made as early as possible to give the sailors the chance to prepare their Olympic Campaign and the MNA's to acquire the funding, setup their national and development squads and prepare the national selections.

Keeping 11 medals in 2012 will also create the possibility of having a more strategic approach to Events towards 2016.

2. The elimination of the Multihull was not in the interest of our sport. Multihull represents a large and vital sector of our sailing community. The removal of this Event has represented a major loss for sailing as a whole.

Due to the concern over the Council decision in November 2007 with regards to the Events selected for the 2012 Olympic Sailing competition, resulted in the request from the Executive Committee to reaffirm Council's decision resulting in 53% of Council NOT reaffirming their decision.

Therefore if there is a chance to rectify a potential improper decision by keeping the 11<sup>th</sup> medal then this should clearly be done.

3. Changing Events/Equipment in the middle of an Olympic cycle is not just. Many teams will have to qualify in the early part of 2011 for the Olympic Games in 2012. This gives some countries a single season to get a boat, funding and get Olympic-sharp.

Tornado has proven to be successful Olympic equipment and has excelled in the past nine (9) Olympic competitions. The Tornado has responded positively to request from ISAF to update equipment such as the introduction of the spinnaker and twin trapeze to add excitement and visual appeal to the Olympic program.

The Tornado is the ultimate test of sailing skills, agility, strength, and endurance more than any other 2-person class.

Visually it is fantastic, high-speed action, colored flag spinnakers and on-board cameras providing unmatched visual excitement.

The Tornado more than any other multihull provides an equal platform for a diverse range of sailors size and shapes to compete equally.

The Multihull has proven to be well established, the Tornado has a long proven history with ISAF and all the equipment is readily available.

The sailors/teams/countries are still "on hold" awaiting a decision