

2016 Olympic Sailing Competition

Events and Equipment

A submission from the International RS:X Class Association, the International Kiteboarding Association, the Chairman of the Windsurfing and Kiteboarding Committee and the International Mistral Class Organisation

Purpose or Objective

International RS:X Class Association, the International Kiteboarding Association and the International Mistral Class Organisation

To amend the provisional slate of the Olympic Events as stated in 23.1.4

Chairman of the Windsurfing and Kiteboarding Committee

The events selected for the 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition to be as closely as possible with the objectives set by the IOC as defined by the ISAF Olympic Commission and ISAF Council and to reflect the events and equipment which are already spread round the world and which are also most easily accessible to developing and emerging MNAs.

Proposal

That the following events and equipment are selected for the 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition:

Men's ~~Board or Kite Board~~ **Windsurfing** – Evaluation
Women's ~~Board or Kite Board~~ **Windsurfing** – Evaluation
Men's 1P Dinghy – Laser
Women's 1P Dinghy - Laser Radial
Men's 2nd 1P Dinghy – Finn
Men's Skiff - 49er
Women's ~~Skiff – Evaluation~~ **2P Dinghy (Spinnaker) – 470**
~~Women's Keelboat – Elliott 6m~~ **Mixed Kiteboarding – Evaluation**
Mixed Multihull – Evaluation
~~Mixed~~ **Men's** 2P Dinghy (Spinnaker) – 470

Current Position

Men's board or kite board – Evaluation
Women's board or kite board – Evaluation
Men's one person dinghy – Laser
Women's one person dinghy – Laser Radial
Men's 2nd one person dinghy – Finn
Men's skiff – 49er
Women's skiff – Evaluation
Women's keelboat – Elliott 6m
Mixed multihull – Evaluation
Mixed two person dinghy (spinnaker) – 470

Reasons

International RS:X Class Association

The criteria put forward by the Olympic Commission for the Olympic Sailing Competition addressed the objectives set by the International Olympic Committee with regard to the selection of events for the 2016 Olympic Games.

It is critical, for the future of sailing as an Olympic sport, that these criteria are applied, and the reasons supporting this submission include:

1. Diversity

The submission offers optimum diversity of “small boat” sailing events and equipment. There is diversity in gender, weights, physique, styles and skills.

This slate of events recognizes windsurfing and kiteboarding as two distinctive sailing disciplines - as does the IOC - and as such broadens the base of the Olympic sailing programme.

The submission represents events, which are flourishing inside the Olympic programme and adds 2 powerful new elements to the Olympic sailing family – mixed kiteboarding & mixed multihull.

2. Costs

This submission minimises the costs to sailors, MNAs, and event organisers, all of which are highlighted by the Olympic Commission as a “major factor” in deciding on the equipment selected for the Olympic sailing programme.

Equipment costs are kept to the minimum including capital costs (price of equipment), maintenance costs and event participation costs (e.g. travel costs).

The submission offers a realistic balance for MNA's - between investment in equipment for new events (“changes” encouraged by IOC) and protecting current investment.

The total number of athletes in a “full team” is 15 athletes, reduced from the 16 in the “provisional decision” in November 2010 and the existing 2012 Olympics.

More single handed events reduce the ‘medal cost’ for small nations that allows greater opportunity to participate

3. Gender Equality and Woman's Advancement

The submission supports ISAFs move towards

- Gender Equality – 60/40
- Matched Events – 3 out of 5 gender separated
- Mixed Events – 2

This submission reflects more closely the gender ratio found on the water today with a “full team” of 9 Male / 6 Female.

The submission increases the number of events available for participation by women to 5 compared to 7 for men meeting the requirements of ISAF Regulation 23.1.2(g) to “progress towards an equal number of Events for men and women to participate in.”

The submission eliminates the duplication of events in the women's 2 P boat.

The submission also addresses the inclusion of new target groups of female athletes though the addition of kiteboarding.

There are 7 medals available for men and 5 medals for women (2 of them are mixed medals). This represents an increase of women's medals percentage from the 2012 Olympic Games

4. Youth and Media Appeal

The submission offers events and equipment, which are dynamic and fast, providing media appeal and are attractive to our youth. The addition of kiteboarding attracts a completely new target group, which brings new competitors and a new audience into the sport of sailing.

The athletes, key to the media mix, in these events represent the highest levels of physical fitness and athletic ability.

5. Universality

The submission reflects events and equipment already widely used around the world, and most easily accessible to developing and emerging nations, *by retaining*:

- 2 windsurfing events: equipment may be evolved, protecting existing investments.
- 2 470 events: maintain the double handed dinghy pathway needed by small and emerging nations into the Olympic Sailing Regatta and provide the only technical boat with symmetric spinnaker.
- 2 Laser events: maintaining the single handed dinghy pathway needed by small and emerging nations into the Olympic sailing regatta
- Finn: maintaining a place in the Olympic Sailing Regatta for heavier weight male athletes who have no other boat in which they can compete.
- 49er: maintaining a high profile, fast "fly by wire" style of racing that is flourishing

And by adding:

- Mixed Multihull: bringing back an event which is widely represented around the world and media appealing
- Mixed Kiteboarding: bringing in for the first time a completely new discipline and in so doing broaden the base of Olympic sailing whilst maintaining a strict control on costs

This submission also supports the pathway between youth events, the ISAF World Youth Sailing Championships and the Olympic Games highlighted by Olympic Commission

6. Maximising Participation

The submission optimises participation opportunities for nations: by focusing on 1P and 2P events, by reducing costs, in bringing back multihull, and by introducing a new discipline (kiteboarding) which brings new sailors to the Olympic scene.

The proposed slate reflects the events and equipment which are already spread round the world, but which are also most easily accessible to developing and emerging MNAs. It also reflects the events and equipment which have high global participation and a diverse and broad range of nations currently participating.

The single handed kiteboarding medal adds another cheap entry into Olympic Sailing for developing and emerging nations with minimal equipment and campaign costs.

The proposed equipment is easily available around the world, reflects the equipment primarily used in sailing at Regional Games and multi-sports games, and reflects the current investment and popularity of equipment.

Through the reduction of athletes for a "full team" from 16 down to 15, participation opportunities for MNA'S are maximised. This is further supported through 6 of the 10 events being 'single handed' maximizing the number of nation slots available to nations wishing to participate at the Olympic Games.

7. Future Olympic Events – additional medals

The addition of (mixed) kiteboarding enables the ISAF Executive Committee to request the IOC for an additional medal for sailing to unfold the full potential of this newest discipline of Sailing.

International Kiteboarding Association and International Mistral Class Association

As above except for :

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Chairman of the Windsurfing and Kiteboarding Committee

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