

2024 Olympic Sailing Competition

Olympic Events & Equipment

A submission from the Norwegian Sailing Federation and the Swedish Sailing Federation

Purpose or Objective

- To fulfil all the requirement for development, excitement, innovation, universality and gender equality while retaining many of the existing strong classes and events.
- We can take further steps in upcoming Olympic Games, if desired, with less risk and less capital waste, after the new events have proven their viability.
- This (the previous point) is why have omitted the Offshore keel boat event. However, we will in a separate submission ask World Sailing (WS) to propose to the IOC and Paris 2024 organisers an 11th Sailing medal for this event as it is so popular in France.
- For the events Windsurfing, Mixed kite and Women's foiling singlehanded we suggest to also focus on creating new and exciting formats.
- By retaining the Finn there are opportunities for the broad range physical sizes.

Proposal

Current Event & Equipment	2024 Event Proposal	2024 Equipment Proposal
Men's One Person Dinghy – Laser	Retained	Retained
Women's One Person Dinghy - Laser Radial	Retained	Retained
Men's Skiff - 49er	Retained	Retained
Women's Skiff – 49erFX	Retained	Retained
Mixed Two Person Multihull – Nacra 17	Retained	Retained
Men's Windsurfer - RS:X	Retained	New equipment
Women's Windsurfer – RS:X	Retained	New equipment
Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy – Finn	Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy	Retained
Men's Two Person Dinghy – 470	Mixed Kite Relay	New equipment
Women's Two Person Dinghy – 470	Women's Foiling Singlehanded	New equipment

Main criteria for the selection of the New Equipment:

- *Windsurfing, men and women*
 - a) *The equipment can be the existing RS:X class or new equipment*
 - b) *Suitable to the short track format (see below).*
 - c) *Can be foiling.*
- *Mixed Kite*
 - a) *The equipment should be suitable to short track format.*
 - b) *Can be foiling.*
- *Women's Foiling Singlehanded Short Track:*
 - a) *To be optimised for relatively smaller sailors weighing perhaps 56-62 kg by using small hydrofoils and soft mast (and perhaps a smaller sail)*
 - b) *Should be a strict one-design but suggest it should measure as a moth so it can be raced against this development class and so better keep its value.*
 - c) *Should lend itself to short races near the shore to attract large audiences*
 - d) *Must be in the forefront of modern technology related to hydrofoils and material, thus a controlled development should occur between Olympic Games.*
 - e) *Should be simplified relative to the moth class to keep the cost low.*

Current Position

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Reasons

- Our proposal minimizes the number of mixed classes as this has yet to prove its viability. We are concerned that moving from 1 to 4 mixed classes in just one Olympic cycle is too fast for the sailing community to adapt. There may not be enough nations to field teams, so an otherwise promising event may fail or several events will be weakened.
 - By keeping the Finn dinghy we eliminate the risk of excluding a very large part of the sailing population i.e. large men.
 - Our proposal introduces a foiling "moth" (or similar), the class that has revolutionised sailing in the 20th century. When Olympic Sailing makes such a large change, we feel that it would be a mistake to not include the most successful of the new developments, especially since it is something that spectators and young people love.
 - It is a low-cost proposal.
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- It is the best option for universality as it keeps most of the existing classes with broad spread as well as introducing the event, kitesurfing, with perhaps the best possibility to expand global spread of sailing.
 - It excludes the re-introduction of keel boats, which will save costs as larger boats are always inherently more expensive to manufacture, maintain and transport. There are no “free lunches” even if boats are supplied at the OG. To be competent, not to speak of competitive, any nation will need their own boats and they will need them also at events around the world to train in before events.
 - For the windsurfers, kites and women foilers we suggest a short track format similar to the ski-cross or cross-country skiing sprints where there are quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals with 6 competitors in each where the top-2 in each round goes to the next round. The skiers have time-trials before the quarterfinal to determine seeding, for sailing we suggest using 4-5 “normal” fleet races to determine the top 18 (or so) that qualifies for the first knock-out stage and for seeding into equal-strength groups.
 - For the above format we suggest races 8-12 minutes long.
 - The Kite surfers would use the same formats as above, only sail in a relay where the women would follow the men (or vice-versa).
 - The proposal with only singlehanded equipment is the best fit for universality and competitiveness when the number of athletes are restricted.
 - We think that it is advisable once the events are decided to go back and look at the event names, individually and as a group, for them to be as clear, coherent as possible so that they represent the event and our sport in the best possible way. For example, we think that the event “Heavyweight Men Singlehanded Dinghy” needs to be differentiated from the Men’s One Person Dinghy differently. Therefore, we accept (or expect) changes in event names should our submission be accepted.
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