

2024 Olympic Sailing Competition Events & Equipment Selection - Procedure FAQs **Updated 23 January 2018**

This document is intended to answer the anticipated frequently asked questions concerning the 2024 Events and Equipment procedures. It will be updated on the World Sailing website if further questions come in.

This is version 1.1. Amendments and new FAQs appear in red.

Role of the Procedure Working Party

The role of the Procedure Working Party (which prepares this document) is only to provide guidance on what the current Regulations say and how to implement the process within them.

It is not the role of the Working Party to create or change the selection process, nor to propose changes to the process that do not comply with the current Regulations.

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1) What is happening in 2018?

In 2018, World Sailing must take a number of important decisions concerning what Events and Equipment will be used at the 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition (in Marseille, FRA).

2) What is an “Event” and what is “Equipment”?

An Event is the name for a competition at the Olympic Games. It is not specific to a certain class or piece of equipment. The list of Events and Equipment for the 2020 Olympic Games are:

EVENT	EQUIPMENT
Men's Windsurfer	RS: X
Women's Windsurfer	RS: X
Men's One Person Dinghy	Laser
Women's One Person Dinghy	Laser Radial
Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy	Finn
Men's Two Person Dinghy	470
Women's Two Person Dinghy	470
Men's Skiff	49er
Women's Skiff	49er FX
Mixed Two Person Multihull	Nacra 17

The reason the two are considered separately is that a number of different classes equipment could be considered for a single Event. The International Olympic Committee also considers events separately from the equipment used in them.

3) Why is this happening now?

The World Sailing Regulations require World Sailing to make decisions substantially in advance of the 2024 Games. This allows MNAs, sailors and teams to plan effectively.

The current requirements in the World Sailing Regulations are:

- By May 2018, World Sailing must decide the Events for the 2024 Olympic Games
- By November 2018, World Sailing must decide the Equipment (Classes) being used for each Event unless new equipment trials are recommended.
- No later than November 2019, any new equipment must be selected.

4) What meetings are taking place in May 2018?

The Events Committee will meet on 12 May 2018.

The Equipment Committee will meet on 13 May 2018.

The World Sailing Council will meet on 14 and 15 May 2018.

5) What is the deadline for any submissions for May 2018?

The deadline for submissions is eight weeks before the Council meeting. This means the deadline is Monday 19 March 2018.

6) What committees are involved?

The Events Committee is the main policy committee for Olympic Events. It makes recommendations to Council on what Events should be included in the Olympics, as well as the format and qualification systems used.

The Equipment Committee is the main policy committee for Olympic Equipment (Classes). It makes recommendations to Council on what Equipment should be used in the Olympic Events. The Equipment Committee oversees the work of World Sailing Classes, in particular the development and evolution of equipment.

7) What are the joint working parties?

In order to ensure a joined up and efficient approach to the decisions to be made in 2018, the World Sailing Board has appointed a joint working party of the Events Committee, Equipment Committee and Constitution Committee. This joint working party is responsible for advising on the procedures and Regulations that should be followed in deciding the 2024 Olympic Events and Equipment. This is the “**Procedure WP**”.

In addition, the Events Committee and Equipment Committee have appointed a joint working party to prepare specific proposals on the 2024 Olympic Events and Equipment. This is the “**2024 Events & Equipment WP**”.

8) What is the role of Council?

Council is the policy-making body of World Sailing, and sets the World Sailing Regulations. It is advised by its policy committees and it will make the decision on what Events and Equipment are included in the 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition.

9) What is the current timeline for the decisions?

Based on the complexity of the procedures that must be followed, and the available time after the November 2017 meetings, the tight timeframes that apply in 2018 and the new electronic voting requirements, the current timeline for the decisions is as follows:

Date	Stage
15 December – 8 January 2018	Events & Equipment WP will hold conference calls to discuss proposals for the Events that should be placed under review and the 2024 Olympic programme.
8 January 2018	The World Sailing Board will decide what Olympic Equipment is being reviewed under World Sailing's antitrust review procedures.
17 January 2018	The Events & Equipment WP will issue an update on its work to the Events Committee and guidance ahead of the Events Committee ballot on which Events to put under review.
17 – 24 January 2018	The Events Committee will debate electronically which Events to place under review. If necessary, a conference call will be arranged.

	Minutes will be made available following any formal Committee meeting.
24 – 31 January 2018	The Events Committee will vote electronically on which Events to place under review. The final decision will be sent to Council for approval.
5 – 11 February 2018	Council will receive the Events Committee recommendation and will debate this electronically. A conference call will be arranged to enable discussion. Minutes will be published following any formal Committee meeting.
12 – 19 February 2018	Council will vote electronically on the Events Committee recommendation. Minutes will be published following any formal Committee meeting.
20 – 27 February 2018 28 February – 7 March 2018	If Council rejects the Events Committee recommendation, Council can debate which Events it wishes to place under review. A further conference call will be arranged to enable discussion. Council will vote electronically on which Events to place under review. Once the Council process has been completed the list of Events under review will be published. Minutes will be published following any formal Committee meeting.
19 March 2018	Deadline for submissions for the Mid-Year Meeting. Submissions putting forward Event proposals must match the Events under review.
12 May 2018	The Events Committee will meet in London and discuss the submissions received. It will make recommendations to Council on all submissions.
13 May 2018	The Equipment Committee will meet in London and discuss the 2024 Equipment decisions (noting these are not made until November 2018). Equipment Committee will recommend to Council the evaluation criteria for the antitrust reviews for the equipment put under review by the Board.
14 & 15 May 2018	Council will meet in London and consider all submissions received. Council will decide the Events for the 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition.

	Council will approve the evaluation criteria for the antitrust reviews.
1 August 2018	Deadline for submissions for the Annual Conference
November 2018	<p>Annual Conference meetings.</p> <p>The Equipment Committee will make final recommendations to Council on whether to retain, evolve or to select new equipment where necessary. Council decides on these recommendations.</p> <p>If new equipment is to be selected, evaluation trials must be held.</p> <p>Council will receive the results of the antitrust reviews and decide on any recommendations made.</p>
No later than November 2019	Council must decide on any new equipment to be used for 2024.

10) What is the status of Council's decisions in November 2017?

In November 2017, Council made a number of strategic decisions concerning the 2024 Olympic Events & Equipment. These decisions are now World Sailing policy.

11) When will the IOC approve the World Sailing event programme for the 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition?

At the present time, the IOC is expected to confirm the event programme in Autumn 2020. World Sailing is making its decision based on 10 Events, however it is possible that the IOC could change the number of Events for Sailing (as in all sports). In this case, World Sailing would need to review its decisions and react to any IOC decisions.

However, it is clear World Sailing must follow its own decision-making process and timetable as set out in the Regulations.

12) What happens if an Event is under review?

If an Event is under review, then World Sailing can then proceed to make one of the following four decisions:

- Retain Event and retain Equipment
- Retain Event and evolve Equipment
- Retain Event and select new Equipment
- Select new Event and select new Equipment

13) Can an Event be kept the same but the Equipment changed?

Yes, this is possible under the option in question 12 if the event is put under review.

14) What happens if an Event is not reviewed?

If an Event is not under review, no further changes can normally be made for 2024.

For example, it is not possible to review or evolve Equipment under Regulation 23 if its associated Event is not selected for review.

15) If an Event is not under review, can any further changes be made?

There would not normally be any further changes. Exceptions to this would be:

- Any recommendations made under the antitrust review Regulation
- The 75% vote process set out in Regulation 23.1.6

16) How are Events placed under review?

The process is set out in Regulation 23.1.8.

There will be a ballot of the Events Committee. There will be a single ballot paper listing the ten Olympic Events. Each voting member of the committee will mark an X against those Events he or she wishes to be reviewed. Members must vote for a minimum of 4 Events (there is no maximum number).

The Event receiving the most votes, second, third and fourth most, is recommended for review. In addition, any Event receiving more than 50% of the votes cast (excluding abstentions), is recommended for review.

This recommendation is then sent to Council. Council will decide whether or not to approve the recommendation. If it is approved, then the Events are then formally under review.

If Council does not approve the recommendation, it will conduct the ballot process in the same way and the result will be the decision of the Council.

17) Why is the ballot being conducted by electronic vote?

Regulation 23.1.8 (concerning the next stage of the process) states:

... To be valid, a submission shall propose, for all Events that are being reviewed, the choice of Event, and whether:

(i) the current Equipment is to be retained;

(ii) the current Equipment is to be evolved (in which case it shall summarise that evolution); or

(iii) new Equipment is to be chosen following trials (in which case it shall summarise the main criteria for the selection of new Equipment).

Under this Regulation, a submission is only valid if it matches the Events that are under review.

Therefore, it is vital to know before the submission deadline what the Events under review are. This can only be decided by the Events Committee and Council under the process described above being conducted electronically.

18) What will happen after Events are under review?

The list of Events under review (and those not under review) will be published.

Submissions can be then made in relation to the Events under review. The Procedure WP will issue further guidance in January 2018 on how to draft submissions.

19) Can a new Event be selected in May 2018 in place of an existing event?

Yes, this is permitted under Regulation 23.1.9(b)(ii).

20) Do submissions need to be made to make these decisions?

Yes, Regulation 23.1.8(c) does not permit the final decisions to be made on “recommendations not based on submission”. They must be made based on submissions.

21) How do I make a submission? What must it contain?

Submissions can only be made by certain groups: Member National Authorities, World Sailing Class Associations, the Board, the Chairmen of Committees established by Council, International or Recognized Rating Systems, the Chairman of the Women’s Forum and the President.

World Sailing will issue the template submission document in early 2018. Submitters are strongly requested to use this document.

The Procedure WP will issue guidance in January 2018 on the content of submissions. Submitters are strongly recommended to read this guidance to avoid fatal technical errors with their submissions.

When can I make a submission?

Submissions can be made at any time prior to the submission deadline, however for the reasons noted in question 17 in *“Why is the ballot being conducted by electronic vote?”*, the Procedure WP strongly recommends that submitters wait until the list of Events under review is published.

22) If I made a submission in 2017 that was deferred to May 2018, do I need to do anything?

Your submission will be carried over automatically by World Sailing. However, it may not be valid for May 2018 if it does not align with the Council decisions in 2017 or does not match with the Events that are under review. A submitter can always withdraw the deferred submission and then submit a new one having considered this process.

23) What will happen in May 2018 at the meetings?

The Events Committee will consider all submissions under the procedures in Regulation 23.1.8(d)-(e). This will produce the Committee’s recommendation to Council.

At Council, Council will first decide whether or not to approve the recommendation of the Events Committee. If this is approved, the recommendation becomes the decision of Council and this concludes the Event-level decision process.

If the recommendation of the Events Committee is not approved, Council will proceed to consider the submissions under the same procedures in Regulation 23.1.8(d)-(e).

The Procedure WP will produce further guidance closer to the Mid-Year Meeting once submissions have been received.

24) What will happen after the May 2018 meetings?

Once Council has decided the Events for 2024, the Equipment Committee will review the Equipment for the Events which are under review. The Events & Equipment WP will again discuss the options and provide guidance to the Equipment Committee.

Submissions on equipment can also be made to the November 2017 meetings proposing decisions in the same manner.

25) How does the new antitrust review process fit in to this process?

Under the new Regulation approved by Council in November 2017, the Board will select which Olympic Equipment is to be reviewed in the first round of antitrust reviews.

The Board will make this decision at the start of January 2018 and notify the Olympic Classes and Events & Equipment Working Party of its decision.

Following the selection of the Olympic Equipment being reviewed, the Equipment Committee and Executive Office will prepare the evaluation criteria to be used. Council will be asked to approve these criteria at its Mid-Year Meeting.

The review will then be conducted during Summer 2018 and any recommendations presented to Council in November 2018. This will ensure that all Equipment decisions for the 2024 Olympic Games are made in November 2018 at the same time.

It follows that if the Equipment associated with an Event is selected for an antitrust review, then the Procedure WP's view is that very strong consideration is given to placing the connected Event under review in order to allow World Sailing to make all appropriate decisions in November 2018.

26) Does Regulation 23.1.6(b) – the 75% voting procedure – apply to this process?

Full Question: Does Regulation 23.1.6(b) requiring a 75% majority to change the Events selected for review by the preceding Council decision taken by email vote apply when Council is asked to finalize its decision in May 2018? So once an Event has been selected for review, to reverse that decision does it require a 75% majority vote by Council?

No, a decision to review an Event cannot be reversed under the current Regulation. Once an Event has been selected for review, Council must proceed to make one of the four decisions outlined in Regulation 23.1.2(c) in relation to the Event. If Council does not wish to go ahead with any changes, then it has the option to do so.

The procedure in Regulation 23.1.6(b) applies to any decisions to change specific Events or Equipment outside of the normal Regulation 23 process. For example, the 75% procedure

would apply to any request to change an Event which is not selected for review, or to change an Event after Council had finalised the list of Events in May 2018.

27) Can the Events Committee make an equipment recommendation to Council?

Full Question: The terms of reference of the Events Committee (Regulations 6.6.3(a) and (b)) indicate the Events Committee has a role in the Equipment review. Compared against FAQ 6 above, can you please clarify the roles of the Events Committee and Equipment Committee in terms of the equipment review process?

The roles of the Committees are as set out in their terms of reference. There is a joint working party of the two Committees which is providing co-ordination and communication between the two Committees. Whilst the Events Committee can make an equipment recommendation to Council under its terms of reference, the main policy committee for equipment matters is the Equipment Committee. Its terms of reference state it is “...responsible for recommending equipment policy with regard to the Olympic Sailing Competition and at World Sailing Events, conducting equipment trials or other evaluation, and making recommendations to Council on any change or evolution of Olympic Equipment, in accordance with the strategy and timescales in Regulation 23.” [Regulation 6.5.4(c)]

28) Why was the change in the review process and timeframe not notified to the Events Committee or Council in November?

There has not been any change in the Regulation 23 process. The Procedure WP was appointed at the 2017 Annual Conference to give guidance to all stakeholders on the Regulation 23 process. The Procedure WP published the guidance in the FAQ paper in December 2017.

29) How is World Sailing evaluating interest in order to make the most informed and evidence based decisions?

Full Question: If Events are changed for the Paris 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition, this should be because they collectively generate a surge of interest in the sport – across sponsors, viewers and increased participants. How is WS evaluating this “projected” interest in order to make the most informed and evidence based decisions?

The Events & Equipment WP, the Events Committee and the Equipment Committee will be evaluating information from many different sources, including the PWC data research, etc. The WS Technical & Offshore Department is working with the WP and the Equipment Committee to finalise the key data criteria that will be used to support the decision-making process.

This answer was provided by the Events & Equipment WP.

30) What parameters, benchmarks and data evaluation are being used?

Full Question: What parameters, benchmarks and data evaluation are the Events and Equipment Working Party, the Events Committee and the Council exactly using to reason their debate and validate their decisions?

See FAQ 29.

31) Why can submissions not be made concerning which Events to place under review?

Full Question: This review process has taken away the right to make submissions to support or oppose 2024 Olympic events. Once the electronic vote has been taken by Council, the subsequent process as set out in the Review Procedure limits submissions for May 2018 to only regarding events already decided as “for review”, as the FAQ document states that by 19 March 2018: “Submissions putting forward event proposals must match the events under review.”

Please can you clarify how this will work in practice, as it appears to affirm that submissions can only be made regarding the events which are under review, and removes the right for members to make submissions about the events which Council has decided to be “retained” by electronic vote?

The process being followed is in line with Regulation 23. The process to decide which Events are reviewed is not decided by submission under Regulation 23, and so nothing has been changed.

The Events Committee has begun a formal debate on the events that should be placed under review ahead of their vote. Council will have the same opportunity. Regulation 23 makes it clear that is the Council that votes on the Events that should be placed under review.

32) What happens if Council does not approve the Event Committee recommendation?

Full Question: If Council does not approve the Events Committee decision/recommendation through the electronic vote process due to conclude on 19 February, what will be the process for Council to propose alternative events to be “reviewed” or “retain” within the timeframe of 20-27 February 2018?

If the Council rejects the Events Committee recommendation they will have the opportunity for debate ahead of their own vote to decide which events are placed under review. The Council will then by ballot, as required by the Regulation, to decide which Events it wishes to place under review.

33) Where is the Register of Interests on the website?

Full Question: In respect of Council, Regulation 3.5.1 requires that conflicts of interest of Council members is published on the website on a quarterly basis, and please can you advise me where we can find this register of interests online?

The 2018 register of interests is due to update shortly and this process is now being accelerated. However, the 2017 register has been placed on the website on the Governance pages.

Regardless of this, it remains a fundamental principle that any Council or Committee member with a conflict of interest must notify this to the Chairman as required by the email voting procedure approved by Council in November.

34) Can Council Members appoint Alternates for the electronic votes?

Full Question: In respect of Council voting, Regulation 3.4.2 states: “A Council Member shall notify the Chief Executive Officer if he/she is unable to attend a Council meeting and may appoint an alternate in accordance Article 54 of the Constitution.” As the vote by Council on the 2024 Event Review will be digital and over a period of days, I presume all Council Members should be able to attend the meeting. Please confirm the status of Regulation 3.4.2 in the case of digital votes. Please also confirm the status in relation to conflicts of interest of Council Members and as the intent of regulation 3.4.2 does not appear to permit the appointment of an alternate for this purpose?

Every Council Member has the right to appoint an Alternate under Article 54 of the Constitution. If a Council Member has a conflict of interest, then the Procedure WP does not see any objection in an Alternate being appointed. Otherwise the countries in the Group will not be represented in the debate and vote.

Constitution Committee Interpretation 002-08 confirms this Answer:

<http://www.sailing.org/documents/regulations/interpretations.php>

35) How does the World Sailing Conflict of Interest Policy apply to the Events Committee members?

Full Question: In respect of the Events Committee, to which the WS Conflict of Interest policy also applies, we believe there are some members who have conflicts of interest due to their involvement with and positions on some Olympic Class Organizations. Therefore, please can you confirm to me how these persons will be involved in the review process, in terms of: 1. receiving the Events and Equipment Working Party recommendation, 2. debating that recommendation, and 3. voting on that recommendation?

All members of the Events Committee have received the recommendation of the WP – as is their right. The Chairman is responsible, alongside the individual members, to determine where a conflict exists and the Chairman will then determine whether that member can take part in a discussion on a specific topic or vote on a decision.

36) This new process has removed the right of MNAs to make submissions on their preferred events and please can you explain the justification for this fundamental change in process?

Please see FAQ 31 above. The decision of which Events should be placed under review was never capable of being decided by submission.

37) Why do Events decisions have to be made in May 2018?

Full Question: Regulation 23.1.9(b) states that: “Regulation 23.1.3(b) applies except that Council shall decide by 31 May 2018... (i) Which of the events will be selected for review under that Regulation; and ...”. The statement made under point 3 in the FAQs states that: By May 2018, World Sailing must decide the Events for the 2024 Olympic Games.”. This statement appears to contravene the requirements of Regulations 23.1.9(b) which only requires that the events for “review” shall be selected by 31 May 2018, and therefore infers a

later stage to make the final decision on the ten events, as per the complete Regulation 23.1.9.

Regulation 23.1.9(b) states that Council must decide by May 2018 which Events are selected for review. This process is now being undertaken sooner to allow the Mid-Year Meeting to make the final decisions on Events. In turn, this allows the Annual Conference meetings to make all decisions under Regulation 23.1.3(c) by the deadline of 31 December 2018.

If the decisions on Events are not made in May 2018, then the Procedure WP cannot see how the deadline set by Council when it made Regulation 23.1.9(c) on Equipment decisions can be met.

38) Why is there a difference in approach between Event and Equipment decisions?

Full Question: It seems that submissions are required to make any decisions on changes to “equipment”, as per Regulation 23.1.8(c), but this policy is not being applied for decisions to change “events”. Please advise the reasons for the difference in approach to “events” and “equipment” review?

The Procedure WP is responsible for advising on how to implement the Regulation 23 process within the current Regulations. As it did not make the Regulations in question, it cannot comment on the reasons as to why it is written as it is.

39) What is the timeframe after the respective votes for making the announcement of the result?

Full Question: Within what timeframe after the respective votes, as identified below, will the announcement of the vote be made public to all WS stakeholders online and via email communication: 31 January 2018 - Events Committee vote, 19 February 2018 or 7 March 2018 – Council vote

The decision on announcing a vote is a matter for the Chairman of each body. However, the Procedure WP sees no reason why the results cannot be announced the next working day by email and online.