

SAIL RANKINGS SUB-COMMITTEE

MET AT 1430 – 1800 HOURS ON MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2006 AT THE
MARINA CONGRESS CENTRE, HELSINKI, FINLAND



MINUTES

Present:

Dan Ibsen – Chairman

Jeff Martin – Vice-Chairman

Gary Bodie

Peter Hall

Apologies:

Sofia Bekatorou

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1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Minutes

The Committee noted the minutes of the Sail Rankings Sub-Committee meeting of 7 November 2005.

(b) Minutes – matters arising

There were no other matters arising.

2. RANKINGS SOFTWARE

A verbal report was given from the ISAF office. There has been no development of the rankings software. ISAF will need a new partner concerning software development.

3. RANKING LIST

The Sub-Committee had a long discussion concerning the future of the rankings.

The Sub Committee **recommends:**

- That ISAF look into the possibility of removing regulation 24 “*ISAF World rankings – grading criteria for graded events*” to a new form of rule (bye-law?), so that operational changes to the management and calculation of the ranking list can be achieved more quickly than through a submission to change the regulation. Potential changes to such a “bye-law” should be approved by the Executive Committee.

SAIL RANKINGS SUB-COMMITTEE (CONT).

4. 2007 RANKED EVENTS

The ISAF office will distribute the grading tables to the International Class Associations and ask them to give advice to the office within two weeks. Thereafter the Sub-Committee should react directly to the office within two weeks.

It was noted that with regard to the decision last year about grading the Regional Games Events, no events had entered the rankings during the year. The office was asked to advise the organisers of relevant Regional Games that they should distribute their results to the ISAF Office immediately after the event, so the results would be calculated in the rankings.

A discussion regarding the publishing dates, lead to a decision to continue the existing procedure with publishing dates following the major events during the season.

Several representatives from the Olympic Classes joined the meeting. Their valid input to the Sub Committee was received and much appreciated.

5. ISAF REGULATIONS – RANKING CRITERIA

(a) Submission 067-06

Recommendation:

The Sail Rankings Sub-Committee recommends to the Events Committee that submission 067-06 from the Koninklijk Nederlands Watersport Verbond about a medal race format for Olympic class events to be rejected.

(b) Submission 072-06

Recommendation:

The Sail Rankings Sub-Committee recommends to the Events Committee that submission 072-06 from the Koninklijk Nederlands Watersport Verbond about the scheduling of events to be approved with the following comment – apply existing regulations.

(c) Submission 073-06

Recommendation:

The Sail Rankings Sub-Committee recommends to the Events Committee that submission 073-06 from the Fédération Française de Voile and US Sailing about an ISAF World Cup Series to be approved with the following comment:

The committee considered the advantages/disadvantages of the Ranking List considering submissions for a World Cup Series. The following points were considered to be advantages and strategic values:

1. engages 5000 + individual sailors at international level
2. improves “connectiveness” between sailors and ISAF
3. motivates sailors to attend more regattas
4. tool for helping sailors develop
5. guide to individual improvement

SAIL RANKINGS SUB-COMMITTEE (CONT).

6. grading events attracts sailors to the events
7. grading events provides a tool for event organisers to attract sponsorship and media.
8. progress on ranking list demonstrates development and potentially facilitates individual and team funding and sponsorship
9. provides guidance about level of activity in Olympic classes
10. provides information about country participation in Olympic classes

The Sail Ranking Sub-Committee supports the concept of an ISAF World Cup Series.

There should be a unified ranking system.

If the World Cup becomes a reality for 2007;

- The existing ranking list should continue for 2007 and the committee will develop a system that will provide a unified ranking for 2008.
- All ISAF marketing and media should focus on the World Cup Series.

(d) Submission 074-06

Recommendation:

The Sail Rankings Sub-Committee recommends to the Events Committee that submission 074-06 from the Koninklijk Nederlands Watersport Verbond about an ISAF World Cup Series to be rejected.

(e) Submission 087-06

Recommendation:

The Sail Rankings Sub-Committee recommends to the Events Committee that submission 087-06 from the Real Federacion Española de Vela about Criteria for Ranked Events to be rejected.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are recorded under the specific agenda.

7. ISAF STRATEGIC PLAN

Objective 7 - Events (Ranking System) identified as project D-3: Review the current ranking system in particular the need to use the ranking system as the basis for entry to elite events worldwide.

The Sail Ranking Sub Committee considered the strategic values of the current ranking system are:

- engages 5000+ individual sailors at international level
- improves “connectiveness” between sailors and ISAF
- motivates sailors to attend more regattas
- tool for helping sailors develop
- guide to individual improvement
- grading events attracts sailors to the events

SAIL RANKINGS SUB-COMMITTEE (CONT).

- grading events provides a tool for event organisers to attract sponsorship and media.
- progress on ranking list demonstrates development and potentially facilitates individual and team funding and sponsorship
- provides guidance about level of activity in Olympic classes
- provides information about country participation in Olympic classes

These advantages and strategic values should be highlighted in the strategic plan.

The Sail Rankings Sub-Committee recommends that the current ranking system is not used as the basis for entry to elite events worldwide.

8. ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee noted the Chairman's report to Chairman of the Events Committee on the activities of the Sail Rankings Committee for the period 1 January 2006 to date.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dan Ibsen reported on the following from a meeting which was held with Mark Reynolds and Edward Right after the meeting of the Athletes Commission. The sailors came up with the following response and ideas to the Sub-committee:

- Sailors use the World Sailing Rankings as proof of their achievements towards the MNA's and NOC's
- Rankings are generally accepted by the Olympic sailors – they do care about the rankings
- Higher places in regattas – top 10 - should be rewarded with more point (i.e. the old Olympic scoring system)
- Lowering number of races counting within one year - 5-6 regattas should be counted instead of now 7
- Quality factor: if possible, use top 30 from the last worlds instead of from the rankings
- Olympics and worlds should have the same grade
- Olympic results “hang on” too long
- May monthly publishing date instead of the present system – easier to remember
- If/when the World Cup Series is implemented, there should be a separate, higher grade for the WC Events than other grade 1 events

There being no further business the meeting was closed.