

The Qualification System for the 2007 ISAF World Sailing Championships

A submission from the Danish Sailing Federation

Proposal:

Document/article dated 17 July 2006 – “The qualification system for the 2007 ISAF World Sailing Championships – proposed changes:

1. General conditions

- 1.1 Entry places at the 2007 ISAF World Sailing Championships (the Championships) will be allocated to MNAs in 3 ways:
- (a) Priority places - All MNAs are entitled to 1 entry place in each class, provided that the MNA applies for its entry place before 1 January 2007, and guarantees that it will use the entry place will be used
 - (b) Additional places **up to a max. of 6** - these will be allocated based on MNA competitors' finishing positions at the 2005 and/or 2006 world championships.
 - (c) Commission places - Entry places not allocated under points 1.1(a) and 1.1(b) may be allocated by an ISAF Qualification **Commission in the following priority:**
 - **A number two entry place in a class, if requested, for MNA's having only been allocated 1 entry place in the class according item 1.1(a) and 1.1(b) and 3**
 - **The rest of the places up to the maximum per event to be allocated to MNA's which according to item 2 could receive more than 6 additional places and if requested**

Current Position:

See above.

Reason:

The present system, having no defined maximum number of allocated “additional places”, could result in a situation with many countries having only one entry place and a group of big/bigger countries together taking up between 30-50% of the places going to be allocated according to item 2, Qualification process for Additional Places.

Many smaller MNA's, which have not had the possibility to participate in a World Championship at their own continent in a class, have only sent one or few sailors to the “overseas” World Championships in 2005 and 2006 in one or more classes due to the high costs for transportation/participation.

Countries, which have been able to participate in one World Championship at their own continent, have been favoured by this system.

Further a host country has been favoured, because they are often offered a larger number of places in order to fill up the maximum number of entries for the event.

Many countries also have at least two crews in several classes campaigning for the Olympics. Therefore it is reasonable and fair that these countries have a possibility of sending a second boat in a class, if the sailors have sufficient results in other international events in the same class.

It must also be taken into consideration that participation in the 2007 ISAF World Sailing Championships is extremely important for many countries as 70% of the nation places in each class for the Olympic Regatta will be allocated from the results in this World Championship.

The proposed system is more fair to smaller MNA's and will secure that as many countries as possible could have two entries, if they request for an additional place according to item 1.1(c) and item 3.

This will also strengthen the profile of this ISAF Event around the world.

Finally many nations might not have been fully aware of the conditions for allocation places for the 2007 ISAF World Sailing Championships, as the information from ISAF was not available to the MNA's by email and/or at www.sailing.org until July 2006 (Submission was decided in November 2005) (*1)

At this time several World Championships had already taken place, and further it was too late to ship boats for several of the rest of the World Championships at other continents.

Note *1: *In the future ISAF Executive Committee and management must secure that such information is distributed by email and at www.sailing.org shortly after the ISAF November meeting. It is not acceptable that such information is not available to the sailing world before app. 8 month after the decision in ISAF.*