

Selection of Equipment for the 2008 Olympic Regatta

A submission from the Virgin Islands Sailing Association

CURRENT COUNCIL POSITION

Council Minutes, June 2004

Council noted the submissions on the selection of equipment for the Olympic Regatta 2008 and considered the corresponding recommendations from the Events Committee and the Sailing Committee

Decision

- (i) On a proposal by Jeff Martin (Representative for the ISAF Classes), seconded by Ross Robson (Group Q - Africa South of the Sahara), Council approved the amended recommendation from the Events Committee to accept the following list of possible equipment:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Choice</u>
Multihull O	- Hobie 16 (M34) or Tornado (M33)
Keelboat W	- Soling (M31) or Yngling (M32)
Keelboat M	- Soling (M31) or Star (M30) or Yngling (M29)
D/H Dinghy O	- 49er (M27) or Snipe (M24)
D/H Dinghy W	- 470 (M25) or 49er (M27) or Snipe (M26,M28,M35) or 49er (M27)
D/H Dinghy M	- 470 (M25) or 49er (M27) / Snipe (M23,M26,M35) [whichever loses vote 4]
S/H Dinghy M	- Finn (M06) or Laser (M07,M16,M36,M37,M38) Whichever is not selected is the only option in vote 8
S/H Dinghy O	- Finn (M10) or Laser (M09)
S/H Dinghy W	- Byte (M21) or Europe (M12, M13) or Flash (M20) or Laser Radial (M11,M14,M15,M16,M17,M18,M19,M35,M37,M38) or Zoom8 (M22)
Windsurfer M	- Hybrid (M04) or Mistral (M01,M02,M03,M36,M37) or Mistral Derivative (M01,M03) or (M05)
Windsurfer F	- Hybrid (M04) or Mistral (M01,M02,M03,M36,M37) or Mistral Derivative (M01,M03) or outcome windsurfing equipment evaluation trials (M05)

NB: the codes in brackets relate to the submission numbers.

Council also noted that the Events Committee have appointed a joint working party with the Sailing Committee to produce the evaluation report of the equipment choices for November 2004.

In addition, Council noted the recommendation from the Events Committee on the voting procedure to be adopted in November 2004.

Decision

- (ii) On a proposal by Oleg Ilyin (alternate for Group H - Euro-Asian), seconded by Dierk Thomsen (Group B - Central Europe), Council approved the following voting procedure for the selection of equipment in November 2004:
- a. Each vote shall be between the equipment listed for each event.
 - b. All equipment chosen shall have a 50% majority. Where there is not a 50% majority, the equipment with the least votes shall drop off the list and voting will continue until the majority is reached.

(34 members voted for the proposal, 1 abstained)

ORIGINAL SUBMISSION

REPORTING COMMITTEE – EVENTS
OTHER COMMITTEES – SAILING

Proposal

Equipment to be selected for the women single-handed dinghy for the 2008 Olympic Games to be the Laser Radial.

Current Position

Equipment currently selected for women single-handed dinghy at Athens 2004 Olympic Games is the Europe Dinghy.

Reasons

To meet the requirement of ISAF Regulation 16.1.4, in particular paragraph iii), which states that the equipment chosen "must give the best sailors in each country the opportunity to participate in readily accessible equipment". In the America's the high cost of the Europe Dinghy prohibits many women sailors from owning a Europe. Additionally, there are very few regattas in the Western Hemisphere wherein the Europe is sailed. At the Winnipeg Pan Am Games in 1999, there were only five entries in the Europe and six in the Finn (another expensive dinghy not often seen at regattas in the America's). As a result instead of the authorized one hundred and forty competitors, only one hundred and twenty six signed up and only one hundred and six sailors competed. It is time for the Sport of Sailing to make it easier for the less wealthy countries to compete. Replacing the Europe Dinghy with the less expensive and more popular Laser Radial for the women single-handed event will go a long ways in removing the stigma of the sport of sailings being an elitist sport. ISAF dropped the term Yachting from its title and it is time to let countries such as Kenya earn Gold Medals in the Sport of Sailing as well as Track and Field.