

World Sailing Annual Conference

Bid Process

A submission from the Hungarian Yachting Federation, Federacion Mexicana de Vela, Romanian Yachting Federation, Trinidad and Tobago Sailing Association, International Formula Kite Class Association, the International KiteFoil Class Association, the International TwinTip:Racing Class Association and the Chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee

Purpose or Objective

That the bid process to host the World Sailing Annual Conference encourage bids from more than one nation and does not limit the nations who will bid due to excessive cost constraints.

Proposal

That the World Sailing Executive Office, in collaboration with non-staff persons (for example Council Members) shall review the World Sailing Annual Conference bid proposal document to ensure its organizer responsibilities, financial underwritings and hosting fee are not onerous, so as to not limit interest from potential Conference hosts and ensure attendance from Committee Members, MNAs, Classes and observers is fully enabled.

Current Position

Current World Sailing Bid documents – last published in July 2017 and Regulation 37.

Reasons

1. As well as other resources required to be put in place by the Organizers (such as equipment provision and venue branding), according to the bid guidelines World Sailing requires the Organizer and their potential sponsors to cover the following costs:
 - A sanction fee of €250,000
 - Free hire of Meeting Rooms throughout the conference
 - Free hire of the Staff Office for 2 days before the conference and then throughout
 - A free upgrade of 3 standard rooms to suites
 - A Welcome reception (drinks and canapés)
 - Free 100Mb dedicated Wi-Fi for the conference period
 - 1:40 ratio for complimentary accommodation

This naturally limits the number of nations/venues/Organizers able to find the appropriate level of income to host a World Sailing Conference.

2. Recent Conferences have taken place in locations which are expensive for delegate travel and accommodation, including Sanya, China – 2015, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – 2017 and then Sarasota, USA in 2018 and Bermuda in 2019. The choice of venue does not make attending the World Sailing Conferences an affordable or accessible option for delegates.
3. Future meeting venues can impact whether:
 - Delegates and observers are able to attend meetings
 - Whether MNAs will appoint candidates to World Sailing committees each four years, due to the anticipated costs of attending meetings
4. Regulation 37 sets out the process for inviting and choosing bids for the Annual Conferences and Annual General Meetings, and it is noted that Regulation 37.3 states: “shall recommend up to three eligible bids to the Annual General Meeting.”

There is clearly an expectation that the World Sailing Council will be given a choice of venues to decide on for future meetings, but in recent years there has only been one bidding venue.

Reference Documents:

Announcement Inviting Bids, 25 July 2017 - <http://www.sailing.org/news/42275.php>

World Sailing Bid Document, July 2017:

[http://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/AnnualConferencebiddoc2017v2-\[22831\].pdf](http://www.sailing.org/tools/documents/AnnualConferencebiddoc2017v2-[22831].pdf)

5. To ensure action is taken by the WS Board to reflect the intentions expressed by the World Sailing President Kim Andersen when this topic was discussed at the WS 2017 Annual Conference, and Council Members were informed that the Board was looking into the issue as the Board is not happy with the process of bidding and proposals would be made to the 2018 Mid-Year Meeting. Audio of Council meeting at:
<https://youtu.be/jW0okGYWzBQ?t=5h7m53s>
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