

## Olympic Sailing Competition

### Media and Fan Friendly Formats for the 2020 Olympic Games

A submission from the International 49er Class Association and International Nacra 17 Class Association

#### Purpose or Objective

To differentiate our sport, to highlight the best features of each particular Class, to increase the appeal of Olympic sailing to fans of sailing and sport in general by holding the final day of the 2020 Olympic regatta in formats that suit the Class, increase intensity, shrink the field of play, and bring fans closer to the action.

#### Proposal

To have multiple final races on the last day of the respective events at the 2020 Olympics for the 49er, 49erFX, and Nacra 17 conducted on a bounded sailing area, specifically:

- 49er – Theatre Style Racing over a short course (windward – leeward courses with lane boundaries constricting the racing area).
- 49erFX – Theatre Style Racing over a short course (windward – leeward courses with lane boundaries constricting the racing area).
- Nacra 17 – Modern America's Cup style racing over a short course (reaching start to a windward mark, then leeward – windward – leeward to a reach finish)

#### Current Position

As per the 2016 Olympics, all 10 events of the Olympic games conclude in the same way by virtue of a single medal race of between 20-30 minutes' duration on the final day.

#### Reasons

1. The IOC is requesting that sports increase their appeal to youth. Shorter and more intense races have the capacity to entertain at a higher level.
2. Sailing should be looking to differentiate our events in multiple ways to ensure the IOC and public do not see them all as the same. Offering unique formats suited to the equipment used is one way to differentiate sailing events from one another.
3. By setting the direction of the 2020 Olympic regatta early and embracing unique final day formats, it will give all of sailing's stakeholders multiple years and opportunities to fine tune the presentation and execution of our sport.
4. The 49er and 49erFX have previously spent 2 years experimenting with formats and proposed a submission to Council in November 2014 which was defeated. With the IOC's direct guidance to change formats we are proposing a similar submission for consideration, with scope to allow for small modifications and improvements