2024 Olympic Sailing Competition

Windsurfing Format

A submission from the International Raceboard Class Association

Purpose or Objective

To propose format for the Olympic windsurfing events Medal Race. Same format to be considered for other events which culminate in a medal race (ie rather than knockout rounds)

Proposal

1st, 2nd and 3rd placed in Medal Race should be Gold, Silver and Bronze medal

To have multiple parallel starting lines with higher placed sailors (1 to 3) from earlier races on starting line closer to wind. Sailors placed 4-10 on starting line further away from wind. Downwind distance between the two lines determined by wind intensity.

Medal Race course design to disincentivize lower placed sailors from gambling on corners.

Current Position

Current Medal race is confusing for viewers with winner not necessarily ending up with a medal let alone the gold medal.

Reasons

Viewers expect first three past the line to be gold, silver and bronze medal.

Grid system provides natural advantage to top three sailors. Extraordinary performance from sailors 4-10 would allow them to compete for a medal making it exciting viewing where catch up takes place.