

A Change to the Definition of Continents in the ISAF Regulations

Correction to Place Mexico in the Continent of North America

A submission from the Federación Mexicana de Vela

Purpose or Objective

To correctly place Mexico in the North American content, in accordance with modern usage both in sailing and in a more general geographical context.

Proposal

Change the Definition of Continents in the ISAF Regulations as follows:

Africa; Asia; Oceania; Europe; North America (including **Mexico**, Grenada, Bermuda and the Islands of the Caribbean but excluding **other Central American countries** ~~Central America~~) and the Islands of the Caribbean; Central and South America (**excluding** ~~including~~ Mexico)

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

1. Mexico is clearly and unequivocally located in the continental landmass known as North America. It shares a 3600 km-long border with the United States, generally acknowledged to be in the same continent. Mexico participates fully in the economic, cultural and political activity of North America as a whole.
 2. North American continental championships in many ISAF international classes have been held over the years in Mexico. The Optimist, J-24, Techno 293 and Formula classes held their North American continentals in Mexico in 2014 alone.
 3. Mexican sailors can access events held in other North American countries such as the United States and Canada with far greater ease than they can travel to South America. Concurrently, there are sailing centres in Mexico located within a couple of hours' driving distance of sailing communities in the United States.
 4. This change will avoid possible confusion regarding qualification to international events.
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