

2016 Olympic Events and Equipment

Regulation 23.1.4

A submission from the Belarus Sailing Federation, Yachting Union of Latvia, Polish Yachting Association, Romanian Yachting Association, Royal Spanish Sailing Federation

Purpose or Objective

To re-instate windsurfing for the 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition and select the best events and equipment to represent sailing in the Olympic Games.

To amend the slate of events currently selected.

Proposal

That Regulation 23.1.4 is amended in accordance with regulation 23.1.7 as follows:

~~Men's Kiteboarding~~ - **Mixed (Two Person) Kiteboarding**

~~Women's Kiteboarding~~ - **Mixed (Two Person) Windsurfing – RS:X**

Men's One Person Dinghy - Laser

Women's One Person Dinghy - Laser Radial

Men's 2nd One Person Dinghy - Finn

Men's Skiff - 49er

Women's Skiff – 49erFX

Men's Two Person Dinghy - 470

Women's Two Person Dinghy – 470

Mixed Two Person Multihull – Nacra 17

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. By selecting kiteboarding at the expense of windsurfing ISAF has deleted one of the most popular events in terms of participation and global spread.
 2. Kiteboarding is a new and fascinating discipline of sailing and has proven to be ready for inclusion in the ISAF events programme however having very little women participation in racing world championship (7 women in 2009, 8 women in 2010).
 3. Format and rules of kiteboarding are not ready yet at this stage and it will take some time to start unified and constant racing at the Olympic events level.
 4. Women's participation will be encouraged and increased by inclusion of mixed team event for both windsurfing and kiteboarding.
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5. The inclusion of mixed teams requires minimal change to athlete quotas for other events – it is envisaged that 16 teams (32 sailors), representing 16 countries, could participate in the windsurfing and kiteboarding events. This structure lends itself to both fleet racing and elimination series.
 6. The windsurfing and kiteboarding equipment is both suitable and proven for different disciplines (*racing, speed*) and formats (*course racing, slalom, marathon*).
 7. The proposed slate presents a much more balanced approach and achieves more of the objectives outlined in the ISAF Olympic Commission report than the current slate.
 8. The proposed slate offers developing nations an additional low cost event to expand their chances of participation in the Olympic Games, especially those nations in Africa & Asia.
 9. Logistics are vastly simplified for groups and individuals; for national and international travel.
 10. Training and coaching opportunities can be shared between men and women and between both disciplines.
 11. The inclusion of both windsurfing and kiteboarding supports the development towards more youth and spectator/media friendly events, as requested by the IOC.
 12. The current junior pathway classes, the Techno 293 Class, selected as equipment for use in the Youth Olympics and RS:X 8.5m² as equipment for use in ISAF Youth Sailing Worlds, are suitable pathways to both Olympic windsurfing and Olympic kiteboarding.
 13. Both windsurfing and kiteboarding have well developed worldwide distribution networks.
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