ISAF Youth World Sailing Championship

Multihull Equipment

A submission from Yachting Australia

Purpose or Objective

Following the selection of the NACRA 17 as the equipment for use at the Olympic Games in 2016 (with a possible commitment to 2020), to determine the most appropriate multihull for use at the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship.

Proposal

To evaluate, select and introduce as soon as possible, suitable equipment for the Open Multihull event at the ISAF Youth Sailing World Championship.

Current Position

Either the Hobie 16 with Spinnaker or the Sirena SL16 can be used at the ISAF Youth World Sailing Championship.

Reasons

1. Sailors and MNAs do not see the Multihull event at the ISAF Youth World Sailing Championship as offering a relevant pathway to the Olympic Games. Numbers attending the event have not changed for several years. This is due, at least in part, to the equipment used and uncertainty over which of the two available boats will be used.

2. When the issue of the appropriate Multihull class for use at the ISAF Youth World Sailing Championship was considered in 2011, it was agreed that any action should be delayed until the Multihull equipment for the Olympic Regatta had been decided. The NACRA 17 is to be used in 2016.

3. The NACRA 17 is modern, lightweight boat, designed with a spinnaker and lifting centreboards. It is appropriate for the boat used at the ISAF Youth World Sailing Championship to have the same characteristics at the boat to be used at the Olympic Games, as is the case with other boats used at the Championship. For example, the 420 has similar characteristics to those of the 470. The Evaluation Trials prior to the selection of the NACRA 17 clearly demonstrated that there are a number of multihulls available that meet this requirement. The Hobie 16 and the Sirena SL16 do not.

4. Regulation 24.4.9 provides for only one class to be used for each event at the ISAF World Youth Sailing Championship. For example, the boat used for the Girl’s and Boy’s Two Person Dinghy event is the 420. There is no choice. MNAs can therefore reliably invest in this equipment. There should only one Multihull listed, consistent with the other events.