

World Championships

World Sailing Keelboat Classes World Championship

A submission from the Chairman of World Sailing Classes Committee, Sail Canada, International 2.4m Class Association, International Flying Fifteen Class Association, International H-Boat Class Association, International One Design Class Association, International Soling Class Association, International Star Class Yacht Racing Association

Purpose or Objective

To establish a “Champion of Champions” event open to the defending World Champions of all World Sailing Keelboat Classes to promote keelboat sailing worldwide.

Proposal

1. Council to approve in principle a new event, overseen by the World Sailing Classes Committee (on behalf of the World Sailing Keelboat Classes) and organized in cooperation with a World Sailing One Design Keelboat Class and an organizing authority as defined in RRS.
2. Event Details:
 - a) Eligibility: defending World Champions of all World Sailing Keelboat Classes
 - b) Crew: mixed, same number of men and women
 - c) Equipment: supplied, One Design Keelboat 8-12m long, high performance
 - d) Format: Round Robin Stage, Semi Finals, Finals, all sailed in short fleet races. “Inshore racing”. Umpired.
 - e) Media: International TV production and distribution, Live Streaming.
3. The World Sailing Classes Committee will supervise the long term consistency of the event delivery and work with varying World Sailing Classes to provide the boats and varying organizing authorities from year to year.
4. Such approval to be granted under Regulation 25.2.6:

“World Sailing may approve other events as World Championships upon written application made by a National Authority, Class Association or an organizing authority (as defined in RRS)”
5. Such application will then be made for every annual event individually.

Current Position

There is currently no combined World Sailing Keelboat Classes World Championship.

Reasons

1. World Sailing classes range from Optimist to Volvo Ocean Race boats. More than 40 of the 120 World Sailing Classes are One Design Keel boat classes.
 2. Most of such classes have their own annual World Championship, but there has never been a combined World Championship for all keel boat classes so far.
 3. World Sailing has not promoted One Design Keelboat Sailing over the last couple of years.
 4. Such event is widely supported and requested by the majority of the World Sailing OD Keelboat Classes.
 5. Small keelboats are most likely sailed by the vast majority of sailors around the world, and such an event would reflect this. The event would have an inclusive effect and gain back lost ground in the keelboat community.
 6. The event would showcase a keelboat pathway from club sailing through class championships to a "Champions Race"
 7. The event would be held on smaller keelboats, racing inshore. There is no competition or confusion with planned Offshore racing World Championships.
 8. The event promotes mixed gender sailing as it is practiced in keelboat sailing world wide.
 9. One of the World Sailing Keelboat Classes together with an organising authority has applied to hold this event already in 2016 in China, with full funding guaranteed. However, approval was not granted. An opportunity to promote sailing was missed and sponsorship lost.
 10. This submission therefore seeks general support from Council to establish such an event. The details can then be negotiated between the CEO / the Board and the applying class / organizing authority through the process laid out in regulation 25.6.
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