2024 Olympic Sailing Competition

Olympic Equipment

A submission from the Polish Yachting Association

Purpose or Objective

To finalize the equipment for the 2024 Olympic Games.

Proposal

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<td>Evolve RS:X</td>
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* Note the equipment for this event is under Olympic Equipment Re-evaluation if retained.

Equipment Criteria for Men and Women Windsurfer (Only if Evolve or Select New Equipment is chosen in table above):

- To evaluate if there are equipment alternatives which would offer a “beach” style event in order to connect and attract a new audience – as participant and fanbase – which could be foiling or not.
- Equipment should be "box rule" design with one board and possibly limited number of rigs / appendages
- The crucial part of choosing the right equipment for a next Olympic campaign is understanding social requirements according to not monotype equipment; box rules allow to participate different weight competitors equalizing somatic difference among sailors making the class more attractive.

Equipment Criteria for Mixed One-Person Dinghy:

- Boat concept: Displacement (non-foiling) and hiking
- Same hull for Men and Women with different rig concept: No
- Single mast and sail: Yes
- Sail size for Men: up to 11 m²
- Sail size for Women: Criteria to be approved by Council through other submissions
Suitable wind range for competition: 5-30 knots and any respective sea state suitable for racing
Athlete weight range for Men: 87-100+ kg.
Athlete weight range for Women: “Criteria to be approved by Council through other submissions. Preferably a weight range different from the one provided by the women one person dinghy event.

Builder / Class structure:
Measurement controlled including:
• possibility for identical supplied hulls at Olympic Games,
• possibility for multiple licensed builders,
• equipment available worldwide,
• the selected class should currently exist and should be run by a well-established worldwide class authority with well-developed class rules following the ERS and SCR format.

Format proposal:
• Format criteria to be approved by Council through other submissions

Other Equipment considerations:
• GRP hull,
• no trapeze,
• the equipment shall enable free kinetics,
• the equipment shall be seaworthy and capable of handling extreme wind and sea conditions,
• the equipment should have a long lifespan and high resale value for a high sustainability level.

Equipment Criteria for Mixed Two Person Dinghy:
Boat concept: Displacement (non-foiling)
Skipper weight range: 55-70 kg
Crew weight range: 65-80 kg
Sail size: mainsail 9-10 m², jib 3-4 m², spinnaker 13-14 m²
Sail types: mainsail, headsail and spinnaker.
Suitable wind range for competition: 5-30 knots and any respective sea state suitable for racing
Builder / Class structure: measurement controlled

Format proposal:
• Format criteria to be approved by Council through other submissions

Other Equipment considerations:
• GRP hull,
• symmetrical spinnaker,
• single trapeze rig,
• the equipment shall enable free kinetics,
• the equipment shall be seaworthy and capable of handling extreme wind and sea conditions,
• the equipment should have a long lifespan and high resale value for a high sustainability level.
Equipment Criteria for Mixed Kite:

- Board concept: foiling
- Weight range men: 65-85kg
- Weight range women: 50-70kg
- Kite size for Men: 7-21 m²
- Kite size for Women: 7-21 m²
- Kite system: RAM-Air (foil-kite)

Number of permitted kites per event: 4 high performance, high aspect ratio kites
Number of permitted hydrofoil systems per event: 1 high performance, high aspect ratio hydrofoil system.

Same hydrofoil system, board and kites scheme for men and women.

Equipment to be licensed once per Olympic cycle to ensure level playing field. The proposed timeline is that the licenced equipment will be confirmed 3 years before the next Olympic Games. This is not selecting new equipment but licencing improved models of the same equipment. The selection criteria should include manufacturing tolerances, quality management, worldwide distribution network and time, and other criteria as outlined in the current Olympic Classes contract.

Suitable wind range for competition: 5-40 knots

Builder / Class structure: registered series production scheme with multiple licensed builders. All equipment within a model/series must be identical, and must be available worldwide without restrictions. World Sailing, in close cooperation with the class, manages the control of builders and licenses equipment.

Format proposal:
- Format criteria to be approved by Council through other submissions

Other Equipment considerations:
The proposed registered series production equipment scheme is fully supported by sailors, the industry and the wider kiteboarding community over a one-design solution and reflects the IOC “urban sports” vision with variety of equipment similar to what is common in snowboarding, skateboarding and surfing. Equipment will be “frozen” per Olympic cycle to ensure confidence and reliability in equipment investment while ensuring controlled evolution from one Olympic cycle to the next. The selected class should be run by a well-established worldwide class authority with well-developed class rules following the ERS and SCR format.

Current Position
As above.

Reasons
1. Equipment Criteria for Men and Women Windsurfer
   As above.
2. Mixed One Person Dinghy
   a) Suitability for athletes ranging from 87 to 100+ kg.
At the 2017 November Conference Council set some key criteria to define the 2024 Events and Equipment. One of the five criteria was to “Ensure that men and women of different physiques have an opportunity to compete. The equipment shall allow the sailors to use free kinetics and showcase physicality and athletic skills to complete the range of skills across all the athletes in the Sailing Olympic competition.

b) Availability and reliance on builders and market

The builders shall be independent to the chosen class. They should have proven their technical and professional capacity by staying in the market over the years. They should be able to adjust to the market demand. Equipment builders should demonstrated expertise and experience by supplying quality products to the fleet. Multiple builders across the world are important to respond to high volume distribution and production demands in various part of the world and avoiding high import taxes.

c) Reliable and sustainable equipment

The chosen equipment should demonstrate reliability with quality control, performance and longevity in order to reduce costs. The chosen equipment should prove seaworthiness allowing spectacular racing in great sailing conditions.

3. Mixed Two Person Dinghy

a) Affordability - the selected equipment must be the most affordable two-person boat at the Olympic Games, and particularly affordable for emerging nations.

b) Universality – a boat should offer a consistent pathway from youth to Olympic.

c) Accessibility - the selected boat should offer widespread participation and racing opportunities, and be flexible to different racing environments and formats.

d) Suitability for light to medium weight athletes hence the limitation to a single trapeze rig with the proposed sail area.

e) Suitability and responsiveness to kinetics action by the athletes, with class rules that permit these actions by amending RR42.

4. Mixed Kite

a) The principle of registered series production equipment represents universal and

b) mainstream kiteboard racing with world-wide accessibility and popularity. There is no need and no demand for one-design monotypes as this does not reflect the reality of kiteboard racing and would stand against the demands of the sailors.

c) Registered series production equipment ensures state-of-the art equipment for each Olympic Games while avoiding an arms race. New builders and equipment can get licensed once every Olympic cycle, allowing the market to expand and ensuring strong competition between builders, resulting in better quality at lower prices without the risks associated with monopolies.

d) All licensed registered series production equipment follows In-House Certification principles, minimizing measurement and equipment inspection costs at events. In case of selection the process will be included into the World Sailing in-House Certification program.
e) Using the same hydrofoil system, board and kite scheme for men and women reduces equipment investment and coaching costs.

f) The model of equipment “supply”, together with “bring your own” is successfully implemented by other equipment sports like snowboarding, skiing, surfing, skateboarding and other “urban” sports and adds with its “look and feel” to the appeal to a young audience, as encouraged by the IOC.

g) The principle of the proposed registered series production equipment scheme (including “bring your own”) has been already successfully proven for the Youth Olympic Games with a large variety of different brands and models winning races and competitions. The sailor is winning the race, not the equipment.

h) A Registered Series Production Equipment scheme with multiple brands / builders enables sponsorship from manufacturers for sailors and national teams. It is expected that good sailors will not have to buy their equipment as it will be provided for free by competing manufacturers for publicity reasons.

i) It is expected that the majority of the higher ranked competitors (and their MNA’s) will not have to purchase equipment and will be able to enter sponsorship agreements with manufacturers.

j) The vast majority of contenders for the YOG places (including many from emerging and developing nations) have competed on fully sponsored equipment.

k) A Registered Series Production scheme allows sailors to choose equipment suitable for their body physics, resulting in a wide range of sailor types competing on a level playing field with equipment provided by manufacturers around the world. This is only possible through the availability of different models of equipment, with the same overall performance around the race course:

(i) In the current Men’s Formula Kite Top 10, the size of the sailors ranges from 168 to 198 cm, and the weight ranges from 69 to 85 kg.

(ii) In the current Women’s Formula Kite Top 10, the size of the sailors ranges from 158 to 180 cm, and the weight ranges from 49 to 69 kg

l) Multiple kites do not only ensure racing in the widest possible wind range but are also a safety consideration. Kiteboards are able to sail in very high winds, ensuring that World Sailing can provide content to TV and media no matter what the conditions are.

m) Multiple kites do not increase equipment costs as each kite is used proportionately less. Furthermore, sailors automatically have spares with them. A strong second hand market with high resale value exists for this type of equipment.