World Sailing Rankings

Definitive Rankings


Proposal

The ISAF World Sailing Rankings will be the only ranking used until the end of 2016. This is to avoid confusion amongst the media, sailing fans, general public sailors and MNAs as to the definitive world rankings.

Current Position

Although there is only one world sailing ranking at present, many debates have been proposed about another ranking system.

Reason

1. Prior to the introduction of the ISAF Sailing World Cup, the ISAF World Sailing Rankings were the definitive world rankings and promoted by ISAF as “The Official ISAF Rankings for Olympic Classes”.

2. Without any formal proposal and approval process, the ISAF Sailing World Cup Standings are currently promoted by ISAF over and above the ISAF Sailing World Rankings.

3. The ISAF Sailing World Cup standings represent participation in a series of 7 events over a year. The ISAF World Sailing Rankings represent participation in all ISAF Graded Events for each Olympic Class over a two year period.

4. The ISAF Sailing World Cup scoring gives points to the top 20 only, whilst the ISAF Sailing World Rankings are more inclusive.

5. The ISAF World Sailing Rankings are used by many MNAs for deciding their internal country ranking when applicable, for qualification purposes and funding allocation. The World Sailing Rankings are also used by many Olympic Classes for seeding purposes at their Championships.

6. The ISAF World Sailing Rankings give sailors the opportunity to accumulate points across all ISAF Graded Events, rather than a series of a few events.
7. The ISAF World Sailing Rankings ensure that sailors from countries who cannot travel to Sailing World Cup Events can secure a place on the World Sailing Rankings and achieve ranking points. This is very important for upcoming new sailors, for sailors of smaller countries and overall is critical for the promotion of our sport and to promote the universality of our sport. As an example there are 43 countries (standings after Kieler Woche 2010) who have scored points across the ten classes on the ISAF Sailing World Cup Standings and 75 countries (rankings released on 7 July 2010) on the ISAF World Sailing Rankings.

8. Sailors from smaller countries are unable to travel to SWC events and therefore do not achieve standing points and those countries are not represented or promoted on the ISAF Sailing World Cup standings.

9. Many sailors currently use the ISAF World Sailing Rankings to support applications for funding in their own countries, and particularly in countries where there are not large enough fleets for a country ranking system.

10. To use the ISAF Sailing World Cup standings as the primary ranking, will ultimately lead to a decrease in participation and a decrease in funding as sailors will not be able to achieve support if they do not appear on the primary rankings. To use the World Cup standings which do not rank sailors from smaller emerging countries and sailors not on elite circuits will have negative outcomes.