World Sailing Classes Committee Minutes



The World Sailing Classes Committee met at 09:30 – 18:00 hours on Sunday 6 November 2016 at the Renaissance Fira Hotel, Barcelona.

Please refer to World Sailing website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda.

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Present:

Jeff Martin – Chairman/ Laser Standard Class Rep

Corinne Rolland-McKenzie – ICC Events Rep

Ceri Williams – ICC Windsurfing & Kiteboarding Rep/
Raceboard Class Rep

Jurgen Cluytmans – ICC Equipment Control SC

420 representative (in part)

Bruno de Wannemaeker – International Measurers

Sub-committee Rep/ IFCA Rep

Helen Mary Wilkes – Vice Chairman

Ceri Williams – ICC Windsurfing & Kiteboarding Rep/
Raceboard Class Rep

David Brookes – Equipment Committee Rep/Hobie
14 Class Rep

Adrianne Greenwood – World Sailing Vice-president

Apologies:

David Staley - Class Rules Rep

Class Representatives:

420 – Jose Massapina	Lightning – David Sprague
470 – Luissa Smith	M32 Catamaran, Yngling – Mattias Dahlström
12M – Ken Kershaw	Maxi – Andrew McIrvine
29er – Jerelyn Biehl	Nacra 17 – Marcus Spillane
49er – Sofi Tedin	OK Dinghy – Robert Deaves
49er FX – Camilla Cedercreutz	O'Pen Bic – Luigi Bertini
8M – Julia Ormio	Optimist – Fiona Kidd
Cadet – Jan Martin Wilschut	Platu 25 – Tatiana Ermakova
Etchells Bill Abbott	RS:One – Manu Messiaen
Far East 28 – Mats Runström	RS:X – Dominique Vallee
Farr 40 – Philip Tolhurst	Shark 24 – Paul Henderson
Finn – Rory Barnes	Soling – Peter Hall
Formula Kite – Mirco Babini	Soto 40 – Pablo Ferrer
Formula Windsurfing – Marc Cardon	Sunfish – Hector Duval
GP14 – Curly Morris	Techno 293 – Ezio Ferin
Hansa 303, Liberty and 2.3 – Russell Phillips	TopCat K1 – Helmut Czasny
Hobie 16 – Juan Antonio Llabres	Tornado – Jürgen Jentsch
Hobie Dragon – Michael Corigliano	TP52 – Rob Weiland
Hobie Tiger – Simon James	Vaurien – Francesco Zampacavallo
Hobie Wildcat – Alfredo Bernard Ripoll	Zoom 8 – Anita Yngve

IKA Kitefoil – Bruno Marques
IKA Open – Markus Schwendtner
Formula Kite – Pilar Lopez
J/22, J24 – Martha Henderson
J/70, J/111 – Dina Kowalyshyn
Laser 4.7 – Aileen Loo

Fireball – Francois Schluchter International 14 – Colin Smith Europe – Paul Depoorter Topper – Bill Brassington Dragon – Vasily Senatorov Splash – Andrew Davies

World Sailing Technical and Offshore Department

Jason Smithwick – Head of Technical & Offshore

Javier Blanco – Technical Specialist

Simon Forbes – Manager Technical & Offshore

Norbert Marin – Technical Specialist

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all the committee members. Carlo Croce also welcomed the Committee and thanked them for attending, however he had other commitments and was not able to attend this meeting.

Jeff Martin gave details on the nomination procedure for Chair and Vice Chairman and the nominees of the next World Sailing Classes Committee to other Committees.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(a) Minutes

Laser Radial - Eric Faust

The minutes of the World Sailing Classes Committee of 8th November 2015 were noted and signed as a true record.

(b) Minutes Matters Arising

Corinne McKenzie presented a paper about safety helmets produced by the World Sailing Technical and Offshore Department. The idea was to make the Classes Committee aware of this document.

Corinne also asked what is the current process in place, if this Committee makes a recommendation not based on submissions to Council and the Council only "note" the recommendation. It was explained that the Board should deal with this type of recommendations.

Corinne McKenzie also discussed the current terms of reference of this Committee and noted that with the new World Sailing Committees structure, these will become obsolete. Corinne noted that the only way to change them is through submissions, therefore she suggested to make an urgent submission to be discussed in the next Mid-year meeting in 2017 in order to change the Regulations; the submission should also propose to increase the Committee representation in the relevant Committees in time for November 2017.

Helen Mary Wilkes mentioned that last year there was a recommendation to Council to increase representation in the new to be formed Development and Regions and Youth Racing Committees but she is not aware of any decision by Council. It was noted that the Race Officials Committee should also have Class representation and this should be included in the Submission for May 2017

3. Submissions

The submissions can be found at: http://www.sailing.org/meetings

World Sailing Regulations

(a) Submission 007-16 from the International Kiteboarding Association about World Sailing

Regulations was noted.

Markus Schwendtner presented the submission and explained that the reason for this submission together with Submission 008-16 and 009-16 was the lack of guidelines on Special Events in the current Regulations. Adrienne Greenwood noted that this is in the Board's agenda and is going to be discussed during the conference week. It was explained by Bruno Marques that this submission was drafted to protect the interest of the Classes and its right to hold World Championships. The idea is to avoid a Special Event organizing World Championships using the Class equipment and without consulting the Class which in many cases lead to a clash in the calendar with other class events. Bruno explained that this has been happening over the last few years with clashes between the PWA and the IFCA calendar, with PWA waiting for IFCA to publish its calendar, and PWA immediately publishing its own calendar with similar dates which make it impossible to get the best competitors into major IFCA events.

Opinion: No opinion.

Refer to World Sailing Classes Committee Recommendation Not Based on Submission to Council Agenda item 12(a)

(b) Submission 008-16 from the International Kiteboarding Association about World Sailing Regulations was noted

Opinion: No opinion

Refer to World Sailing Classes Committee Recommendation Not Based on Submission to Council Agenda item 12(a)

(c) Submission 009-16 from the International Kiteboarding Association about World Sailing Regulations was noted

Opinion: No opinion

Refer to World Sailing Classes Committee Recommendation Not Based on Submission to Council Agenda item 12(a)

(d) Submission 011-16 from the Chairman of the Oceanic and Offshore Committee about World Sailing Regulations - Advertising Code was noted.

Ken Kershaw noted that for some classes and Rating systems which include boats below and above 20m there will be a conflict with different advertising sizes in the same fleet. Rob Weiland also noted that the sizes proposed of the advertising in the submission needed further study.

Opinion: Reject.

The sizes of the advertising on spars needs addressing and it is not compatible for some classes that have variable length boats (e.g. 12m and rating classes)

(e) Submission 012-16 from the International Topper Class Association about World Sailing Regulations – Advertising Code was noted.

Bill Brassington from the Topper Class presented the submission and explained the difficulty of attaching advertising in boats with low freeboards, with the current advertising code. Jeff Martin noted that the Board has approved this submission and recommended to approve.

Opinion: Approve

Subject to review from a technical aspect with regards to sails.

Equipment Rules of Sailing

(f) Submission 025-16 from the Deutscher Segler Verband about Equipment Rules of Sailing was noted.

The new ERS has been already published and this submission was not deemed urgent.

Opinion: Reject.

(g) Submission 026-16 from the Deutcher Segler Verband about Equipment Rules of Sailing was noted.

The new ERS has been already published and this submission was not deemed urgent.

Opinion: Reject.

(h) Submission 027-16 from the Deutscher Segler Verband about Equipment Rules of Sailing was noted.

The new ERS has been already published and this submission was not deemed urgent.

Opinion: Reject.

(i) Submission 028-16 from the Deutscher Segler Verband about Equipment Rules of Sailing was noted. The new ERS has been already published and this submission was not deemed urgent.

Opinion: Reject.

Racing Rules of Sailing

(j) Submission 070-16 from the Deutscher Segler-Verband about Racing Rules of Sailing was noted.

Jeff Martin noted that the RRS already mention the condition of "clearly legible" for national letter and sail numbers. The term "approximately horizontal" in the submission was of concern as it does not define a position clearly on the sail.

Opinion: Reject.

(k) Submission 071-16 from the Deutscher Segler-Verband about Racing Rules of Sailing was noted. This submission was not considered necessary.

Opinion: Reject.

(I) Submission 072-16 from the Deutscher Segler-Verband about Racing Rules of Sailing was noted.

The rule may be useful for some classes but some classes do not measure the foretriangle base.

Opinion: No opinion.

The rule should have further consideration.

Other Submissions

(m) Submission 040-16 from the Confederacao Brasileira de Vela about Coach Boat Restrictions was noted.

Jeff Martin commented on this submission with regards on the environmental impact of coach boats in regattas. Some class representatives were concerned about the safety implication of not having enough coach boats during junior or senior events. Corinne McKenzie noted that this submission was a bit confusing in the title and that it did not aimed at individual World Sailing classes but at World Sailing sanctioned events, known in the past as ISAF events. This was discussed during the Coaches Commission where it was recommended to reject this submission but approve the principle and that for these events, only one coach boat per class and per Nation per course area should be allowed. Fiona Kidd suggested sharing coach boats which seems to work well within the Optimist class. Classes or organizing authorities should make their own decision about this. Adrienne Greenwood noted that the Board recommended to defer this submission.

Opinion: Reject

Support the principles from an environmental point of view but the submission does not work for the diversity of the classes. There are many practical considerations, including safety management.

(n) Submission 041-16 from the Board regarding World Sailing Regulation was noted.

Marcus Spillane noted that the submission did not specify a deadline; sailors may potentially end up buying boats close to the start of the event just before the equipment is changed. Luissa Smith noted that more parameters were needed to be defined on this submission. Jeff Martin noted also that the submission did not clarify who would be paying for this equipment.

Adrienne Greenwood explained that this would be only used as the last resort and it was drafted to avoid problems such as the ones encountered for the Youth World Championship in New Zealand this year. Corinne McKenzie noted that the sense of "urgency" was not clearly specified in the submission.

Opinion: Reject.

The timeframe and parameters for substitution should be better defined. The wording should reflect that any action should only be taken as a last resort.

(o) Submission 042-16 from the Board regarding World Sailing Regulations was noted.

Markus Schwendtner spoke against this Submission as it seems to be detrimental for World Sailing classes and in favour of professional tours. Jason Smithwick explained that this submission was aimed to clarify the current situation within the Kiteboarding community which seems to be in disarray.

Opinion: Reject.

The IKA Classes are the World Sailing Classes for Kiteboarding. This submission steps outside the remit of World Sailing.

4. Other Committee's Agenda Items relating to ISAF Classes

The following Recommendations Not Based on Submissions were made:

The World Sailing Classes Committee support the recommendation of the Board on "World Sailing Special Event Status" subject to the addition of the following text and that the paper is published accordingly:

When World Sailing Classes' Equipment is used for World Sailing Special events

The following standards shall be in place, subject towritten approval of the class:

- Protection of the Class Equipment rules
- · Protection of the calendar
- Protection of World title or perception of World title whether it is for stand-alone event or for a series of events.

5. Other Items Related to World Sailing Classes

- (a) Corinne McKenzie gave an overview about the need of having a non-discrimination policy in class events. Article 7 of the Constitution talks about non-discrimination however World Sailing is currently using a non-discrimination policy in all World Sailing events. Discussions are being held on how this policy could be embraced by all classes. Jon Napier explained that World Sailing is now implementing a non-discrimination policy in all their events that must be sign by the event organizer. This is a bit more difficult for Classes as they do not have so much power/influence to enforce this on their event organizers. Helen Mary Wilkes noted that it is in many cases the government that is the problem and not the event organizer. Jon Napier acknowledged that this is not easy and even if a paper is signed, what can Classes do if the event organizer does not comply with it? Also, discrimination can have different meanings from one country to the other. It was argued that we must go to these countries that respect our rules since we cannot change the rules of any country that we go to. Corinne explained how difficult it is to enforce this and that perhaps a new Regulation should help, with classes ultimately relying on World Sailing to make sure this is enforced. Luissa Smith suggested to ask the IOC for a list of countries endorsed by them that are known not to have had discrimination issues and where classes can go with confidence. Bruno Marques wanted also to note that there is some cultural discrimination in some countries where some junior competitors in some countries are used to be confident in questioning authority whereas in some other countries it is not embedded in their culture and authority is never questioned.
- (b) The idea of having a Keelboat World Championship not restricted to offshore was raised by Peter Hall. It was considered necessary to have the Classes Committee involvement on how to move this project forward. The creation of a Working party was suggested as the best way forward. Peter Hall suggested this Working Party could be chaired by Bill Abbott. The board is currently discussing an Offshore World Championship and there were discussions on what an event like this may potentially lead to, i.e. to a multihull World Championships etc. Dina Kowalyshyn spoke about the Women's Keelboat Championships which was resurrected recently with the use of the J/70 class. She considers that there is a place for these kinds of events.
- (c) The current situation with the youth pathway was discussed. Jan Martin Wilschut explained that in his view, World Sailing is too focussed on Olympic Classes and that perhaps what World Sailing can do for the classes and what can the classes do for World Sailing should be looked at, especially in the case of youth classes. Perhaps the plaque fees for youth classes should be waived, suggested Jan Martin. Corinne McKenzie agreed that the youth pathway needed further work and development. To understand the problem, it would be good to know at what age sailors lose interest in sailing. Another factor of influence is that one boat very popular in one part of the world may not even exist in another. This Committee has the potential to be very proactive on this.

Concern were raised on an "obsession" by MNA's to deliver this pathway when many young sailors will go to university, get a degree and come back to sailing; the current pathway idea proposed may discourage them and the current classes should be sustained in the same way as the Olympic classes.

6. Olympic Classes Sub-committee

The OCSC Chairman reports on the past months with work and communication stopped in many areas due to the uncertainty created towards the 2020 Olympic programme. This situation has been very disruptive for the present Olympic classes as well as the prospective ones. The OCSC Chairman asks all World Sailing classes to remain as united as possible in their difference in order to be

stronger within the sport.

Regarding the OCSC meeting to take place the day after, points of common interest include the Special events status, non-discrimination events agreement, and race official development. The OCSC Chairman underlines that subjects of common interest, if dealt with this committee, will not be discussed during OCSC.

7. Working parties

Sarah Kenny, gave an update on the World Championship Working Party. The working party was originally formed by request of the Events Committee to look into Regulation 25. Over the last few years the Working Party has shown to have strong different views over many aspects of this Regulation. This has led to a lack of consensus on what should be the way forward. Sarah is going to recommend the Events Committee to reconstitute a new Working Party with a suggestion to change the terms of reference to make them more specifically defined. Sarah also will recommend that the new Working Party has more input from classes. The new working party should also look into Boards and Kites which raise different issues and need different consideration; in addition, it should also urgently look into women's world championships and how these events can be encouraged.

8. Annual report

Jeff Martin noted that the report was not ready yet but that it would be presented to Council on time.

Election of Officers and Classes Representatives on World Sailing Committees

The Committee discussed the voting process. Some committee members disagreed on their interpretations of the Regulations on deadlines to submitting Chair and Vice chair nominations and on who had the right to vote. It was recommended to clarify the Regulations in time for the next elections in order to avoid confusion.

(a) Election of the Chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee

Two candidates were declared: David Sprague and Markus Schwendtner. Both candidates gave a short presentation and answered questions. There was a secret ballot and Markus Schwendtner was elected Chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee 2017-2020.

(b) Election of the Vice Chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee

One candidate was declared: Corine McKenzie.

Corinne McKenzie was elected Vice-chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee 2017-2020.

- (c) Appoint the Council Member for the World Sailing Classes Committee Markus Schwendtner was nominated and unanimously approved to be the Council Member.
- (d) Election of the World Sailing Classes Committee representatives to other committees.

The following nominations were received:

Equipment Committee: David Brookes. Elected Unanimously.

Events Committee: Ben Remocker. Elected Unanimously.

International Measurers Sub-committee: Bruno de Wannemaeker. Elected Unanimously.

Equipment Rules Sub-committee: Bill Brassington, Jurgen Cluytmans, Helmut Czasny,

Curly Morris.

After the voting Jurgen Cluytmans was elected Equipment Rules Sub-committee representative.

Dina Kowalyshyn asked to minute that Jurgen may not be able to be a representative on this Committee and that it should be noted that Curly Morris was the second most voted.

10. Any other Business

Hugh Chambers, World Sailing Commercial Operational Manager gave an overview on the new World Sailing branding. World Sailing is committed to providing as many resources as possible to help classes and regattas. The first stage of this being the development of the new branding in order to prepare a commercial landscape for all stakeholders. At a question from Fiona Kidd, Hugh explained that the logo guidelines were not available in the website but will be sent at request in order to be able to give a tailored guidance to everyone interested.

The importance of how to get sponsors, how to deal with them and who should do it were discussed.

Jeff Martin and Helen Mary Wilkes were thanked for their many years as Chair and Vice chair of the World Sailing Classes Committee respectively and for their contribution to the World Sailing Classes

Helen Mary Wilkes has been Vice-chair of the classes committee from 1994 to 1998 and then again from 2008 to 2016.

Jeff Martin has been Chairman of the Classes Committee from 2001 to 2016.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 18:30.