

15 October 2020

## World Sailing Classes Committee Elections

Dear World Sailing Classes,

I have been your Chairman for the past four years and my goal has always been to represent the classes towards the other World Sailing stakeholders – be it committees, the board, council – as trustworthy partners. I think that I have contributed in making progress towards rebuilding bridges that got lost in the previous years for a number of reasons, and to provide more information and service throughout the year to the members of this committee. This included to stand up for our rights and interests when it really mattered for the classes, and not being consumed in every possible fight. I think that this approach has worked and that we have made the voice of the classes heard on a number of occasions.

I am truly honoured that a number of you have nominated me as chairman for the next four years. I have given this due consideration, but I strongly feel that the World Sailing Classes Committee should be chaired by a non-olympic class. After all, there are about 110 non-Olympic classes compared to the 10 Olympic ones. I also strongly feel, that the vice-chair position should be taken by an Olympic class, to have a direct line of communication and to feed back the interest of the Olympic classes to the chair, the cross representatives to other committees, and to council.

As a result, I am happy to stand as vice-chair of this committee for the upcoming four years to ensure continuity and support the new chair elected by this committee.

However, I think it is of utmost importance that we continue the way that the current team on the 'top of table' has taken – being a partner to the other stakeholders and achieve our goals and protect our interest through dialogue, not through conflict with the board, council and the MNAs.

I have spoken with a number of potential candidates for the position of World Sailing Classes Committee chair. It is clear that we all share the same goal: to achieve the best outcome for the World Sailing Classes, however we all have different personalities and style.

With this in mind, I recommend to elect Jan Martin Wilschut of the Cadet class for the position of Chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee.

Jan Martin has been attending our meetings for the past nine years, he represents an important youth class and has no political agenda that could reflect negatively on the classes committee. I got to know him as well informed, active and well tempered class manager with strong business background that complements the skillset required to chair this committee.

Thank you for your trust and consideration.



Markus Schwendtner