

The World Sailing Board met by conference call on Wednesday 12 May 2021 between 09:00 – 11:00 UTC.

<u>Present</u>	<u>In Attendance</u>
1. Quanhai Li - President 2. Ozlem Akdurak – Vice President 3. Jo Aleh – Chair, Athletes Commission 4. Philip Baum - Vice President 5. Tomasz Chamera – Vice President 6. Sarah Kenny – Vice President 7. Yann Rocherieux – Vice President 8. Cory Sertl – Vice President 9. Marcus Spillane – Vice President	1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer 2. Raksha Patel – Director of Finance & Business Operations 3. Victoria Evans – Interim Director of Legal & Governance 4. Nelia Smith – Executive Assistant
1. Opening of the Meeting a) <u>Presidents' Opening Remarks</u> The President welcomed everyone and thanked them for their hard work done in collaboration with the various Committees in preparation for the Mid-Year Meeting. He noted that he was confident that all the hard work will result in a positive Council meeting on Friday. He went on to pass a special word of appreciation to the WS Finance team for their thorough approach to the Board paper outlining the pros and cons of a commercial entity in China. Bearing in mind the extensive list of items on the agenda, he handed over to the CEO to commence the meeting. b) <u>Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest</u> No apologies for absence were received. No additional interests were declared. It was noted that an unusual situation exists, which is the difference in recommendation from the Events Committee & Equipment Committee. The reason for the contrary results being that the vote from the Athletes Commission representative on the Events Committee did not reflect the majority decision of the Athletes Commission. In addition, there was no declaration of a conflict of interest by the same individual. If the vote had reflected the choice of the Athletes Commission the recommendations from both expert committees would be matching. c) <u>Approval of previous minutes</u> Minutes of the meeting on 7 May 2021 was approved and published on the same day. d) <u>Matters arising</u> <u>Governance Reform</u> The Board received a high-level overview of the detailed paper outlining the suggested approach to the Governance Reform and the urgent need for progress. Decision: Governance reform remains a priority for the Board, it is under review and the way forward will be clearly communicated to Council. The immediate next steps include approving the	

Board Charter, setting a date for a Board meeting dedicated to the Governance Reform subject, along with the forming of a Board sub-group leading with actions required to make a submission for the 2021 General Assembly, headed by Vice-Presidents Philip Baum & Ozlem Akdurak.

Council Meeting Brief from CEO

The CEO provided an overview of the programme and ongoing planning related to the Mid-Year Council meeting taking place on Friday 14 May 2021.

2. Commercial

a) Sponsorship Update

The Board was given a general overview of the current sponsorship portfolio by the CEO.

Decision – A request was made for fortnightly status meetings to be scheduled with the VP's responsible for Commercial.

b) Potential Chinese Subsidiary

The President presented a number of opportunities for sponsorship in China with both corporate entities and cities and stressed that these opportunities require the setup of a Chinese entity to receive the funds. The WS Director of Finance followed by presenting a detailed paper to the Board highlighting three key areas of consideration, these are **1. WS Tax and Accounting 2. WS Constitution and Regulations 3. WS Audit and Risk.**

It was raised that there needs to be a clear understanding of the potential set up costs, staffing, controls, risks and associated Chinese Law governing the flow of funding. A decision can only be considered after negotiation with, and receiving formal commitment of money from, potential partners at which point it will be brought back to the Board. If the Board is satisfied, the decision to setup a Chinese entity, under our Constitution and Regulations, will then be presented to Council for approval.

Decision

1. The Board agreed to accelerate this process to avoid the risk of losing any potential prospects. The staff team should speed up their preparation whilst keeping to WS process and provide more details.
2. The commercial team will continue their negotiation with potential clients in China under the guidelines provided by WS in order to grasp market opportunity and make progress.
3. The introduction meetings with potential partners should be facilitated and upon completion, a Board approved approach and timeline can be finalised to conclude the subject.

3. Events

a) Events Committee Mid-Year Meetings

The WS Director of Events gave a summary of the Events Committee meetings that took place and the subsequent recommendations that will be put to Council. It was again emphasised that the

declaration of possible conflicts by members and succeeding conduct after such declarations requires attention.

VP Kenny raised the risk issues that WS needs to consider in hosting a Youth World Championship later in 2021 with Covid restrictions still in place. The issue is youth competitors, with minimal adult supervision. Where does the risk lie and how does our insurance deal with these risks? These risks should be considered and documented in WS's risk register, and where necessary WS needs to consider appropriate risk mitigants.

b) Tokyo 2020

An operational update of the current situation was given to the Board.

c) Paris 2024

The Board were informed of the current news related to the Olympic Games scheduled 2024 in Paris.

d) Race Official Appointments

Interim EAWP

Decision - The Board agreed to:

1. Appoint an Interim EAWP for the remaining period prior to the presentation of submissions which have been delayed until the November 2021 Annual Conference
2. Vice-President Tomasz Chamera recommended to appoint Interim EAWP consisting of EAWP Working Party members. Following previous Board approval, it's main activities will be implementing recommendation and working on submission to be presented to Annual Meeting. Following Board's approval in principle the paper will be presented in the following weeks (VP responsible Tomasz Chamera).
3. reference the recommendations from the EAWP review paper submitted to the March Board meeting when appointing an interim group, composing it in advance to fulfil current and future needs with the following personnel:
 - Barry Johnson – meets current 25.8.2 and has prior experience on WP/is an International Measurer
 - Ana Sanchez del Campo – meets current 25.8.2 and has prior experience on WP/is an International Judge
 - Jo Aleh or Yann Rocherieux – meets current 25.8.2 as VP - also meets suggested submission recommendation on athlete representation/independence
 - 1x other would need to be appointed to meet the current regulations (current or former experienced race official) – Executive Office are reviewing suitable RO's who are outside of the consultation groups
 - WS Staff Manager responsible for WS Race Officials (non-voting) Megan Griggs meets current 25.8.2

The Hague & Paris 2024

Decision - The Board agreed to:

1. appoint Technical Delegates for both The Hague 2023 and Paris 2024 events at the July Board meeting in line with WS regulations for the Olympic Sailing Competition as well as for advance planning for The Hague 2023
2. instruct the process commence for appointment of the Chief/Chair teams for both The Hague 2023 and Paris 2024 and of which is to be finalised at the September 2021 Board meeting for consistency and planning of both events following the disruptions created by COVID-19
 - appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair of the International Jury at the September 2021 Board meeting as per regulation 23.3.1
 - instruct the process commence for appointment of the Principal and Deputy Principal Race Officer and the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Technical Committee for final approval at the 2021 September Board meeting
3. ensure that wherever possible that there is full gender equity across the appointments and representative geographic spread of technical roles and the implementation of pathways, criteria and a suitable selection process by the Event Appointments Working Party (EAWP), Race Officials Committee (ROC) and Classes. This needs to be within timeline to ensure the teams are fully represented and capable
4. decide on the selection events for officials
5. decide on the timeline for appointments for The Hague 2023 and Paris 2024 competitions

e) Parasailing – Update

The Board noted an update on the ongoing actions and planning related to the reinstatement of sailing at the 2028 Paralympic Games in Los Angeles.

4. Finance

a) Management Accounts – April 2021

An overview of the Management Accounts was provided to the Board

b) 2020 Statutory Annual Accounts

An overview of the 2020 Statutory Annual Accounts was provided to the Board. The auditors had highlighted the importance of the IOC money to our finances and our “going concern” statement. While all indications were that the Olympics would go ahead, the auditors sought additional assurance. It was decided to hold off on signing the statutory accounts for a short period until the board was either able to satisfy the auditors with a letter from the IOC confirming funds, or that the Games were in fact held.

It was noted with approval that the Statutory accounts were being presented at the mid-year meeting rather than at the November Conference.

c) Audit Committee Report

The Chairman of the WS Audit Committee presented the annual committee report to the Board.

d) MNA Debtors List

The Board received the list of aged debtors.

Decision – It was agreed that a final warning letter, prior to suspension, would be sent to all MNA's post the Mid-Year Council meeting.

5. Legal & Governance

a) Judicial Board Applications – Recommendations

Decision – The Board approved recommending that Council appoint the following individuals to the Judicial Board:

1. Hon. Ruth Miller (as Chair)
2. Alberto Predieri (as Vice Chair)
3. Prof. Bruce Collins QC
4. Mark Yeadon
5. Dr. Anne Jakob
6. Dr. David Sharpe QC SC
7. Carol Roberts

6. Technical & Offshore

a) Equipment Committee Mid-Year Meetings – Update

The WS Director of Technical & Offshore gave a summary of the Equipment Committee meetings that took place and the subsequent recommendations that will be put to Council

b) International Regulations Commission Appointment

Decision – The Board approved the appointment of Sally Garrett (NZL) as member to the International Regulations Commission

c) IHC – Issuing of Stickers

Decision – The Board agreed that:

1. World Sailing extends the license of the currently certified lofts and IHC Authorising Authorities until 2022, allowing to issue IHC stickers (subject to payment) to the authorised parties.
2. The Office reviews the IHC programme ahead of the Annual Conference in consultation with the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee to re-engage Classes, MNAs and lofts and schedule an audit plan and calendar for implementation throughout 2022.

d) 2020 Plaque Fee Income Report

The Board noted the income report provided.

e) Safety Panel – Update (joint with Events)

The Board noted the paper highlighting the next steps required, no objections were received.

There being no other business, the CEO closed the meeting.

World Sailing Board Minutes

