World Sailing Board Minutes

The World Sailing Board met by conference call on Thursday 22 July 2021 between 09:00 – 12:00 UTC.

Present	**In Attendance**
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. Cory Sertl – Vice President 8. Marcus Spillane – Vice President	1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer 2. Raksha Patel – Director of Finance & Business Operations 3. Alex Brooks – Interim Director of Legal & Governance 4. Nelia Smith – Executive Assistant

1. Opening of the Meeting

a) Presidents' Opening Remarks

Attendees were welcomed by the President. He went on to commend the IOC & Tokyo2020 for making the Games happen during such a difficult time and reiterated that it is the responsibility of everyone representing World Sailing in Japan to work closely and collaboratively with the IOC, Tokyo2020 and the Japanese Sailing Federation to ensure the overall success of the Games. The President confirmed that the time spent with the IOC over the past 3 days in Tokyo, along with the CEO, has been positive and productive. The IOC President, Thomas Bach, will visit the sailing venue in Enoshima on 3 August. He further echoed the excitement of many watching the announcement of Brisbane being awarded the 2032 hosting rights for the Olympic Games, a congratulatory letter was sent to the President of the Australian Olympic Committee. From a commercial perspective he noted that the Board sub-group has met twice and is making good progress with specific mention to the engagement with the Ningbo Sports Bureau. In relation to the subject of Governance reform, he confirmed that the Board working party will meet imminently as there is now a need to proceed with the draft proposal that was received from VP Philip Baum. A detailed update and next steps will be deliberated in the relevant section of the meeting agenda. He concluded by wishing everyone a attending the Games in Tokyo a safe and successful event.

b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies was received from VP Yann Rocherieux.
No additional interests were declared.

c) Approval of previous minutes

Minutes of the meeting on 12 May 2021 was approved to be published.
As referred to in the approved minutes, a reminder was made for the Covid-19 risks relevant to the Youth World Championships to be recorded in the risk register.

d) Matters arising

Governance Reform

The Board received an update on the proposed next steps and immediate actions required, in line with documentation circulated prior to the meeting.

Decision: In light of the upcoming AGM submissions deadline and a desire to demonstrate the highest level of collaboration, the proposed timeline and approach as outlined in the proposal was unanimously accepted. The working party responsible is being led by VP Philip Baum supported by VP's Ozlem Akdurak, Sarah Kenny, Tomasz Chamera & Cory Sertl. In addition, the CEO will also offer support. Furthermore, the collection of historic governance documents will be made available on AdminControl for reference and information purposes.

2. Executive Office

a) Management Report

The Board received a detailed update from the CEO in the form of the Management report.

b) Board Charter

A final draft for approval was presented to the Board, with proposed amendments from the President.

Decision – The Board agreed to accept the presented version as final, pending the finalisation of 3 minor elements as outlined in the paper and discussed during the meeting. The CEO confirmed that these updates will be done as a matter of urgency, prior to the conclusion of the Games.

c) Annual Conference/AGM

Following the circulation and subsequent results of a survey, a clear concern related to travel was identified amongst the relevant stakeholders. The options for consideration that was circulated to the Board was again discussed after the CEO provided an update on his most recent engagements with the Abu Dhabi Sports Council.

Decision – The Board agreed that is unlikely that a suitable number of delegates will travel to justify an in-person meeting. Pending clarification and feedback to the Board on certain details related to constitutional requirements and future scheduling, it is accepted that a scaled down virtual session will be held in November 2021 with an in-person option planned for Q1 2022.

3. Commercial

a) Sponsorship Update

The Board received an update on the commercial figures and planned pipeline for the remainder of 2021.

b) China Opportunities

The Board noted a joint update from the CEO and Director of Finance. In order to proceed swiftly, the immediate next steps required are:

1. Receiving the completed questionnaires from potential partners

2. WS & Ningbo working parties to meet and establish the rights delivery requirements in exchange for funding offered
3. Establish if a local agent payment system is a possible substitute for local office setup

4. Events

a) Tokyo 2020 Update

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

b) 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.

5. Legal & Finance

a) Legal Report

The CEO provided an overview of the current recruitment status for the Director of Legal and Governance. Furthermore, the Board noted a summary paper of all the active legal cases.

b) Management Accounts – June 2021

An overview of the Management Accounts was provided to the Board.
Clarification with regards to the impact on cashflow from budgeted sponsorship income reflected in the forecast versus secured income was requested.

c) WS Investment Trust Fund – June 2021 Valuation Report

The Board noted an update given by the Director of Finance.

d) Office Lease - Update

An overview was provided to the Board on the current sublet offer being considered and subsequent details related to long-term risk.

6. AOB

a) Offshore World Championships

It was confirmed that the contract has been finalised and will be shared with the event organisers imminently.

b) Committee Meetings & Minutes

A reques is noted to provide feedback on the schedule and availability of committee meetings and subsequent minutes

c) Year Book

A request is noted on the status and distribution of the annual WS Yearbook

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