

The World Sailing Board met by conference call between 12:00 to 13:25 BST on Wednesday 9 September 2020



Present:

Kim Andersen - President
Torben Grael – Vice President
Gary Jobson – Vice President
Quanhai Li – Vice President
W Scott Perry – Vice President
Yann Rocherieux – Chairman, Athletes' Commission
David Graham – Chief Executive Officer

In Attendance:

Alastair Fox – Director of Events
Kendall Harris – Director of Legal & Governance
Jaime Navarro – Director of Technical
Jon Napier – Governance & Rules Consultant
Scott Over – Commercial Director
Raksha Patel – Finance Director

Apologies:

Jan Dawson – Vice President
Ana Sanchez – Vice President
Nadine Stegenwalner – Vice President

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) President's Opening Remarks

The President opened the meeting and noted the Chief Executive Officer had been settling in well to his new role. The President welcomed the updated management and financial reporting which had been submitted to the Board.

Concerning the Town Hall meetings, the President confirmed that these had been started on an extraordinary basis during the pandemic but the value in them in communicating with the Members meant they should remain as an important communications tool.

The President drew the Board's attention to the recent statements by the Chairman of the IOC Co-ordination Commission concerning Tokyo 2020.

Finally, the President welcomed the easing of restrictions which were enabling competitive racing to resume.

(b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Ana Sanchez and Nadine Stegenwalner.

The Board noted the Register of Interests.

(c) Minutes of the Board meeting of 7 June 2020

The Board noted the approved minute of its meeting held 21 August 2020.

The Board noted the draft minutes of its meeting of 27 July 2020.

Decision

The minutes were approved.

(d) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Safety Panel

The Panel did not meet in August due to no incidents being reported. The Panel will next meet in September.

3. CEO and Management Report

The Board received a report from the Chief Executive Officer and Management Team.

The Chief Executive Officer updated the Board on the recent strategy day held with the Senior Management Team. The SMT discussed World Sailing's position as an international federation and a co-ordinated strategy to promote World Sailing to a Group C international federation. Concerning finances, the SMT have held an in-depth review of budgets and cashflows and confirmed World Sailing was still operating within the approved financial plan for this year.

The SMT reviewed also a new global promotion plan for World Sailing, an improved stakeholder communications plan – particularly for MNAs – and improving on our communications with World Sailing's commercial partners and ensuring their wishes and needs are being met.

The Board was informed that progress with securing a new clothing supplier were paused over the pandemic due to the preferred supplier's staff being on furlough. Negotiations have now resumed and an updated contract with now with the supplier's board for approval.

The Board received an update on funding secured by the World Sailing Trust.

4. Legal & Governance

(a) Annual Conference Update

The Board received a report from the Executive Office concerning the plans for the Annual Conference. The draft schedule of meetings will be prepared by 11 September, with the aim to publish the final schedule by 18 September.

The Executive Office is currently reviewing a proposed voting system for Council and the General Assembly and will confirm the arrangements shortly.

The Board will receive a proposal concerning the arrangements for Council by 11 September for onward recommendation to Council.

(b) Submissions

i) 2020 Submissions

The Board received a summary of the submissions received for Council.

ii) Board Submissions

The Board received draft submissions to be made on behalf of the Board.

Decision

The Board approved the submissions.

iii) Late Submissions

The Board noted that one late submission had been received and permission had been refused by a Vice President under Regulation 15.7.

5. Events

(a) Olympic Games – Tokyo 2020, Paris 2024

The Board received a report from the Director of Events.

World Sailing has been assured that no changes to the field of play, but there will be reductions to the level of sports presentation, branding, spectator facilities and Olympic Family services. A positive meeting has been held with the IOC and OBS concerning the provision of tracking services for the Games. In 2021, World Sailing continues to work with JSAF to establish a viable World Cup event in Enoshima in summer next year.

For Paris 2024, a productive meeting has been held with the IOC and OBS to review the proposed sailing programme. Further work is now being undertaken on a proposed competition schedule to maximise medal race coverage and to avoid clashes with other sports. Venue management design is also being reviewed with the Executive Office. Detailed planning is also being undertaken on the offshore broadcast production plans.

(b) Youth Sailing World Championships and Sailing World Championships

The Board received an update on municipal discussions within The Hague and an impending meeting between the City of the Hague and the organizing authorities. The Director of Events will update the Olympic Classes at a meeting this week.

(c) Regulation 23 Update

The Board received an update from the Directors of Events and Technical & Offshore. A joint working party of the Equipment and Events Committees is reviewing the process, but the Working Party is clear that no submissions need to be made this year.

The Working Party is now reviewing the proposed process and procedures to be used for decisions of Los Angeles 2028.

The Working Party will work with the Legal Department to ensure the procedures are compliant with the approved equipment review procedures and Olympic Equipment Policy.

A report will be made to the Equipment and Events Committees in May 2021 on how to proceed.

(d) Special Events Update

The Board received a report from the Director of Events on the extension of the Tripartite Agreement between World Sailing, the IKA, and the GKA.

The Director of Events updated the Board on Special Event negotiations with Foiling Week and will revert to the Board when a proposal is ready to be considered.

6. Any Other Business

(a) Ethics Commission

The President declared an interest in this item.

The Board considered the current vacancies on the Ethics Commission

Decision

The Board recommends to Council that Ashley Tobin (USA), Adrienne Greenwood (NZL), Peter Van de Bossche (BEL), Lorenz Walch (GER) and Abdulkarim Derouiche (TUN) be appointed as members of the Ethics Commission.

The Board recommends to Council that Dieter Neupert (SUI) be appointed Chairman of the Commission.

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