

The Coaches Commission met at 09:00 – 13:00 UTC on 25 October 2021 electronically via Bluejeans.

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Present:

Nadine Stegenwalner (GER) Chair	Victor Kovalenko (AUS)
Jo Aleh (NZL) Athletes' Commission	Walter Boddener (BRA)
Yann Rocherieux (Vice President)	Aiko Saito (JPN)

In attendance:

Alastair Fox (Director of Events)	Pedro Rodrigues (Events Manager)
Michael Downing (Olympic Manager)	Madeleine Dunn (Sports Manager)
Matthew Wheaton (Competitions Manager)	Rob Holden (Training Delivery Manager)

Apologies:

Michele Marchesini (ITA)	Linda Toumi (TUN)
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1. Opening of the Meeting

- 1.1 The Coaches Commission received an update and a welcome from the chair.

2. Minutes

- 2.1 The Commission noted the minutes from the meeting on 22 October 2020. The minutes can be downloaded at www.sailing.org/meetings.
- 2.2 Matters arising have been noted within Any Other Business.

3. Update from the Board

- 3.1 The Commission noted the Board minutes from their meetings since last Coaches Commission meeting.
- 3.2 The Commission received an update from its Vice President, commenting on Governance review, income received from the IOC and noted that the Board will refer directly to this Commission for its opinions on areas such as electronics, safety, coach boats numbers and sustainability.

4. Safety

- 4.1 The Commission received an update on the work of the WS Safety Panel from the Director of Events.
- 4.2 It was agreed that although Tokyo 2020 was well prepared. Sailing was fortunate not to have experienced extreme heat, medical emergency or typhoon during the Games period and that practices developed must be carried forward to Paris 2024, especially with the inclusion of more foiling equipment.
- 4.3 An update from the Medical Commission included a proposed 'Safety Commission' and a highlighted a survey regarding '*characteristics of injuries in new Olympic sailing class, iQFOiL*'. The Commission supports the creation of a 'Safety Commission'.

5. Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

- 5.1 The Commission received a report from the Olympic Manager on the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.
It was noted that:
- The Games were successfully delivered in unique and challenging circumstances.
 - There being some outstanding sport decisions to address before Paris 2024.
 - The use of Electronics still has challenges and requires a clear policy to be written and approved by Council.
- 5.2 The Commission were in agreement with the 10 Recommendations outlined in the Technical Delegates' report, in particular 1, 2, 3, 6 and 8; Adding that the World Cup and Test Events provided valuable experience for all stakeholders and must be replicated ahead of Paris.
- 5.3 The Commission gave particular thanks to JSAF, Aiko Saito and Michael Downing their dedication and assistance ahead of the Games, which in turn promoted teamwork and fair play between Team Leaders and NOCs.

6. Paris 2024 Olympic Games

- 6.1 The Commission received a progress report on the Paris 2024 Olympic Games from Olympic Manager.
It was noted that:
- There are concerns about the limited progress from Paris 2024 with the venue reconstruction behind schedule and with no sailing staff appointed yet.
 - Test Events are not only vital for the sailors and Race Committee to learn but also the OCOG to learn about the wider operations such as logistics, shipping, medical, berthing, fuelling, boat parks, launching etc.

Recommendation:

A Test Event shall be held in Marseille in the summer of 2022 and 2023 as close to Games period as possible.

Recommendation:

The FOP is fairly and affordably available for all NOCs for training during the summer months.

Action:

- The Commission and WS Staff to report to all MNAs/Team Leaders with outcomes of the WS Annual Conference and to highlight key areas of concern, with the hope that pressure can be applied to NOCs.

6.2 The Commission reviewed the Format WP recommendations and supported the Format WP report in general.

It was noted:

- While the Commission were in agreement that a reduction to 2 reserve days was sensible, it was preferred that 1 additional race could be applied to either the first or second day of racing should conditions be favourable.
- It was also advised that a Race Management Policy be added with reference to 'favourable' conditions for fair competition.

6.3 The Commission commended the work of the Quota and Qualification WP and their recommendations for Paris 2024. The Commission were in support of Scenario 4 due to competition practicalities for Paris, however expressed desire for Scenario 5 ahead of LA2028.

7. Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games

7.1 The Commission reviewed the Events Review WP recommendations and were in agreement with the report and supported their progress, emphasising that there was no desire for change at this time.

8. 2021-2028 Event Strategy

8.1 The Commission received a verbal update on the implementation of the 2021-2028 Event Strategy and the Hague Sailing World Championships/ Test Event from the Olympic Manager and Competitions Manager.

8.2 The Commission reviewed the Regulation 23 Working Party recommendations and were in support of their work.

It was noted that:

- The Commission wished to be engaged with the WP, particularly on topics that would have implications not only at Olympic level, but also the wider profile of Sailing in the World of Sport.
- Considerations such as the selection of new equipment incur costs and an increase of foiling and kiteboarding equipment adds safety issues, particularly at multi-class regattas.
- There were further sustainability and environmental considerations with the increased reliance of support vessels.

9. Youth Events

9.1 The Events Manager delivered an update ahead of the 2021 Youth Sailing World Championships in Oman as well as headlines for the 2022 Championships in The Hague.

9.2 It was noted that the introduction of foiling and kite events at a youth level would require careful consideration from the Medical Commission with additional safety training for Coaches.

10. Policies at World Sailing Events and Olympic Games

10.1 The Commission discussed the use of support vessels, support team electronics and weather data systems together at length.

It was noted that:

- Prohibiting support team electronics whilst fair is most inefficient as coaches and teams have already invested in systems. Most commercially available weather data systems are cheaper than a smart phone.
- If practical, limiting the ability of support vessels to receive external transmissions would be useful to maintain fairness (such as Aarhus 2018 STR) but that can be overcome by cooperating with other support vessels.
- The number of support vessels is more of an advantage than any commercially available weather data system.
- The performance gain from knowing the latest readings from the race area 5 minutes before a race start were almost nil as the sailors already had weather forecasts and their personal observations added more value. Further as the race lengths in Olympic Events are so short, the measurable wind and current information covered the entire race duration reducing the value of a forecast update.
- Race Officials, broadcasters, organisers, coaches and athletes all desire the same weather information thus providing a centralised weather data system would enable fair access for all mitigating the disadvantage low budget teams and individual sailors had.

Action:

The Commission will meet in the coming months and take advice from coaches and team leaders to develop its priority objectives for a support team electronics policy ahead of the 2022 Mid Year Meeting.

Action:

The Commission will meet in the coming months and take advice from coaches and team leaders to define what weather information should be provided and how ahead of the 2022 Mid Year Meeting.

- 10.2 The Commission noted the Sustainability Agenda 2030 targets, particularly the number of permitted support vessels and the use of non-combustion engines and agreed to review the allocation policy for the 2023 Sailing World Championships and 2024 Olympic Games based on the sustainability policy and venue constraints.

Action:

The Commission requested the World Sailing Executive Office provide the details of the support vessels venue constraints for the 2023 Sailing World Championships and 2024 Olympic Games.

Action:

The Commission will meet in the coming months to modify the 2018 SWC support vessel allocation policy to be suitable for the 2023 SWC ahead of the 2022 Mid Year Meeting.

Action:

The Commission will meet in the coming months to develop a support vessel allocation proposal to be suitable for the 2024 Olympic Games and related test events ahead of the 2022 Annual Conference.

- 10.3 The Commission agreed the implementation of digital Officiating is a priority for World Sailing and Olympic events following its successful use at Tokyo 2020. The Commission requested some of its members be part of the reference group to provide guidance to the Race Officials Committee and the World Sailing Executive Office on the wide spread implementation of Digital Officiating to reduce the impact of premature starting on the competition schedule and increase the consistent application of the RRS.

Action:

The Commission will meet in the coming months and take advice from coaches and team leaders to develop its priority objectives from the digital official policy ahead of the 2022 Mid Year Meeting.

11. Any Other Business

- 11.1 As minuted at the previous Annual Conference, the Commission wished to add the term 'Team Leaders' to the Commission title to accurately reflect the work and input of the Commission.

Recommendation:

The Board propose a submission to change the Commission's name

- 11.2 The Commission noted there are a considerable number of items it is working on at the moment and the workload on the individual members is quite high. Therefore the Commission intends to invite additional coaches and team leaders to assist the Commission with its work on particularly topics.
- 11.3 The WS Training and Delivery Manager requested input towards a series of educational videos for Coaches, with particular reference to Nutrition, Fitness, Injury, Wellbeing and Sport Psychology. The Commission was updated on other areas of mutual interest and it was agreed to continue this dialogue offline.
- 11.4 The WS Sport Manager briefly outlined ongoing work of interest within the Federation relating to Safety, Covid Management at Events, WADA updates, Athlete 365, Nutrition, Injury prevention, Safeguarding and a Mental Health programme.
- 11.5 With the meeting already running over by 1 hour and further debate on numerous items required, it was proposed that in future, two 3 hour meetings be held to allow more in-depth debate.

Recommendation:

The Commission meet for 2 half day sessions at the mid year and annual conferences. Further meetings to be held online or at events as needed.