

## **Development and Regions Committee Report of the Chair, 26 October 2021**

As known to all, the Development & Regions Committee work is based on the Board approved World Sailing Development Plan and with a mandate focusing on six areas - Coach Development, Sailor Development, Women in Sailing, Leadership Development, Para World Sailing Development, and Sustainability. These are the areas on which we aimed activities for in 2021.

### **Meetings**

Communication is the essence to all relationships, so the Development and Regions Committee right after its foundation on February 2021, began to meet monthly, except for July and August when the calendar was packed with Olympics and other events. The monthly meetings were often joined by the World Sailing President, Vice President's and the CEO to discuss the short-, mid- and long-term projects of the committee. The minutes of these meetings were sent to the committee members and also shared with President, Vice Presidents and CEO.

The Chair, Vice Chair, Training Delivery Manager and Training and Development Executive met every month, sometimes joined by the Vice Presidents, in addition to the general committee meetings.

From March onwards, each month the office sent a summary of the Training and Development activities they had completed.

### **Working Parties**

In order to keep the committee united and operating for its common goals, some working parties have been founded, included below are their areas of focus and they are chaired by the following members:

- Inspiration & Participation (Grassroots, Diversity and Inclusion, Getting people into the sport) chaired by Maciej Szafran
- Leadership (MNA Development, Sharing Best Practise, Portals, Mentor programs, scholarship etc.) chaired by Alberto Dana
- Pathways (Coach Development, Sailor Development, retention in the sport, Officials) chaired by Samuel Goncalves
- Continental Collaboration (Representatives from each continent for collaboration) chaired by David Covo
- Technology (e-sailing, online platforms/portals, webinars, e-learning) chaired by Pavel Sobolev

By September, we had one more addition which is the Joint WP with Youth Events Sub Committee focusing on the development of the youth through events. In September we also had one more member join our committee and in October we welcomed the Athletes Commission members to the committee and working parties. These working parties began to meet online via different means and came up with some projects which will be enclosed in more detail by the working party chairs.

## **Webinar and Panels – In Collaboration with EUROSAF**

As the pandemic brought us the possibility to connect more online, we decided in collaboration with EUROSAF to organize webinars approximately on monthly basis beginning the first one on the 24th of February to discuss the following major topics of the sailing world:

- An Introduction to World Sailing Programs
- Women in Sailing
- Retaining Sailors in the Sport
- Pathways for Sailors in the Sport

All have been successfully delivered by WS Training Delivery Manager supported by the Training & Development Executive, with a quite diverse attendee list not only from Europe but from all parts of the world.

The interest to the webinars brought out the idea of holding panels on two major issues: event organization and women in sailing. Therefore, we organized four webinars, hosted by the Chair of the Development & Regions Committee, three again in collaboration with EUROSAF, the first one being the 'Successful Event Organization Panel' held on the 12th of May. We have been honoured to host this first panel with the following distinguished names:

- Tomasz Chamera, World Sailing Vice-president (Volvo Gdynia Days)
- Ferran Muniesa, Executive Director of C.N. S'Arenal (Trofeo Princesa Sofia)
- Edward Russo, Treasurer of FFVoile (Semaine Olympique Française)
- Riccardo Simoneschi, Organizer of Marina Militare Nastra Rosa Tour (EUROSAF Mixed Offshore European Championship)

The second panel which was a part of the World Sailing's Steering the Course initiative, had the chance to value the 'Inspiring Women in Sailing' of the northern hemisphere on the 26th of May, who were namely:

- Mona Küppers, German Sailing Federation President
- Alessandra Sensini, 4 Time Olympic Medallist
- Emilia Tsoulfa, Olympic Gold Medallist and member of Greek Tokyo2020 Sailing team
- Maria Torrijo Moll, IRO, IJ, IU & Deputy PRO of Tokyo 2020
- Jena Mai Hansen, Olympic Bronze Medallist and and Coach of the Danish Sailing Federation and the Olympic team.

When we reached the autumn, on the 13th of September, we delivered the second part of the Successful Event Organization Panel with the honourable names of

- Frans Hin, Event Director of Allianz Regatta (Medemblik)
- Dirk Ramhorst, Organising Director of Kiel Week
- Nuno Reis, CEO and founder of Vilamoura Sailing

The panel series concluded for this year with the second Inspirational Women in Sailing Panel as part of Steering the Course for the southern hemisphere. with the following respected names on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October:

- Sarah Kenny, World Sailing Vice-president
- Raema von Reiche, President of Samoan Sailing Federation
- Megan Kensington, IRO, ITO of Tokyo 2020
- Elfie Holden, Instructor

All of the presentations and videos from the webinar and panels have been shared with the committee members and the attendees worldwide and the panels could even be observed live on the World Sailing YouTube channel.

### **Emerging Nations Program**

December 2020 saw the launch of the SAP Virtual Training Group, open to all Emerging Nations to apply for 3 male and 3 female youth ILCA 6 sailors, alongside 1 male and 1 female coach.

Perhaps the most lucrative program of Development & Regions Committee has been the ENP. As you all know from previous reports, 8 attendees of the program have participated at Tokyo2020.

The 'Emerging Nations' redefinition has been finalized and shared with the MNA's on the 30th of April which enables some more countries to apply.

After the 2020 Youth World Championships unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, 2021 sees the return of the event to Muscat, Oman. The Youth Emerging Nations Performance Clinic will run prior to the event with sailors being selected from their participation in the virtual program.

### **Technical Courses for Coaches and Resources**

Finally, this summer we were able to run a technical course for coaches again. Two courses were successfully run, one in Iceland and one in St Vincent and the Grenadines.

All Level 1 and Level 2 resources have been updated and are ready for translation while we are gratified to inform you that the Vice Chair of Development & Regions Committee is personally translating them into Spanish.

Please apply to us regarding the resources till the new website which will have excess info on the matter will be finalized.

### **IOC IF Development Fund**

This recurring fund has now a new project which is summarized below:

**Project Name:** World Sailing Continual Professional Development for Coaches

**Project Description:** A series of coaching CPD videos, accessible to all coaches worldwide to further their knowledge in high performance coaching

In the following year, we will begin to see the results of the project.

**Para Sailing Development Programs**

The office provided support for the recent Para Sailing Development Program in Palermo, Italy.

**Thank You**

All of the above has been possible due to implausible support of President Li, our committees Vice Presidents Özlem Akdurak and Cory Sertl and World Sailing CEO David Graham. A huge amount of work has been put in by Training Delivery Manager Rob Holden and Training and Development Executive Catherine Duncan. At all projects the Chairs and members of the Working Parties who are or not members of the Development & Regions Committee have willingly contributed their outmost. Last but not the least, my Vice Chair Irina Perez have been my pillar in all the accomplishments. A major thank you goes to all the names mentioned!

We have three full years ahead of us to advance in our work for the development of sailing in all regions of the world and looking forward to it.

**Pınar Coşkuner Genç**

**Chair of Development and Regions Committee**