

INTERPRETATION 001-16

REQUEST FROM THE BULGARIAN SAILING FEDERATION, POLISH YACHTING ASSOCIATION & SEYCHELLES YACHTING ASSOCIATION

Question 1

Does Regulation 23.1.6 prevent the World Sailing Board and/or World Sailing staff to carry on any discussion with the IOC about a possible change in events/equipment for Tokyo 2020?

Answer 1

No. The Regulation specifies how Council considers, and if it considers it appropriate, approves a change. Neither the Board nor the World Sailing staff have authority to change the Regulations; however it does not prevent discussions which lead to a proposal being made.

Question 2

Is a vote to open one or more than one or all Olympic Events and/or Equipment for a review needed in accordance with the World Sailing Regulations in order to enable World Sailing Board and/or World Sailing staff to carry on any discussion with the IOC about a possible change in events/equipment for Tokyo 2020?

Answer 2

No. See Answer 1.

Question 3

Is a vote to open for a review one specific Olympic Events and/or Equipment in compliance with Regulation 23.1.6?

Answer 3

Yes, provided that the specific one Event and/or Equipment is specified in the 75% majority vote.

Question 4

Is a vote to open for a review more than one specific Olympic Events and/or Equipment in compliance with Regulation 23.1.6?

Answer 4

Yes, more than one Events and/or Equipment can be reviewed provided that the specific Events and/or Equipment are specified in the 75% majority vote. For example, it is not permitted to have a general review of “any three Events” or “any two Equipment” as these are not specific.

Question 5

Is a vote to open for a review all specific Olympic Events and/or Equipment in compliance with Regulation 23.1.6?

Answer 5

Yes, in this case all ten Events and/or Equipment have been specified for review.

Question 6

Does a proposal to change an Olympic Event and/or Equipment need to specify exactly the Olympic Event and/or Equipment to be changed?

Answer 6

Yes. The currently selected list of Events and/or Equipment is contained in Regulation 23.1.4. Regulation 15.5.2(c) requires any proposals or submissions to change the Regulations to set out the exact text to be inserted and/or deleted. Therefore, any proposal or submission to change a specific Event and/or Equipment in the list must specify the exact changes to the text in Regulation 23.1.4.

Question 7

What circumstances could be defined as “exceptional circumstances”?

Answer 7

The phrase “exceptional circumstances” is a policy of Council as passed in Section 7, Proposal 1 of Submission 073-13. The phrase “exceptional circumstances” does not

appear in the Regulation itself (which was adopted by Proposal 2 of the same Submission). Therefore the phrase is a policy of Council and not a Regulation.

The Committee does not interpret the policy decisions of Council – only the Regulations. It is for Council itself to decide what constitutes exceptional circumstances.

Question 8

In a vote where at least 75% of the votes cast are needed to be in favour in order to change a specific Olympic Event and/or Equipment how many abstentions will be counted – i.e. if there are 40 votes cast and 7 Council members abstain how many votes will be needed to achieve 75% of the votes cast.

Answer 8

75% of the votes are not needed to change a specific Olympic Event and/or Equipment. A 75% majority vote is first required in order to open up a specific Event and/or Equipment for change (allowing the possibility for it to be changed). If this vote is passed, then a further simple majority vote (50% + 1) is required to change the specific Event and/or Equipment to another option.

Abstentions are never included in the calculation of voting majorities. The majority is calculated on the basis of the number of votes cast for or against. In the example given, there are 40 voting members present and 7 abstain so there are 33 votes remaining. 75% of 33 is 24.75, which means 25 votes is a 75% majority.

**Constitution Committee
World Sailing**

9 June 2016