

1. Introduction to the Scheme

A World Sailing's approved series production board is a board that has been produced in accordance with World Sailing's Board registration scheme. The scheme requires manufacturers to produce a minimum series of identical boards of each model registered. Approved series production boards are identified by the use of a World Sailing logo in their production.

The international Windsurfing Classes reported in **table 1** require the boards to be from an approved series production in order to be eligible for racing in their classes. The scheme is managed by World Sailing which charges a fee for each registration. The number of board models registered in the last few years are reported below:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Funboard & Youth Funboard	57	61	75	48	48
Formula	3	0	10	11	4
Raceboard	4	2	2	1	1

Table 1. Number of models registered from 2017.

2. Need to review the Scheme

The office has conducted an initial review of the scheme and has noted improvements that can be achieved in the short term and necessary changes to the scheme to ensure its purpose as intended in the class rules and class agreements.

The report below notes some risks that have been identified and some proposed short-term and long-term actions.

3. Risks identified

1. Building specifications:
 - Compliance with the requirement to produce identical items, built to the same building specifications, is not being controlled. Equipment Inspections at events are in most cases limited to checking that the boards are from a registered model listed as eligible to compete.
 - World Sailing is not actively auditing manufacturers.
 - The level of detail regarding the required building specifications is not defined. The specifications requested to the brands is in some cases challenged by the manufacturers or not made available.
2. Last-minute registration before Events:
 - The Executive Office is urged to wave requirements close to event dates, in some cases by the Classes itself.
3. Models with same specification but different graphic design

- Brands are currently allowed to register models free of charge, however the registration requires a technical review to verify that the registered model is the same and administrative work. (about 50% less than normal application process).
 - The process to register these models is not included in the scheme documentation.
4. WS logo
- The use of WS's logo is being applied prior to receiving approval.
 - It has been noted that some brands/manufacturers are not using the correct WS logo.

4. Modification to the scheme (Proposal)

Short Term:

1. Change to an online based registration form. Alternatively use a fillable pdf form.
2. Need to update the Formula Class Rules and include restrictions of 60 days ahead of WC, this is presented as a requirement in the registration documents but not included in the class rules.
3. Include Logo Guidelines to the documents and review the requirements to use the correct logo.
4. Implement the changes to the fee for Formula class and for the Funboard class as approved by WS's Board following the request from the Class.
5. Include in the instruction how to deal with "free of charge" models (different graphic designs only)
6. Remove "Stiffness test" from the form as its not used, validated or verified.

Long Term:

1. Update the registration process to:
 - require builders/brands to seek approval to apply WS logo before starting production.
 - Include defined requirements for building specifications identifying the level of technical details and format in which to be presented.
 - Include a two phase registration system:
 1. "Pre-registration": Brands/Builders share with WS board outline and laminate specification before starting production.
 2. "Final-registration": Form 1a, Form 1b, Form II and other requirements set in the WS Instruction need to be sent to WS before deadlines set in the Class Rules.
 - Include a fee to register models with the same specification but different graphic design. (proposed fee proportional to the administrative work related to the registration = 50% reduction).
 - To reference in the list of registered models when a board is of the same building specification as a model already registered.

5. Next steps

The Executive Office will liaise with the affected Classes and the relevant Committees to implement the presented short-term actions and review the scheme with the following objectives:

1. Address the identified risks
 2. Consider extending the “World Sailing’s approved series production board” to a “World Sailing’s approved series production equipment scheme” allowing to introduce it to other classes that require equipment to be from a registered series.
 3. Define the role and responsibilities of the class, World Sailing and the brands and manufacturers.
 4. Review the need to audit and monitor compliance with reported requirements.
- ➔ Proposed changes to the scheme will be presented for approval at the 2022 Mid-year meeting.