



The Equipment Committee met from 11:00 – 14:00 UTC

on Monday 25 and Wednesday 27 October 2021 online via BlueJeans.

World Sailing

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Present:

Jurgen Cluytmans (BEL) - Chairman
Cédric Fraboulet (FRA) – Vice Chair
Dina Kowalyszyn (USA)
Aileen Loo (SGP)
Juan I. Sienra (BRA)
Matteo Plazzi (ITA)
Roman Hagara (AUT)
Saskia Clark (GBR)
Shevaun Bruland (AUS)
Dimitris Dimou (GRE) – ERSC rep
Sally Honey (USA) – SRSC rep
Matt Allen (AUS) – OOC rep
Eric Faust (USA) – WSCC rep
Helmut Czasny (AUT) – RRC rep
Alfred Pelinka (AUT) - PWSC rep
Jo Aleh (NZL)&Maayan Davidovich (ISR) – athlete rep

In attendance:

Yann Rocherieux (VP)
David Graham (CEO)
Francesco Gulizzi (Technical Specialist)
Pilar Lopez (WS Classes Executive)
Simon Forbes (Offshore Manager)
Jaime Navarro (Director of Technical and Offshore)
John Derbyshire (Events Committee Chair)

Apologies:

Pablo Masseroni (ARG)

1. Opening of the Meeting

- 1.1 Jurgen Cluytmans welcomed Committee members, invited speakers and observers to the virtual meeting.
The Committee noted the resignation of Heidi Burger due to commitments in her professional career.
- 1.2 Declaration of Conflicts of Interests
Jaime Navarro noted that all members had been instructed to complete the registry of conflicts which is publicly available. Eric Faust informed that as WSCC representative he would abstain from voting on class applications seeking WS Class status. Maayan Davidovich noted her conflict as President of the International Wingfoil class in relation to the class applying for WS status. Dimitris Dimou noted that he would abstain from voting on regulation 23 matters.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 2.1 The Committee noted that the minutes of the mid-year meeting on the 10th and 11th May 2021 were circulated and approved after the meeting. The minutes can be downloaded at <http://www.sailing.org/meetings>
- 2.2 There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

3. Update from the Board

- 3.1 The Committee noted the Board minutes from their meetings since the last Equipment Committee meeting available on the website.
- 3.2 The Committee received an update from Vice President Yann Rocherieux, Board representative appointed as liaison to the Committee who highlighted the support to the efforts in achieving technical commitments and address technical challenges within the sport.

4. World Sailing Speed Record Council

- 4.1 The Committee received a report from Claude Breton, Chairman of the World Sailing Speed Record Council, summarising the activity and a list of records attempted since the last report in September 2020. Simon Forbes highlighted: several passage records set by three different MOD 70 trimarans. A woman's non-stop round the world record from Clarisse Cremer on 'Banque Populaire X' in the Vendée Globe. A Class 40 24 hour distance record. 500m record attempts are anticipated in the south of France and Namibia in the next weeks.

5. Applications for World Sailing Class Status

- 5.1 The Director of Technical and Offshore provided the Committee with a review of the regulatory requirements set out in regulation 10 for classes applying for recognition of World Sailing Class status.

The Committee noted that World Sailing status is reserved for classes already offering high standard of international competitive sailing, therefore requiring classes to be actively sailing internationally holding events governed by the class rules at the time of considering the application.

For each class application, the Committee noted the review from the Constitution Committee on each class constitution and the review of the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee on the class rules.

- (a) International Wing Foil Class.

Recommendation to Council: defer to mid-year 2022

The Committee recognised the early development stages of the discipline and considered that deferring to mid-year 2022 will allow the Class to implement required changes to the class rules and to prove their validity. Further events will serve to further align with the requirement to offer a high standard of international competitive sailing.

The postponement will allow to consider the intended progress in relation to how the class governs equipment and ensure that the global distribution numbers refer to athletes actively competing in events governed by the class rules.

- (b) GWA Race Wingfoil Class

Recommendation to Council: defer to mid-year 2022

Similarly, to the previous wingfoil application, the Committee considered that deferring to mid-year 2022 will allow the Class to implement required changes to the class rules and to prove their validity. The Committee noted that the presented class rules are an improvement but had not been used in the current track record of events. Further events will serve to further align with the requirement to offer a high standard of international competitive sailing.

The Committee noted the Constitution Committee review of the class constitution and the deviation from what is expected from traditional class associations.

- (c) Techno Wind Foil 130

Recommendation to Council: defer to mid-year 2022

The Committee noted that confirmation from one additional MNA was required to comply with the global distribution requirements. It is expected that the requirement will be satisfied. The deferral will also allow to implement minor class rule changes required by the ERSC.

- (d) L-30 One Design

Recommendation to Council: defer to mid-year 2022

The Committee noted that the L30 has expanded its global distribution and meets the minimum regulatory requirements. However, the Equipment Rules Sub Committee noted that changes are required to the class rules to align with the ERS before recommending approval.

- (e) IKA Snowkite (deferred from 2020)

Recommendation to Council: defer to mid-year 2022

Similarly to 2020, the Committee noted that currently there is no reference within the regulations that confirms World Sailing as the governing body of the sport of sailing on snow, ice or land. The Committee notes the need for the 'Equipment Governance Working Party' to consider the matter with the intent to confirm whether World Sailing is the governing body of the sport on snow, ice or land rather than deciding through a particular class application. The Committee will re-consider this application once these policy decisions are made by Council.

- (f) iQFOiL (deferred from 2020)

Recommendation to Council: Approve

The Committee noted that the Board decided at its meeting of December 2020 to postpone the decisions regarding the 2020 iQFOiL Class applications for World Sailing status until after a new election facilitated by World Sailing had taken place.

Noting that the Class had complied with the requirements set by World Sailing, and considering all regulatory requirements satisfied, the Committee noted the deferred recommendation to approve.

- 5.2 The Committee noted the recommendation from the Executive Office to review regulation 10 to include the following requirements in the evaluation process for classes applying for World Sailing Status:

- To receive (when applicable) the building specifications and evaluate the extent of details required for approval,
- To clarify how changes to building specifications, new moulds, etc will be managed and approved,
- To receive class measurement policies and/or inspection protocols for equipment at manufacturing sites and events.

- 5.3 The Committee noted the support towards the inclusion of Wingfoil as a sailing discipline noting that RRS appendix WF had been developed to apply at wingfoil events. The Committee noted that the Advertising code will require updates to include provisions for this discipline.

6. Regulation 23

- 6.1 Dina Kowalyshyn presented the report from the Regulation 23 Working Party leading to the Submissions which included proposed changes to regulation 23. Noting how World Sailing had undergone multiple Event and Equipment reviews governed by regulation 23 over the last years, the importance of materialising lessons learned from the processes was highlighted. One of the Working Party recommendations was to include a clear separation between Equipment and Event decisions allowing to focus on these areas separately. Dina Kowalyshyn invited the Committee to discuss the Working Party report when considering the regulation 23 submissions.
- 6.2 Saskia Clark presented the Events review Working Party report. Regulation 23.1 requires placing four events under review in the selection process for LA 2028. The changes to regulation 23 at the mid-year meeting which resulted in the selection of the Men's Kite Event and Women's Kite Event for Paris 2024 included the requirement to place those two Events under review. The Working Party focused therefore on the selection of the other two Events. When deciding which Events to recommend for review, the Working Party considered criteria from Regulation 23, the previous 2024 Events and Equipment WP report and the IOC questionnaire from Olympic Sports. The criteria was then transformed into multiple groups which included 'Slate questions', 'Event questions', 'WS Olympic Sailing Vision', 'Impact on Stakeholders' and 'IOC questionnaire criteria'. The WP members graded the existing events on these different groups providing a matrix of the evaluation which guided the WP recommendation.

The Mixed Multihull event was recommended for review highlighting concerns around the cost, suitability and quality of the equipment.

The Mixed Two persons dinghy was also recommended for review highlighting participation. The Working Party also recommends that World Sailing sets a strategy to guide the review and selection processes for future discussions.

Noting that no event achieved a perfect score, the Working Party provided recommendations to each individual event for the following cycles.

Dina Kowalyshyn noted that the review of the Mixed Two Persons dinghy would effectively place an event which hasn't yet been tested at an Olympic Games under review and noted that many of the guiding principles in the report focused on the evaluation of an event at the Olympic Games.

Dimitris Dimou noted that the report included mention of the drop in number of nations campaigning on each event and noted that the reduction of quotas should be considered when evaluating these numbers.

Yann Rocherieux spoke to the recommendation from the Working Party to have a strategy that could guide event and equipment selection processes, noting the reduced timeframe due to the postponement of Tokyo 2020 he highlighted the need to focus the efforts on the following cycles and supported the recommendation to separate Event from Equipment decisions.

- 6.3 The Director of Technical and Offshore noted regulation 23.6 regarding the re-evaluation of Equipment for Olympic Events. The regulation requires re-evaluations to the Equipment selected for events to reduce the risk of monopolies and avoid manufacturers becoming complacent.
- The re-evaluation of Equipment would take place following the outcome of the Event reviews.

7. Submissions

The submissions can be found on: <https://www.sailing.org/meetings>

7.1 Regulations

- (a) The Committee made recommendations to Council on the following submissions for which the Equipment Committee is the Reporting Committee
- i) Submission 002-21 from the Board to correct the references to ILCA terminology in regulation 23, 24 and 25.
Recommendation to Council: Approve
 - ii) Submission 009-21 from the Chair of the Equipment Committee regarding changes to class rules and building specifications. Jurgen Cluytmans spoke to the submission, noting that it addressed a request to look into reactive approaches that would allow World Sailing to activate initiatives towards improving safety should a class not initiate actions when considered required.

The second proposal addressed the validation of proof by an external third party when changes to building specifications are presented to achieve an objective.

Dimitris Dimou noted that the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee opinion was to reject the submission and had discussed a proposal to propose class rule changes to classes rather than requiring them, however the group considered that it would not be considered a minor or friendly amendment. The costs associated to the third-party assessment of changes to building specifications was noted as an area that needed to be addressed before considering it further. The Sub-Committee therefore recommended that a new submission is presented next year considering this feedback.

Jurgen Cluytmans supported the proposal and noted that the WSCC feedback had been similar to that of the ERSC. Dina Kowalyshyn asked if the Safety Panel provides feedback to the Committee on equipment related incidents and noted the complication to identify if incidents are caused by the improper use of equipment rather than the suitability of equipment.

Jaime Navarro noted that the Safety Panel is composed of Senior Management Team members reporting directly to the Board. MNA's, Classes and Rating systems are required to report under regulation 38 any incident which occurs at an event using the RRS, or which falls under their jurisdiction. The Safety Panel has recommended that the Board creates a Safety Commission to coordinate all groups looking into safety related areas from the respective committees that would focus on sharing the lessons learned from investigations surrounding incidents identified by the Safety Panel.

Dimitris Dimou highlighted feedback from the ERSC regarding class rules that address safety where further review is required. These included defining what qualifies as "high visibility colours", "impact vests" and minimum diameters for towing ropes.

Shevaun Bruland supported the intention of the submission but noted that it required further clarity and questioned if World Sailing had the resources to lead the responsibility to advise or impose safety related changes to class rules.

Jurgen Cluytmans consulted the Committee on a way to proceed and withdrew the submission.

- iii) Submission 015-21 from the Chairs of the Events and Equipment Committees regarding regulation 23 – Timeline for Selection of Events.
John Derbyshire spoke to the submission and noted that the recommendation was to change the timeline for the 2028 selection process and have the Working Party continue to review the process for 2032 decisions.

Recommendation to Council: Approve (14 in favour, 1 abstain)

- iv) Submission 017-21 from the Chairs of the Events and Equipment Committee regarding regulation 23 – Housekeeping

Recommendation to Council: Approve (14 approve, 1 abstain)

- i) Submission 018-21 from the Chair of the Events Committee regarding regulation 23 – Event and Equipment selection criteria policy
Dina Kowalyshyn spoke to the submission noting that the process carried throughout the previous cycle included developing procedures that drove the equipment selection processes. This had allowed to implement improvements in regulation 23, in particular aiming to separate Event and Equipment decisions.
John Derbyshire noted that the current processes relied on people's integrity to follow the agreed criteria but welcomed a change that would allow to introduce policy to guide the decisions. Markus Schwendtner noted that the proposal did not achieve the separation of Event and Equipment decisions yet, but could be seen as an improvement in that direction.
The Committee was invited to provide further feedback to the policy documents. Matt Allen suggested making some of the comments more prescriptive to avoid multiple interpretations.
Shevaun Bruland supported the intend of the changes but noted several areas requiring clarification and supported the need to further review the wording.
Dina Kowalyshyn welcomed the feedback and noted that the intention is to have overarching principles in the regulations leaving details for the policy documents and noted the risk in having subjective objectives in the regulations.
Eric Faust considered that the submission was still on a formative stage and recommended that the submission be rejected to allow further review.

Recommendation to Council: Approve (6 approve, 3 reject, 5 abstain)

(The Submission was later withdrawn)

- ii) Submission 019-21 from the Chairs of the Events and Equipment Committees regarding regulation 23 –Event and Equipment Voting Process.

Dina Kowalyshyn highlighted the importance of the work carried by the volunteers and noted that the submission allows to recognise that work by requiring Council to consider first the recommendation of the reporting Committee which is the expert body.

Yann Rocherieux noted the importance of distributing papers to Council well ahead of the meetings.

Recommendation to Council: Approve (11 approve, 3 abstain)

- iii) Submission 013-21 from the International iQFOiL Youth and Junior Class regarding Equipment for Youth Sailing World Championships.

Maayan Davidovich supported having the youth equipment aligned with the Olympic equipment to serve as pathway for the Olympic.

Recommendation to Council: Approve (13 in favour, 1 abstain)

- (b) The Committee gave an opinion to Council on the following submissions for which the Equipment Committee was not the Reporting Committee:

- i) Submission 001-21 from the Chair of the World Sailing Classes Committee on new regulation 6.12 to transform the Olympic Classes Sub-Committee into an Olympic Classes Committee.

Dina Kowalyshyn noted that the change would effectively award this new Committee a vote on Council and did not support such change as there was no justification for doing so.

Alfred Pelinka noted that the composition of the proposed Committee would be different to that of other Committees since the proposal included members to be selected by the Committee itself.

Yann Rocherieux noted that the Board still had to meet to decide its recommendation on each submission but noted that the Governance reform would address the reasons within the submission.

Opinion to Council: Approve (8 approve, 5 reject, 1 abstain)

- ii) Submission 008-21 from the RS21 Class Association regarding regulation 27 on grading criteria

Opinion to Council: Approve with a minor amendment removing reference to 'm' meters (11 approve, 1 reject, 2 abstain)

- iii) Submission 010-21 from the IKA Formula Kite Class regarding housekeeping of regulation 23 to list selected events for 2024 Olympics.

- iv) **Opinion to Council: Approve** (14 approve)

- v) Submission 011-21 from the IKA Formula Kite Class regarding regulation 24 to replace mixed Kite with separate Men and Women for Youth Worlds

Recommendation to Council: Approve (13 in favour, 1 abstain)

- vi) Submission 022-21 from the Offshore Racing Congress regarding regulation 13 – addition of offshore double handed discipline to ORC International World Championship.

Dina Kowalyshyn and Matt Allen supported the submission noting the increase in double handed offshore sailing.

Opinion to Council: Approve (13 approve, 1 abstain)

8. Equipment Rules of Sailing Sub-Committee

Dimitris Dimou, Chair of the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee gave a report on the activities of the Sub-Committee.

- The Sub-Committee has worked with the Executive Office on a new process to coordinate class rule changes reviews. The procedure is publicly available and introduces a timeline that will clarify the application, review and approval dates for applicants. The ERSC will meet four times per year to consider and approve class rule changes.
- The procedure set out in the regulations for class rule interpretations was noted.

- The list of class rule changes and the list of class rule interpretations approved since the last meeting was noted.
- There is a need to continue the work from the joint ERS/RRS working party

Recommendation to Council:

The Committee recommends to Council that it approves the appointment of a joint working party between the Racing Rules Committee and the Equipment Rules Sub-committee under Regulation 5.5.1(c).

The remit of the joint working party shall be to:

- 1) Rationalise rules relating to equipment and its use to ensure consistent definitions and interpretations and clearer lines of responsibility
- 2) Study options to incorporate the ERS into the RRS
- 3) Resolve conflicts between the RRS and ERS
- 4) Advise the RRC on other submissions about rules involving equipment-related rules in the RRS

The members of the joint working party shall be appointed jointly by the Chairmen of the Racing Rules Committee and Equipment Rules Sub-committee.

9. 2024 Olympic Equipment

9.1 The Committee noted the report previously distributed which included the request for approval from the respective Class associations and right holders for the following changes to the Olympic Equipment Building Specifications:

(a) Nacra 17 rudder elevator design

The Committee noted that the change was being presented as an improvement that would reduce the risk of injury and presented as tested and approved by the class and that the class had no concern with regards to availability and distribution plans.

The committee voted to approve the change subject to the following conditions:

- manufacturers being licensed by World Sailing,
- receiving the building specifications prior to the end of 2021, and
- receiving proposed control methods.

(b) Nacra 17 rudder rake angle adjuster

The committee noted that World Sailing had already received details on the building specifications and voted to approve the change.

(c) 49er and FX sails

The Committee noted the support from the Class to the request for approval to the sail design change and voted to approve the changes subject to following conditions:

- manufacturers being licensed by World Sailing,
- receiving the building specifications prior to the end of November 2021, and
- receiving proposed control methods.

(d) The Committee noted that the changes to the 49er and FX included a request to approve a new rig and requested to receive further information from the Office. The Committee will decide once the information is circulated.

9.2 The Technical and Offshore Director gave a report on the preparations for Paris 2024;

- priority work is underway to complete the licencing of Kite equipment manufactures and to finalise with the respective Classes how they will manage the provision of the Supplied Equipment for the Games.
- Jaime Navarro noted that the Tokyo 2020 International Jury raise notable concerns about conflicts between Olympic Class rules, competition documents like the NOR

and the RRS that need to be addressed to ensure consistent and fair application of the rules.

- There is a structure in place to address the Tokyo 2020 learning regarding, OA provided equipment such as branding and trackers.

10. Review of World Sailing Class Association Status

10.1 The committee noted regulation 10.13, and discussed the strategy to review all Class Associations periodically. The Class Status Review Working Party noted the need to review classes on the following areas:

- Regulatory requirements
- Class rules
- Class agreements

The committee noted the need to update and standardise class agreements during the reviews.

10.2 The Committee noted the request from the RS One Class to withdraw their WS Class Status due to the lack of activity.

11. Committee Working Parties

11.1 Jurgen Cluytmans presented the Equipment Committee Working Parties not mentioned elsewhere on the agenda;

- (a) OEP/anti-trust: Chaired by Jurgen Cluytmans, he noted that the Working Party had not initiated the activities as originally planned due to the focus required to provide the delivery of Tokyo 2020.
The Committee noted that the objectives of the WP would be revised with the intent to review the OEP and the methodology to review the implementation of the policy among the Olympic classes. The Chair noted that the group would require support from the legal department.
Jaime Navarro highlighted the importance directly linked to the main objective of World Sailing's Technical and Offshore department which is to deliver on the commitment with the technical integrity of the sport at an Olympic level and reduce the risk of manufacturers becoming complacent or monopolistic.
- (b) One Design / QC strategy. Similarly to the previous Working Party, the Chair of the Working Party, Jurgen Cluytmans noted that following the delivery of Tokyo 2020, the group would now focus on assessing the current state of the quality control processes among Olympic manufacturers proposing to initiate the reviews in January 2022.
The Committee noted that World Sailing requires to have reference designs of Olympic equipment claiming to be 'one-design' with defined tolerances. This will allow to audit manufacturers and inspect equipment.
Jaime Navarro presented the plans to have a dedicated staff member appointed to manage Olympic Equipment matters and highlighted the need to recreate production control processes to reassure athletes that Olympic Equipment is being controlled and built against certain standards.

12. Safety

12.1 The Committee discussed the agenda item as part of the discussions on Submission 009-21

13. Para Sailing Equipment

13.1 Alfred Pelinka gave an update from the Para World Sailing Committee.

The Committee noted that World Sailing's campaign to reinstate sailing at the Paralympic Games in LA 2028 had just launched. The strategic priorities included:

- Increase world-wide participation to 45 nations on 6 continents,
- Increase youth participation below the age of 30 to 20% of the athletes
- Grow the number of female participants to 30% and ultimately, achieve gender parity. highlighting the priority to reinstate sailing in the IPC programme.

The availability of equipment to increase and diversify world-wide participation was noted as a key objective.

14. Executive Office report

Jaime Navarro provided an update on the Technical and Offshore department activities.

- (a) The Objectives for the quadrennial were noted:
 - i) To deliver on the commitment with the technical integrity of the sport at an Olympic level and reduce the risk of manufacturers becoming complacent or monopolistic,
 - ii) To improve services and the relationship with WS classes,
 - iii) To position WS within the technical industry,
 - iv) To service and manage Committees, Classes, Rules and Regulations,
 - v) To improve safety awareness and promote best practices.
- (b) The Office presented their plans to obtain a 3D scanner that would enable Technical Specialists to initiate the development of reference designs for the Olympic Equipment. Once reference designs for Olympic Equipment are approved, the technology and expertise will be offered as services to classes for inspections and audits.
- (c) Francesco Gulizzi provided an update on the IHC and noted the need to re-activate the audits following the restrictions imposed by the pandemic and the need to issue new licenses. The Office will coordinate with the ERSC to re-activate the programme.
- (d) The Office presented the proposed changes to the “board registration programme” to ensure that the purpose of the programme is achieved as intended by the classes. The office noted the following changes required:
 - i) Require building specification of registered models,
 - ii) Enforce registration deadlines,
 - iii) Monitor the application of the approved series production logo on equipment.

The Office noted the intention to extend the programme to include other equipment items allowing to offer “World Sailing Approved series production equipment”.

14.2 The World Sailings One Design Charter draft was distributed in 2020. It is a commitment to the integrity of the sport and to ensure that through Class Associations, and manufacturers, World Sailing can support the wider implementation of One Design Policies and best practices. Classes will be invited to a survey to include their feedback and to evaluate the feasibility for each class.

14.3 Jaime Navarro noted that the implementation of World Sailings Sustainability Agenda 2030 has commitments that affect the equipment of World Sailing Classes and requirements to be met at future equipment selection processes.

The World Sailing Sustainability Agenda 2030 is available here:

https://issuu.com/worldsailing/docs/sustainability2030_17may2018

(Page 11 to 14 includes the deliverables through technical standards)

15. Any other business

No other business was noted.