The Match Racing Committee met between 09:30 – 13:30 hours on Monday 7 November 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel, Fira, Barcelona, Spain

Please refer to the World Sailing website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda/referred to in these minutes.

1. Opening of the Meeting
   The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee to Barcelona.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
   (a) Minutes
   The Committee noted and approved the minutes of the Match Racing Committee meeting of November 2015 (circulated and approved after the meeting).
   (b) Matters Arising
   There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

3. 2016 Women’s Match Racing World Championship
   The Committee received a final report from the World Sailing Technical Delegate, Alfredo Ricci (ITA). Positive report made by TD after a difficult start of two days without sailing and then completing the full format within 4 days. There was great organizations and partnership between all groups and those involved. Clear that it was a World Championship through branding and changes in World Sailing branding. Winning team were from SWE. The 2016 Blind Match Racing Championship ran in conjunction with the event in Sheboygan. The major aim of giving Blind Match Racing more exposure was achieved here. Sadly, during the event Terry Coller passed away. Terry was not only a huge influence in Match Racing but also within Women’s participation. The Committee requested the sending of a note of condolence via the Board.
4. **2016 Youth Match Racing World Championship**

The Committee received a final report and the Technical Delegate, Jon Napier (GBR) made a brief presentation.

Awarded to New Caledonia in November 2014 with a successful site visit undertaken in May 2015. Further to the May site visit, the organisers requested a change in location for the event. There were some limitations further to this as the venue was moved to a small island off New Caledonia which therefore limited spectators and public access. All boats and equipment was excellent and well maintained buy the team in CAL. 5 great days of racing with a double round robin, followed by knock out, all completed in time.

There had been some concerns on the number of teams being able to attend and the spread of Nations able to travel to the location. 10 teams took part from 6 nations. Event saw a 1, 2 from the AUS teams. FISU ran the University match racing event in close to the WS event and this may have contributed to the attendance alongside the location of it being in Perth, AUS. Usually gains 32 Team (16 Open 16 Female)

Overall the TD reported a good fair event but offered the following recommendations which were noted by the committee. Recommendations

1. **WS must look at the relationship with the FISU Match Racing event (World University Sports Event organisation)** Closer communication required on calendar and location with other event organisers. (incl. CISM, MBA/alternative orgs).

2. **Level of entries must be considered when bids are allocated**
   
   WS need to ensure that once the event is awarded that the officiating requirements in particular are not disputed. Requirements must be understood when making a bid and adhered to.

5. **2017 Women’s Match Racing World Championship**

The Committee received a progress report from Michael Rollich (FIN) from the Organising Committee. Michael confirmed that the event is proposed to take place in Helsinki from 16 – 21 June. Preparation is underway with the naval academy in Helsinki for hosting the teams and officials. A Grade 1 event has taken place this year as a test event and was successful. Technical Delegate appointment is pending acceptance. Dates to be confirmed during the conference period further to WS calendar plans with the SWC.

6. **2017 Youth Match Racing World Championship**

The Committee received a progress report from the Technical Delegate, Alfredo Ricci (ITA)

He reported to the committee that the notice of race was close to being approved for the event awarded to Balboa YC, Newport Beach, California, USA and to take place last week of July 2017. Alfredo reported that he anticipates great racing with 12 new boats and great organisation from the club who are used to working on large events. The US Match Racing committee are also working closely with the club on the event which has the well-known Governor’s Cup running the week before.

7. **2018 World Sailing Match Racing Events**

The committee chairman noted that the bidding processes for events in 2018 are in progress but had been hindered by staff resources in the Executive Office. The opening of bids for the Women’s, Youth and Nations Cup events for 2018 forward to 2019 are planned to be sent out at the turn off the year (2017).

Panels will then be put together in the usual way, with members of the new committee and the new board one they are formed.
The Chairman also noted previous discussion on the movement of the event to more diverse locations and how this will need careful discussion and consideration when awarding an event.

8. **World Sailing Nations Cup**

The Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Working Party Michael O'Connor.

The Chairman reported that last year it was decided to go from a 2-year cycle to a 3-year cycle with the Regional finals in 2017 and Final in 2018.

MO discussed the value in the Nations Cup brand and its 25-year history which focuses on nations rather than individual skippers and the last running which was extremely good in Vladivostok with significant participation in Russia with 14 teams from 9 nations.

The feed of teams into the Event is more difficult now as we try to add new nations to the event while managing low risk for the OA.

Instead of using a practice day umpired fleet racing day can contribute to seeding but not the overall results (can be a standalone prize) get everyone moving get sailing engagement

Suggested formats discussed included 1-day Umpired Fleet Racing and 2-days Match Racing

Many sailors started their campaigns with the Nations Cup and are now competing in the WIMRA and WMT events. Therefore, it would make sense to look at them as strategic partners

Moving forward the WP needs to look at updating the bid documents once the go ahead is given from the MR committee and WS.

There is the capacity to think about the branding around the 'Nations Cup' and this event could evolve with reference to other Nation focused events (ref Davis/Ryder Cup) More

9. **World Match Racing Tour**

The Committee received a report from the Executive Director James Pleasance and Racing Directors Craig Mitchell and Matias Dahlstrom.

Last year the WMT came under new ownership Swedish company Aston Harald, ambitious plans to introduce multihulls into the championship

A short season took place in 2016 with a Final in Marstrand

24 brand new M32 multihulls were delivered in 3 fleets of 8. 8 new boats went to Newport RI, 8 to Sweden, 8 Fremantle (24 boats across the Tour used). As per the plan some were sold and new ones are being built to replenish the fleet, as owners and builders

41 teams on were short season, highest ever, average age younger, young as 19-20 so creating a pathway.

Boats were great for MR further to the discussion last year on the boats and their suitability, transition has been successful, although understand the contentious discussion on tradition.

In 2017, it changes again following feedback on the Final being held half way through the year (Monsoon Cup which was at end of the year).

6-8 championship events will take place. Teams are to be lowered to 18 with a more flexible format. 10 tour cards with specific allocations from seeds/leader board/WS rankings and further wildcards

No fee will be charged for a Tour card welcomed by teams, therefore no entry fee for World Championship
10. Match Racing Gradings and Rankings
   (a) Report from the Chairman of the Match Race Rankings Sub-committee
       The Committee received a report from the Chairman of the Match Race Rankings Sub-
       committee.
   (b) World Sailing Standard Guidelines for Grade 1 and 2 Events
       The Committee discussed the current Guidelines.

11. Race Officials
   (a) Event Appointments Working Party
       The Committee received a report from the Race Officials Executive on the Event
       Appointment Working Party.

12. Submissions
    Please refer to the 2016 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available
    online at [www.sailing.org/meetings](http://www.sailing.org/meetings)
    (a) To consider submissions for which the Match Racing Committee is the Reporting
        Committee:
        i) Submission 013-16 – Monohull Match Racing Worlds - reject
    (b) To consider submissions for which the Match Racing Committee is an Other
        Committee:
        i) Submission 094-16 – New MR Call E10 - approve
        ii) Submission 095-16 – New MR Call K5 – approve with amendment
        iii) Submission 096-16 – New MR Call N10 - approve