The Match Racing Sub-Committee met at 09:30 – 13:30 hrs on Monday 6 November 2017 at the Sheraton Buganvilias Resort & Convention Center, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

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 Match Racing Sub-Committee chair welcome the committee members and observers to the meeting. Yana Dobzhitskaya joined the meeting via Skype.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
   (a) Minutes
      The minutes of the Match Racing Committee meeting of 7 November 2016 were noted. The minutes can be downloaded at www.sailing.org/meetings
   (b) Matters Arising
      There were no other matters arising not covered elsewhere on this agenda.

3. 2017 Women’s Match Racing World Championship
   The Sub-Committee received a final report from the World Sailing Technical Delegate, Flavio Naveira (ARG) and comments from Annika Ekman (PRO, SWE), Ana Sanchez (VP, ESP) and Match Race Sub-Committee Chair Liz Baylis (USA). The event was well run event in Helsinki, Finland won by Lucy Macgregor (GBR).
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The event highlighted the need to streamline the process for World Sailing appointed event officials, which lead to the submission 010-17.

4. **2017 Youth Match Racing World Championship**

The Sub-Committee received a final written report from the Technical Delegate, Alfredo Ricci (ITA) and comments from the Chief Umpire Russell Green (NZL). The event was well run in difficult conditions in a good fleet of boats in Balboa, USA. The winner was Harry Price (AUS).

Recommendation: As the with the Women’s Match Racing World Championship the Match Racing Sub-Committee through the Match Racing Organization and Race Management Working Party recommend the establishment of guidelines for the roles of the Technical Delegate, Principal Race Officer, and Course Representative at World Sailing Match Racing events.

5. **2018 Women’s Match Racing World Championship**

The Sub-Committee received a progress report from Yana Dobzhitskaya (RUS) from the Organizing Committee. Yana confirmed that the event is to take place in Ekaterinburg, Russia from 14 – 18 August. The contract is in progress.

Next steps: appointment of the Technical Delegate appointment and finalize the Notice of Race to be published early December.

6. **2018 Youth Match Racing World Championship**

The Sub-Committee received a progress report from the Youth Match Racing Working Party Chair, Michael Rollich (FIN).

The venue will be Lago di Ledro, Italy and is scheduled for 3-8 July 2018. The contract has been signed and the Notice of Race will be published shortly, latest 1 December 2017.

7. **2018 Blind Match Racing World Championship**

The Sub-Committee received a progress report from Massimo Dighe, Para World Sailing Manager. Dates are still being discussed - either the last week of August or first week of September. The contract is being drafted by the Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club and World Sailing. Boats being used are Sonars.

8. **2019-2020 World Sailing Match Racing Events**

The Match Racing Sub-Committee chair noted that the bidding processes for events in 2019 and 2020 are in progress and that 6 countries have showed the intention to bid. The bid evaluation panels have been appointed and will review the bids at the beginning of December. The panel will make their recommendations in mid-December to the World Sailing Board of Director for approval.

The bid process for 2021 events will commence early in 2018. The Sub-Committee noted the need to improve the visibility of the bid documents on the World Sailing website.


The Sub-Committee received a report from the chairman of the Nations Cup Working Party Michael O’Connor (IRL). The Grand Final will be at St Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco, USA in 2018. The dates are 9-14 October 2018 and ten J22 boats will be used. The contract is still in progress with St Francis Yacht Club and World Sailing. Notice of Race will be published early December.
Invitations will be issued to 10 Women and 10 Open based on the following criteria: The highest ranked National Champion in the region (6 regions) endorsed by their Member National Authorities will be selected. The host nation will receive one invitation per division and the defending champions in each division will be invited. The rest of the invitations will be issued by ranking the remaining National Champions. World Sailing reserves the possibility to issue wildcards.

10. **World Match Racing Tour**

The Sub-Committee received a report from the Racing Directors Craig Mitchell and Matias Dahlstrom.

The WMRT Final was in Shenzhen, China. The Tour has introduced standard tour rules accompanied by very short Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions which are revised per event.

The Tour is divided into four levels: World Championship Final, World Championship Level, Tour Level and Entry Level. The Entry Level has been added to the program and can be any event. This is to help bridge the gap to get the M32 Match Racing License.

World Match Racing Tour has worked together with GC 32 and the Extreme 40 to develop high speed rules.

With the recent development in the Americas Cup the Tour will introduce some mono-hulls events and welcomes event organizers interested in being part of the Tour.

World Match Racing Tour is facilitating a Sailors Association. This body represents the sailors and guarantees that all sailors’ voices are heard.

The WMRT Advisory Working Party is the liaison between the Match Racing Sub Committee’s and World Match Racing Tour.

11. **Match Racing Gradings and Rankings**

The Sub-Committee received a report from the Match Racing Gradings and Rankings working party member, Michael Rollich (FIN).

The WP, together with Kirk Brown (USA), has been working on submissions to grow higher graded Match Racing events:

(a) Submission 008-17 involving Regulation 25.12, to promote the re-growth of higher graded events, through restructuring the Grading Fees for Grade 1 and Grade 2 events and the Advertising Fees for Grade 1 to Grade 5 events.

(b) Submission 097-17 involving Regulation 27.2.3(d), to re-align the Skipper Point requirements for Grade 1 and Grade 2 – Open and Women

(c) Submission 125-17 involving Regulations 25.8.10 & 27.2.3(d), to encourage the growth of Women’s, Youth and Open Match Racing by removing the requirement for World Sailing to appoint the International Umpires for Grade 1 events.

Next steps for the WP:

(a) To investigate if the grading’s and ranking could be lifted out of the Regulations to facilitate developing of Match Racing

(b) To draft a document on how to lift the grading’s and ranking out of the Regulations

(c) To consider creating a Youth ranking list.
12. **Race Officials**

The Committee received a report from Ana Sanchez Vice President and Event Appointment Working Party member. The EAWP works closely with the relevant Sub Committees to ensure quality, capability and performance of Race Officials appointed by the WP. The objective of the WP is to appoint the Race Officials one year ahead of the event in the future.

13. **Submissions**

*Please refer to the 2017 Submissions Booklet for details of all submissions also available online at [www.sailing.org/meetings](http://www.sailing.org/meetings)*

(a) The Sub-Committee considered and made recommendations to the Events Committee on the following submissions

i) Submission 008-17 – Event Fees – Regulation 25.12

Discussion:

There is a decline in higher level match racing events. In year 2000 there were 15 Grade 1 events and in year 2017 there is 1 Grade 1 event and 23 Grade 2 events. Event organizers have moved to Grade 2 events, because they get more control of these events and the cost.

Instead of grading and advertising fees the organizers would rather pay for a license fee.

*Recommendation: approve*

*The Sub-Committee voted unanimously to support proposal 1.*

ii) Submission 010-17 – Technical Delegates – Regulation 25.9

Discussion:

The EAWP would should consider each event independently based on appointed people. Then evaluate if one person could wear two hats. With a strong Race Management team, the Principal Race Officer could also wear the Technical Delegate hat.

*Recommendation: withdraw*

*The Sub-Committee recommends the Events Committee to withdraw the submission. World Sailing will work with the EAWP in evaluating whether the appointment of a TD and a PRO is needed or one person can do both roles for match racing events.*

iii) Submission 096-17 – Terms of Reference – Regulation 6.6.7

*Recommendation: approve*

iv) Submission 097-17 – World Sailing Rankings – Regulation 27.2.3(d)

Discussion:

The higher the grading of an event the higher are the gained skipper points from the event. This comes from the event multiplier which is 3.5 for World Championships, 3 for Grade 1 and 2.5 for Grade 2.

The feedback from organizers is that they cannot get enough skipper with enough points to meet the grading criteria. This submission resets the hourglass shape of the ranking to the pyramid shape

*Recommendation: approve*
v) Submission 125-17 – World Sailing Race Officials – Regulations 25.8.10 & 27.2.3 (d)

Discussion:
This regulation was written in the 1990, when the quality of umpires varied very much and World Sailing (International Sailing Federation) together with the organizers wanted to have more consistency of umpires appointed. The umpire program has developed huge steps since this and the quality of umpires is more homogenous. The grading requirements still apply. You need an International Jury at the event and one International Umpire per match.

The organizers want to establish more of a dialogue with World Sailing on approval of the umpires rather than appointing them and cited delays in the EAWP appointment process. This submission would remove the appointment of umpires for Grade 1 match racing events from the binding regulation and move it to a guideline.

Recommendation: approve

The Match Racing Sub-Committee recommends strengthening of the approval process of race officials by the EAWP in the “World Sailing Guidelines for Grade 1 and Grade 2 Match Racing Events” as stated in regulation 27.2.3 (d).

(b) The Sub-Committee made recommendations on the following submissions:

i) Submission 156-17 – Appendix CBS – Match Racing Rules for Vision-Impaired Sailors.

Recommendation: approve

ii) Submission 166-17 – New MR Call E11

Recommendation: approve

14. Reports from Working Groups

(a) To receive reports from the following working parties:

i) Women’s Match Racing

The Sub-Committee received a report from the Women Match Racing Working Party Chair Liz Baylis (USA). Next steps:

Expand the WP to include additional members to increase geographic diversity
Establish communication channel to organizers and sailors.
Make a 5-year plan.
Scout organizers and bids for the 2019 and 2020 Women’s Match Racing World Championships.

ii) Match Racing Rules

The Sub-Committee received a report from the Match Racing Rules Working Party Chair Russell Green (NZL).

iii) Youth Match Racing Development

The Sub-Committee received a report from the Youth Match Racing Working Party Chair Michael Rollich (FIN). The WP has worked with three things:
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Youth Match Racing Worlds 2018.Reviewed and evaluated bids received and made the recommendation to World Sailing of the host for the event.
Drafting a plan to grow Youth Match Racing Worldwide.

Next steps:
Expand the WP to include Asia, Australasia and South America.
Establish communication channel to organizers, liaisons, coaches and sailors.
Make a 5-year plan with 1-year implementation.
Scout organizers and bids for the 2019 and 2020 Youth Match Racing World Championships.

iv) Race Management and Organization

The Committee received a report from the Match Racing Race Management and Organization Working Party member Michael Röllich (FIN) and comments from the Working Party Chair Tatiana Ermakova (RUS).

It is a joint WP between Race Management Sub-Committee, International Umpires Sub-Committee, Race Officials Committee and Match Racing Sub-Committee.

The WP will review the work of the previous WPs and updated the material.
One new chapter on how to run a match racing event step by step with roles, duties, actions will be added to the manual.
The WP have had its first meeting during the Annual Conference and decided that the work shall be finalized, presented and published before the next Annual Conference.

15. Any Other Business

There being no other business the meeting was closed.