

2021 Sailor Categorization Commission Report

The 2021 activity for this Commission was largely affected by the continuing situation on Covid 19 protocols and restrictions governing the normal World Sailing executive office staff as well as the normal scheduled regattas around the world.

This continuing situation was ironically a benefit to the long awaited Sailor ID and Categorization database and World Sailing online programming project that had been planned for 2020 but now actually was commenced in the spring of 2021. This work was supervised by Mr. Paul Deacon and performed by Sotic. It was prompted by a migration of the World Sailing database from a server farm managed by Sotic to the cloud. Our data was the last group still held in this manner and Sotic had proposed this move earlier in 2019. Upon discussion, it was realized that our IT programming for the website and database was actually based on a conglomeration of four different programming languages and in particular, the Sailor ID and Categorization program was done in a language that was no longer supported.

The resolution adopted was an entirely new program that was based on a Salesforce front end for data entry and new programming management to be developed by Sotic for the information to be processed, stored and displayed online for the individual sailors and staff administrators.

Without spending too much time on the details, in short, the new World Sailing online system was due to be rolled out next week after the Annual Conference and our Sailor Categorization system is due also to be initiated in early November in beta format. Screen captures of the new Categorization system will be shown at the Oceanic and Offshore meeting.

The new data migration unfortunately was precluded by a shut down of the old online system which occurred in June. We used an online entry form in place of the automatic reviews and this information was entered by hand and then processed one by one with access granted to the old database to the World Sailing office and myself. Using this method, we still managed to successfully categorize sailors for these following events:

Swan Nations Cup

ORC Europeans and Worlds

Melges 24 Europeans and Worlds

J 70 Worlds

NYYC Invitational

And J111 Worlds

Respectfully submitted

Tom Rinda,
Sailor Categorization Commission Chairman