

The World Sailing Board met at the World Sailing Executive Office, Paddington, London, United Kingdom on Friday 28 February and Saturday 29 February 2020

Present:

Kim Andersen - President
Jan Dawson – Vice President

Torben Grael – Vice President
Gary Jobson – Vice President

W Scott Perry – Vice President
Yann Rocherieux – Chairman, Athletes' Commission
Ana Sanchez – Vice President

Nadine Stegenwalner – Vice President

In Attendance:

Alastair Fox – Director of Events
Kendall Harris – Director of Legal & Governance
Jon Napier – Governance & Rules Consultant
Jaime Navarro – Director of Technical & Offshore
Scott Over – Commercial Director
Raksha Patel – Finance Director
Daniel Smith – Director of Communications & Digital
Harriet Strzelecki – Director of Brand & Marketing

Apologies for Absence:

Quanhai Li – Vice President

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) President's Opening Remarks

The President opened the meeting and welcomed the Board to London. The President thanked the Board for all their support over the past few months. He thanked the staff for their work, including on the submission of the Paris 2024 Programme to the IOC.

The President updated the Board on his recent meetings with the MNA of Hungary and the scheduled meeting with Israel.

Concerning coronavirus, the President updated the Board on discussions with the IOC, ASOIF, the Medical Commission and, in particular, the Italian authorities.

The President updated the Board on the appointment process for the new Chief Executive Officer.

(b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

There were apologies for absence from Quanhai Li. The Board noted the Register of Interests.

(c) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Board noted the minutes of its previous meeting (circulated and approved after the meeting).

(d) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Safety

The Board received a report from the Safety Panel.

The Board noted the decisions to move Olympic qualification events on the advice of the Medical Commission and discussions with the World Health Organisation and the FIV in respect of WCS Genoa, and with JSAF in respect of the WCS Final.

A further communication on recommendations regarding the coronavirus to MNAs will be issued shortly based on the latest advice expected over the weekend.

Decision

The Board requested the Executive Office report to the Board on the business continuity arrangements for the World Sailing Executive Office.

3. Reports

(a) SMT Report

The Board received and discussed a report from the Senior Management Team.

The Commercial Director updated the Board on the proposal made to the IOC concerning the tripartite relationship for eSailing at Paris 2024.

Decision

The Board requested the Executive Office prepare a stakeholder engagement policy to ensure that World Sailing staff resources are allocated appropriately to stakeholders.

(b) Digital Replatforming Report

The Board received and discussed a report from the Director of Communications & Digital on the new digital platform for World Sailing.

Decision

The Board noted the report and asked for regular updates on progress against timeline deliveries and budget.

4. Commercial

(a) Update on Commercial Department & World Sailing Trust

The Board received a report from the Commercial Director, including an update on the the new structure of the department.

(b) Progress Report on Sponsorship & Commercial Activities

The Board received a report from the Commercial Director.

Decision

The Board requested a commercial proposal for the WS Events Strategy and a progress report to state the estimated annual effect, for the next Board meeting.

(c) Approval of new Rolex WSOY Awards Structure

The Board received a proposal from the Commercial Director.

Decision

The Board approved the establishment of an Expert Panel to determine the WSOY Awards shortlist and the proposed voting structure.

- (d) Approval of Tier 2 Sponsorship

The Board received a proposal for Tier 2 sponsorship.

Decision

The Board approved the proposal (subject to contract).

- (e) Tracking at 2020 Olympics

The Board received an update from the Commercial Director and the Director of Events and noted the latest negotiations with the IOC. The Board asked to be informed about the progress of finalizing the negotiations regarding the graphics and tracking.

- (f) 2020 Annual Conference

The Board received an update from the Commercial Director.

- (g) Star Sailors League – Special Event Status

The Board received a proposal for extending Special Event status for the Star Sailors League.

Decision

The Board approved the proposal (subject to minor amendments and contract).

5. Technical

- (a) 2021 J/Class World Championship Request

The Board received a request from the J/Class Association for a World Championship

Decision

The Board approved the holding of the 2021 IMA J-Class World Championship subject to conditions.

- (b) IHC IRL Request

The Board received a request from the Irish Sailing Association to allow the Royal Yachting Association to audit Irish sail lofts under the IHC scheme.

The Board noted both MNAs had consented in writing to the request, as had the Equipment Rules Sub-committee.

Decision

The Board approved the request and authorised the Royal Yachting Association to audit Irish sail lofts subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The RYA must audit any sail loft prior to its IHC appointment and keeps Irish Sailing and World Sailing informed of the outcome.**
- 2. The RYA requires the written approval of World Sailing prior to appointing any sail loft in Ireland as an IHC sail loft.**
- 3. That the approval can be revoked at any time by either the RYA, Irish Sailing or World Sailing.**

- (c) 2019 Plaque Fee Income Report

The Board received a report from the Director of Technical & Offshore.

- (d) ILCA Update

The Board received a report from the Director of Technical & Offshore.

- (e) 2024 Olympic Equipment Updates

i) iQFoil Distribution Plans

The Board noted the distribution plans of the Class.

Decision

The Board requested the Executive Office ensure MNAs are kept informed about any production and/or distribution issues resulting from coronavirus, and asked the Executive Office to continue to monitor the retail price of equipment.

ii) IKA New Plaque Agreement

The Board received a report from the Director of Technical & Offshore.

iii) 2024 Offshore Equipment

The Board received a report from the Director of Technical & Offshore.

(f) RS:X Olympic Measurement Plans

The Board received a report from the Director of Technical & Offshore.

6. Finance

(a) January 2020 Management Accounts

The Board received and discussed the January 2020 management accounts and cash flow. The Board will continue to closely monitor the accounts and cashflow.

(b) MNA Debtors

The Board received a list of unpaid MNA debtors.

Decision

The Finance Director is to issue the 30-day warning letter to MNAs and the Board will suspend any unpaid MNAs at its next meeting.

(c) WS Investment Trust Report

The Board received a report of the Finance Director concerning the WS Investment Trust.

7. Legal & Governance

(a) Governance Review

The Board received a report from the Independent Chair of the Governance Commission.

The Board reviewed the proposed amendments to the draft Constitution from the Commission.

Decision

The Board approved the latest draft of the new Constitution for further consultation.

The Board discussed the request to release all proposals submitted to World Sailing from Members

Decision

The Board will request all submitters of proposals consent to their proposals being published.

The Board discussed the potential options for allowing MNAs to put forward amendments at the EGM.

Decision

The Board will place on the Notice of EGM any properly drafted special resolutions submitted from an MNA by 1 April 2020 which seeks to amend the new Constitution (if the new Constitution is first accepted by the EGM).

(b) Pakistan

The Board noted amendments from the Pakistan Sailing Federation sent to the Executive Office shortly before its recent AGM. The Board noted that, in the opinion of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Constitution Committee, the changes result in PSAF being in breach of Regulations 1.13(d) and 1.13(e) concerning the independence of MNA elections and non-interference by government authorities.

Decision

Under Regulation 1.15(a), the Board issues a formal warning requiring PSAF to amend its Constitution within six months of the date of notification.

If PSAF has not rectified the breach by then, the Board will suspend PSAF from its membership of World Sailing under Regulation 1.15(c) and report the matter to Council.

(c) Bolivia

The Board noted the decision of Council to admit the Bolivian Sailing Federation ("BSF") to full membership of World Sailing last year.

The Board received a recommendation from the Constitution Committee that the BSF be assigned to the entry category for subscriptions and, subject to consultation, that it be assigned to Group N.

Decision

The Board assigned the Bolivian Sailing Federation to the 'Entry Category' of members.

Subject to the views of the MNAs of Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay (which if received will be referred back to the Board), the Board will recommend to Council that Bolivia be added to Group N by electronic vote.

(d) CAS Anti-Doping Division

The Board received a request for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to delegate World Sailing's authority to the Anti-Doping Division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The Board noted this requires provisions of the World Sailing Anti-Doping Code to be waived in relation to the Olympic Games under Regulation 17.2.

The Board noted the Chairman of the Constitution Committee had been consulted and agreed with the proposal.

Decision

Under Regulation 17.2, the Board waives the relevant provisions of Regulations 21 and 35 to the extent necessary to allow delegation of World Sailing's first-instance authority to adjudicate any sanctions arising out of any anti doping rule violations committed during the Games Period.

The Board authorised the Anti-Doping Officer to sign the delegation on behalf of World Sailing.

The Board will report the waiver to Council as required by Regulation 17.

(e) VDWS – Application for Affiliate Membership

The Board received an application for affiliate membership from Verband Deutscher Wassersport Schulen e.V.

The Board noted the recommendation of the Constitution Committee.

Decision

The Board noted that, whilst the application met the technical requirements for membership, it did not consider it appropriate that educational organisations not affiliated to MNAs should be admitted to affiliate membership.

The Board recommends that Council rejects the application.

The Board requested that the Constitution Committee review the affiliate membership category and whether it requires updating.

(f) WADA/RUSADA Update

The Board received an update from the Anti-Doping Officer on the legal proceedings between WADA and RUSADA over Russia's non-compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.

The Board noted that under Regulation 21.15 that World Sailing must recognise the final decisions of WADA and the CAS.

Decision

The Anti-Doping Officer is authorised on behalf of the Board to implement the final decision of the Court of Arbitration for Sport within World Sailing.

(g) Contract Authorisations

The Board received a proposal from the Director of Legal & Governance.

Decision

The Board authorised Raksha Patel and one other Senior Management Team member to execute contracts and agreements with a total value up to £5,000, subject to each contract being approved by the Legal Department and not containing any unusual or significant commitments.

8. Events

(a) Tokyo 2020 Update

The Board received a report from the Olympic Technical Delegates.

Decision

The Board requested an update on the remaining Olympic qualification events with the potential consequences of the coronavirus.

(b) 2021 – 2028 Events Strategy

The Board received an update from the Director of Events.

(c) 2022 Youth Olympic Games

The Board received an update from the Director of Events. The Board noted the IOC had awarded an additional sixth medal and a quota increase of 28 athletes.

(d) Paris 2024 Programme Questionnaire

The Director of Events updated the Board on the submission of the Paris 2024 programme questionnaire. This will be now evaluated by the IOC Programme Commission with a final decision due from the IOC Executive Board by the end of 2020.

(e) 2020 Offshore World Championships

The Board received an update from the Director of Events.

(f) PWA/GKA Special Event Status

The Board received a paper from the Director of Events. The Board noted the ongoing efforts to resolve the current issues.

There being no other business, the President closed the meeting