

Men and Women' Windsurfer Equipment Re-evaluation

Board Recommendation to Council

In November 2017, Council approved World Sailing's new procedures for re-evaluating the equipment used for Olympic Events. This process is separate from the existing review process for the selection of equipment for new events under Regulation 23.1.3.

According to Regulation 23.6, the Board shall carry out re-evaluations of the equipment selected for Olympic Events. The purpose of re-evaluation under this Regulation is to ensure that:

- i. competing equipment and competing manufacturers of existing equipment can bid to be selected for Olympic Events and therefore access the market on a fair and objective basis;
- ii. reduce the risk of monopolies;
- iii. manufacturers do not become complacent, remain price-competitive, produce high-quality equipment, and do not abuse their market positions.

In January 2018, the Board put the equipment for the Men and Women's Windsurfer event for the 2024 Olympic Games under re-evaluation. Following the decision to retain the event in November 2018, an invitation to tender was published.

The Board appointed a Working Party¹ which evaluated 5 tenders received:

1. Neil Pryde tendering with RS:X equipment.
2. Technic Devotion Ind. tendering with Glyde equipment.
3. Windsurfer Class Association.
4. Starboard tendering with iFoil equipment (Foiling).
5. BOW-4Z (Foiling).

Phase 1 of the review focused on the evaluation against the approved Equipment criteria, the suitability to the event and the Market criteria. Following a report from the Working Party, the Board decided to keep Phase 1 open to further evaluate the information from all tenders regarding access to the market for qualified builders.

Having reviewed all information and tenders received, and having regard to the Working Party's assessment of the tenders, the Board makes the recommendation set out below to retain the RS:X as the equipment for the event.

The Board noted the decisions of Council to retain the Event and to retain the Equipment under the process in Regulation 23.1.3. The Board has had regard to the Equipment Criteria approved by Council to be used in the evaluation, and in particular, considers that any major change such as change to foiling should only be considered if deemed the only acceptable option to fulfil the purposes of the process.

¹ Working Party: Scott Perry (Vice President), Yann Rocherieux (Chairman, Athletes' Commission), Dina Kowalyszyn (Chairman, Equipment Committee), Jurgen Cluytmans (Equipment Committee), Ana Gamulin (Constitution Committee), Jaime Navarro (Head of Technical and Offshore), Hendrik Plate (Technical Specialist).

The Board considers that the RS:X, the equipment proposed by Neil Pryde, fits the Equipment Criteria set by Council. As part of the evaluation of tenders, the Board has considered the relevant information and commitment from Neil Pryde to allow other manufacturers to access the market under the terms of World Sailing's Olympic Equipment Policy included in the updated Olympic Classes Contract.

Recommendation to Council:

The Board recommends to Council that World Sailing should retain the current Equipment (RS:X) subject to the Olympic Classes Contract.

01/05/2019