World Sailing Constitution

Chairman of the Athletes’ Commission

A submission from the Executive Committee

Purpose or Objective

To provide that the Chairman of the Athletes’ Commission is a full voting member of the Board of Directors.

Proposal

1. Amend Article 36.1(g) as follows:

   The Council of the Federation shall consist of:-

   […]

   (g) a member appointed by and from the Athletes’ Commission the Chairman of the Athletes’ Commission;

2. Amend Article 64 as follows:

   64. The officers directors of the Federation shall consist of the President, the seven Vice-Presidents (two of whom shall be women), and the Chairman of the Athletes’ Commission and the Chief Executive Officer.

Current Position

As above.

Reason

1. The presence of athletes in decision-making is an essential component of World Sailing’s processes. The quadrennial review of Olympic sports conducted by the IOC assesses whether or not athletes are able to participate and vote at board meetings and this is viewed by the IOC as an important measure in ensuring the voice of athletes is heard at the highest level within their sport. In addition, other international federations are granting athletes full membership of their boards and this is fast becoming the norm.

2. Although the Chairman of the Athletes Commission is a full voting member of Council, she is currently invited to attend Executive Committee meetings on an ad hoc invitation-only basis. Therefore, the Chairman of the Athletes’ Commission should become a full voting member of the Board in order to satisfy the IOC expectation that athletes inform decisions made at board-level.