

The Para World Sailing Committee met at 09:30 – 18:00 hours on Sunday 5 November 2017 at the Sheraton Buganvilias Resort & Convention Center, Pto. Vallarta, Mexico.

Please refer to the World Sailing website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda.

Attendees

Committee: Betsy Alison USA, David Staley AUS, Alfred Pelinka AUT, Andrew Clouston NZL, Bernard Destrube FRA, Luis Velasco ARG, Masa Suto JP. Via Skype: Brian Todd CAN

Apologies: Maja Lesny POL, Megan Pascoe GBR, Leo Sanchez ESP

World Sailing: Scott Perry, Andy Hunt, Massimo Dighe, Alistair Fox, Daniel Smith, Michael Dorning, Carlos Beltran

Observers: Emma Hallen SWE, Cliff Cook CAN, John Derbyshire GBR, Eduardo Rodriguez CUB, Liz Baylis USA, Glen Stanaway AUS, Sarah Treseder GBR, Nick Crabtree GAC Pindar, John Partridge RS Sailing

1. Opening of the Meeting

Welcome by the Chairman

Betsy Alison welcomed the committee and observers, *noting* that four members were unable to attend but Brian Todd was able to join via Skype.

Conflicts of Interest have been declared and will be addressed on specific agenda items if required.

Previous Minutes

Moved by Bernard Destrube that the minutes of the previous annual meeting and skype meetings through the year be approved.

Seconded Andrew Clouston. Carried Unanimously.

2. Para World Sailing Committee Working Parties

To note the members of the Working Parties and receive a brief update

- Classifiers Working Party – Jurgen Schwittai, Bernard Destrube, Holly King, Sarah Ross
- Equipment Evaluation & Technical Working Party – Brian Todd, Alfred Pelinka
- Development Working Party – Andrew Clouston, Emma Hallen
- Athletes Working Party – Megan Pascoe, Heiko Kroger

Working relationships with World Sailing Committees

There is strong support amongst the World Sailing Committees for the inclusion of Para Sailing in the Regional Games and the World Sailing Championships in future. Regional qualification will be part of the proposal for reintroduction of sailing in 2024.

The PWSC is represented on the following World Sailing Committees:

- Medical Committee
- Regions and Development
- Equipment Committee
- Equipment Rules Sub Committee
- Council

3. Para World Sailing Strategic Plan

The strategic plan has been the focus of all the Committee meetings since the adoption of the plan in 2016. Para World Sailing Manager Massimo Dighe presented a report including the 2018 priorities and there was discussion around each of these points and actions noted.

- Goal 1: Increase worldwide participation to 40 nations on 4 continents by the end of 2020.
- Goal 2: Expand Competition
- Goal 3: Effective marketing and communications
- Goal 4: Governance and rules
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4. Paralympic Development Program

Massimo Dighe delivered a presentation about the PDP.

A PDP will be held ahead of the Worlds in Sheboygan and the aim is to select a maximum of 5 additional venues (budget dependant) for programs in 2018.

5. Equipment Evaluation

Brian Todd has worked with Bernard Destrube and Andrew Clouston initially and more recently with Alfred Pelinka in the Equipment Evaluation Working Party to evaluate the proposed equipment for future Para Sailing World Championship, Sailing World Cup events and Paralympic Sailing Competition.

6. 2024 Paralympic Games

Equipment and formats will be trialled at the 2018 Para Sailing World Championships in Sheboygan and in events leading up to the Worlds.

The Committee finalised its recommendation to Council for the equipment and formats for the 2018 calendar year and 2018 Para Sailing World Championship:

Single Person Keelboat (Technical) – Open Gender

Equipment – 2.4 Norlin OD

Format – Fleet Racing with medal race

Single Person Keelboat (Non-Technical) – Male

Equipment – Hansa 303

Format – Short Course Fleet Racing, Supplied Boat with medal race

Single Person Keelboat (Non-Technical) – Female

Equipment – Hansa 303

Format – Short Course Fleet Racing, Supplied Boat with medal race

Two Person Keelboat – Open Gender

Equipment – RS Venture Connect

Format – Short Course Fleet Racing, Supplied Boat with late stage knockouts.
Winner of final race wins the event

The 2018 events are seen as experimental, to test formats and equipment that can be included in the World Sailing Proposal for the 2024 Paralympic Sports Program. The current focus is to continue to grow the number of participating nations and increase spectator and media appeal.

The recommendation for the selected and equipment was made with the following in mind:

- Supplied boats in 2 of the 3 disciplines should reduce costs for sailors and should encourage increased participation by MNAs
- Selected equipment provides for a wide range of disability types and severity
- Selected equipment and disciplines should encourage a natural increase of female sailors
- Classification for 2 person boat to encourage greater female participation

7. Events

- a) World Cup Series – Norlin 2.4 OD is currently included.
- b) 2017 Para World Sailing Championship – 78 sailors from 37 nations and 5 continents. Strong support from World Sailing, GAC Pindar, RYA and US Sailing. Technical Delegate's report circulated.
- c) 2017 Blind Fleet Sailing World Championship – Technical Delegate's report circulated.

- d) 2017 European Youth Para Games - Technical Delegate's report circulated. Well regarded experience by athletes and coaches.
- e) 2018 Para Sailing World Championship – Site visit report has been circulated. Sheboygan is a good venue for the formats proposed.
- f) Other Events
 - European Sailing Championships in Gdynia involved 8 participants sailing Norlin 2.4 OD
 - Hansa European Championships in Meze included 72 classified sailors amongst the open fleet
 - 2018 Hansa Class World Championships will be held in Hiroshima
 - Aim to have Para Kiteboarding demonstration event in 2018 – possibly before or after a PDP
 - Aim to have Blind Match Racing demonstration (in RS Venture?) for the IPC in Sheboygan

8. Rankings

The events for 2018 are to be decided before the end of 2017 (next PWSC Skype Meeting). Likely to be Para World Sailing Championships, identified Regional Sailing Championships and World Cup Series events.

9. Submissions

020-17 – Moved Andrew Clouston that the committee recommend to Council that the submission be approved. Seconded David Staley. Carried Unanimously.

101-17 – Moved Brian Todd that the committee recommend to Council that the submission be approved. Seconded Luis Velasco. Carried Unanimously.

116-17 – Moved David Staley that the committee recommend to Council that the submission be rejected. Seconded Andrew Clouston. Carried Unanimously.

Comments: The Committee agrees with the purpose and objectives of the submission, however it is premature to confirm the selection of equipment, the crew number and gender requirements of any equipment before testing its use in competition or before the final details of the International Paralympic Committee requirements are known.

156-17 – It was noted that the committee is highly supportive of the submission but is concerned that it was not listed as a reporting committee on this submission which directly affects its athlete group.

10. Annual Report

Chair Betsy Alison's Report to Council has been circulated to the Committee.

11. Any other Business

- Clarification of Para Sailing terminology:
 - Committee - Para World Sailing Committee (PWSC)
 - World Championship Event – Para Sailing World Championship
 - Non-World Championship Event – Para Sailing Championship

Meeting closed at 1745hrs