

The PWSC met virtually at 1900 UTC on 19th June 2026

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| 1. Opening of the Meeting | 5. WSIC 2026 |
| 2. World Sailing Updates | 6. WSIC WG Update |
| 3. IPC Bid Update | 7. Rankings grading system |
| 4. Classification Sub Committee Update | 8. AOB |
| | 9. Next Meeting |

Members Present:

Kay Rawbone (Chair)	Yuki Hagiwara	Jazz Turner
Jazz Turner	Henriette Smith	Elliot Levy
Marco Predieri	Helen McKenzie (CSC)	Alfred Pelinka
Sarah Ogylvie		

Invited Presenters:

Adrian Stoggall		
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Staff Present:

Hannah Stodel	Leo af Rosenborg	
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Board Present:

Cory Sertl	Sophia Papamichalopoulos	
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Agenda Items

1. Opening of the Meeting

a. Housekeeping (HS):

Hannah opened the meeting with standard housekeeping notes. Members and observers were reminded to remain respectful throughout discussions, particularly on sensitive topics such as classification. The meeting was recorded by World Sailing, and attendees were asked not to make their own recordings. Hannah confirmed that meeting notes and the recording would be made available following the meeting.

b. Chair's Opening Remarks (KR):

Kay welcomed all attendees and thanked the committee, working group members, and World Sailing staff for their continued support. Kay highlighted the strong progress being made across Para Inclusive Sailing, noting the growing number of events and the increasing momentum across the programme. She also thanked Daniel and Shauna for their support in Antigua and acknowledged the work of the classification team in progressing the classification review and IPC alignment work.

Kay reinforced the importance of inclusivity as a core principle of sailing and encouraged continued collaboration and active participation from committee members.

c. Apologies for Absence:

Besty Alison USA
Daniel Belcher VP
Emma Hallen SWE

d. Minutes of May Meeting:

Taken as read.

e. Matters Arising:

None noted.

2. World Sailing Updates

a. Office updates:

Hannah provided an update from the World Sailing office.

She joined the meeting from Antigua, where the Inclusive Development Programme (IDP) was due to begin the following day. Hannah reported that the programme would run over four days, followed by a three-day regional championship using RS Venture Connect boats.

The Antigua programme included 24 participants from 10 countries, representing a strong start for the 2026 IDP programme and a significant step forward for the Caribbean region.

Hannah noted that office activity remained extremely busy, with continued focus on:

- WSIC delivery
- classification reform
- database development
- daily programme operations

She also acknowledged delays in responding to classification enquiries due to high demand and asked stakeholders for patience as the small team worked through a large volume of requests.

Overall, office operations were described as full pace and progressing as expected.

b. Board updates:

Sophia provided an update from the Board.

She reported that Council had recently received an update on Para classification and the work underway to align World Sailing with the new IPC Classification Code.

Sophia noted the significant amount of work taking place around consultation, operational testing and stakeholder engagement. She encouraged the wider community to participate actively in the consultation process to help strengthen the provisional rules and improve the overall classification system.

Sophia thanked the Classification Subcommittee and all contributors for their work to date.

3. IPC Bid Update

Hannah provided the IPC campaign update on behalf of Scott.

She reported continued positive progress following the IPC Open Days in May. Recent communications with IPC had focused heavily on classification developments and the new database system.

Hannah confirmed that the IPC Classification Team would shortly be given a demonstration of the Globocol database platform, which was seen as a very positive sign of IPC engagement.

Further discussions had also taken place with key members of the IPC Board, with encouraging feedback received regarding interest in attending the World Sailing Inclusion Championships.

Hannah reiterated that the campaign for Paralympic reinstatement remains in a positive position, but continued effort and momentum are essential.

Current timelines remain unchanged, with any decision dependent on the IOC first confirming the Olympic programme before IPC confirms the Paralympic programme.

Hannah encouraged committee members to continue supporting communications and stakeholder engagement where possible.

4. Classification Sub Committee

a. Helen provided an update on classification reform.

She confirmed that the Classification Subcommittee remains fully focused on ensuring compliance with IPC requirements and delivering a robust classification framework to support Paralympic reinstatement.

Current work is focused on:

- refinement of provisional classification rules
- development of sport-specific functional testing
- stakeholder consultation
- research and evidence gathering

Helen emphasised the importance of the upcoming consultation process and encouraged broad stakeholder participation from athletes, coaches, MNAs and classifiers.

She stated that one key objective is to make classification more understandable, more user-friendly and more transparent.

Helen also reported positive feedback following discussions with IPC during the Open Days. Supporting evidence and research rationale behind the proposed rules had been shared with IPC.

Two research streams are progressing:

- Intellectual Impairment research
- broader Para classification research

Both are intended to strengthen the evidence base underpinning the classification system.

Helen noted that provisional rules are expected to go to Council in September, with testing continuing throughout 2026 and final implementation planned for January 2027.

Testing opportunities include:

- RS Venture event in Travemünde
- Eurasian Cup in Mysore
- WSIC Portimão

These events will allow the system to be trialled and refined before implementation.

Hannah added that updated consultation materials, draft rules and feedback portals would continue to be published on the World Sailing website.

Stakeholders were strongly encouraged to review the provisional rules and submit feedback.

b. Classification database update

Leo provided an update on the classification database.

He confirmed that a functional prototype of the application stage is now operational.

The current system allows MNA administrators and coaches to submit classification applications on behalf of athletes.

Guidance materials and updated MDF documentation are available on the classification webpage.

Leo explained that the current priority is stress testing the system using real applications before wider rollout.

Accounts are currently being created for known athletes requiring classification for:

- World Championships
- RS Games
- Eurasian Cup

Once additional testing is complete, access will be rolled out more broadly to all MNAs.

Leo reported that the platform is progressing well and improving weekly based on feedback from athletes, classifiers and MNAs.

5. **WSIC 2026**

Adrian and Leo provided the WSIC update.

Leo reported strong progress in entries since the early entry period.

Current entries:

- 77 entries
- 126 sailors
- 25 nations

The strategic target remains 39 nations, aligned with the nation participation figures shared with IPC.

Adrian stressed the importance of continuing to promote the event and urged committee members to actively encourage entries.

He highlighted that awareness remains a challenge, with some sailors still unaware of the championship despite ongoing communications.

Both Adrian and Hannah encouraged:

- entry submissions
- charter requests
- wider promotion through all networks

Kay suggested another communication should be sent to MNAs, particularly as some MNAs had not received earlier messaging.

Hannah agreed and confirmed another communication would be prepared, including emerging nations information.

b) Sailors Forum Question (AIN Status)

The agenda item relating to a Sailors Forum question on AIN status was deferred.

The athlete due to raise the question was unable to attend due to travel difficulties.

Decision: Athlete to submit question in writing for later discussion via committee circulation.

6. WSIC WG

Hannah provided an update on behalf of Emma.

The WSIC Working Group held its first meeting successfully.

Discussion focused on:

- the purpose and ethos of WSIC
- current registration numbers
- growth opportunities
- communications challenges
- emerging nations engagement

A major discussion point was the ongoing difficulty in effectively communicating with the Para sailing community.

Challenges remain in ensuring communications reach:

- athletes
- coaches
- support staff
- MNAs

The working group will focus on improving awareness and engagement around WSIC and strengthening future event growth.

Hannah confirmed the group will meet monthly.

She also noted that bidding for WSIC 2028–2030 is expected to open in August.

7. Rankings Grading System

Betsy's item was discussed in her absence.

Henriette supported the proposal, noting that the suggested 500km radius approach made practical sense, especially in geographically large regions and countries.

She felt it could help encourage broader regional participation beyond major sailing hubs.

Alfred also supported the proposal overall but raised one concern.

He cautioned that the Para ranking system should remain aligned with Olympic ranking principles where possible, particularly in anticipation of future Paralympic reinstatement.

He suggested care should be taken to avoid developing a ranking model that may later conflict with Olympic-style systems.

Further discussion to continue online.

8. Any Other Business

Kay raised feedback from Hong Kong following a classification forum.

Hong Kong has shown strong interest in becoming a regional classification hub and is exploring partnerships involving physiotherapy and optometry to support Para sailing classification and athlete development.

Helen welcomed this development and suggested a seminar or workshop could be organised to support classifier education and regional development.

Further discussion to continue offline.

9. Next Meetings

The committee discussed the addition of a third rotating meeting time slot. The new time slot was positively received, particularly by members in Asia-Pacific regions.

Despite requiring very early attendance for some members, the committee agreed the third slot improves global accessibility and inclusivity.

Decision: Continue with the third rotating meeting slot.

Scheduling of future meetings for August and September was deferred for further discussion offline.

The Committee Scheduled the next meeting as Follows:

23rd July 1100 BST (1000 UTC)

Action List – Para World Sailing Committee Meeting (June 2026)

PWSC Actions

1. Classification Consultation Feedback

Committee members to review the provisional classification rules and submit feedback during the consultation period.

Feedback should be gathered from:

- sailors
- coaches
- classifiers
- MNAs
- support personnel

Owner: All PWSC members

Status: Ongoing

2. Support Classification Testing at Key Events

Committee members to support engagement and athlete participation in classification testing at:

- Travemünde
- Mysore
- Portimão

This includes encouraging athletes to participate in testing alongside normal classification processes.

Owner: PWSC / Classification Subcommittee

Lead: Helen

Status: Ongoing

3. Promote WSIC 2026

Committee members to actively promote WSIC 2026 within their national and regional networks.

Focus on:

- driving entries
- encouraging charter requests
- promoting to emerging nations
- improving awareness in underrepresented regions

Particular concern noted that many eligible sailors remain unaware of the event.

Owner: All PWSC members

Lead: Adrian / WSIC WG

Status: Ongoing

4. WSIC Working Group Monthly Meetings

Continue monthly WSIC Working Group meetings to support:

- event growth
- communications
- future hosting strategy
- athlete engagement

Owner: WSIC Working Group

Lead: Emma

Status: Ongoing

5. Working Group Meetings to Commence

Remaining working groups to hold initial meetings.

Priority groups:

- VI Working Group
- Promotion & Communications WG
- Growth & Participation WG
- Emerging Nations Definition Group

Owner: Working Group Leads

Leads: Betsy / Yuki / Kay / PWSC

Status: In Progress

6. Rankings Proposal Review

Committee members to review Betsy's rankings proposal in more detail and continue providing feedback, particularly regarding alignment with future Olympic/Paralympic ranking systems.

Owner: PWSC

Lead: Betsy

Status: Ongoing

7. Hong Kong Classification Hub Discussion

Further discussion to continue with Hong Kong regarding regional classification development and potential seminar/workshop support.

Owner: PWSC / Classification Subcommittee

Lead: Kay / Helen

Status: Ongoing

World Sailing Executive Actions

1. Publish Classification Consultation Materials

Continue updating the World Sailing website with:

- consultation information
- classification resources
- guidance documents
- question portal
- draft rules

Ensure community has clear access to feedback routes.

Owner: Hannah / Leo

Status: In Progress

2. Continue Globocol Database Testing

Continue stress testing the classification database using live athlete applications before wider rollout.

Need additional real-world applications to test workflows fully.

Owner: Leo

Status: Ongoing

3. Prepare MNA Communication on WSIC

Send updated communication to MNAs regarding WSIC 2026.

Include:

- event reminder
- entry process
- charter requests
- emerging nations funding support

Special attention needed for MNAs who missed earlier communications.

Owner: Hannah / Leo

Status: Pending

4. Sailors Forum AIN Question

Receive written submission from athlete unable to attend meeting and circulate question to committee for discussion.

Owner: Hannah / Henriette

Status: Pending

5. Resolve VI Working Group Scheduling Tool

Replace Microsoft scheduling tool due to accessibility issues for screen-reader users.

Identify and implement accessible alternative scheduling system.

Owner: Hannah / Leo

Status: Urgent / In Progress

6. Schedule Remaining Working Groups

Schedule first meetings for:

- VI Working Group
- Promotion & Communications WG
- Emerging Nations Group

Owner: Hannah / Leo

Status: Pending

7. Process and Publish Meeting Minutes

Prepare and publish June PWSC meeting notes and recording.

Target publication within 14 days.

Owner: Hannah / Leo

Status: Pending