

World Sailing
Growth of Sailing Meeting Minutes

Meeting Dates: May 5, 2026

Location: Teams Webinar Meeting – Transferred to Zoom Meeting due to technical issues

Commencement Time: 11:00 UTC

<u>Members Present:</u>	
Malav Shroff (IND) – Chair	Irina Pérez Leroux (DOM)
Inga Jakobson (LAT) – Vice Chair	Alain Alcindor (SEY)
John Philp (FIJ)	Mandiaye Diouf (SEN)
Sigrid Beckmann (MEX)	Borka Bachrata (SVK)
Stratis Andreadis (GRE)	David Covo (CAN) - PANAM Sailing
Maciej Szafran (POL)	Jenny Trumble (VIN)
Pinar Coskuner Genc (TUR) - EUROSAF	Jennifer Hall (CAN) - OOC
<u>VPs & Staff Attendance:</u>	
Tomasz Chamera (POL) – Vice President	Fiona Kidd – Head of International Development
Beatriz Gonzalez Luna (MEX) – Vice President	Larisa Zejen – Development Assistant
Sophia Papadopoulos	
<u>Members Absent :</u>	
Mohamed Alobeidli (UAE)	Luis Velasco (ARG)
Albassel Ibrahim (EGY)	Emma Hallén (SWE) - Para Sailing
Raynor Haag (NZL)	Mengdi Zhang (CHN)
Abdur Rehman Arshad (PAK) - ASAF	

<u>Agenda Items</u>
1. <u>Opening of the Meeting</u> a. Chair's Opening Remarks The Chair opened the meeting after it was changed to a Zoom call due to technical issues with the Teams Webinar. b. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest Apologies received from Capt Arshad, Emma Hallen, and Mengdi Zhang. c. Minutes of the meetings held on March 24th & April 7th 2026 The Meeting Minutes were approved as circulated. d. Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the Minutes not on the current agenda. e. Decisions by Email There were no decisions by email.
2. <u>Pillar 1 Execution Plans</u> Sigrid Beckmann (SB) presented an updated Pillar 1 Execution Plan for the Pan American WG. SB outlines a 3 year roadmap from Foundation, Expansion and Consolidation and presented a Funding Ecosystem.



Their plan included the costs & timelines of implementing the following 5 priorities:

- Coaching & Clinics
- Equipment Support
- Events & Pathway
- Inclusion Programs
- Coordination

3. Pillar 2 Execution Plans

- a. Borka Bachrata (BB) presented the implementation plan for the **Europe Working Group** regarding Pillar #2 – Leisure & Recreational Sailing (Women, Adults, Youth & Para).

BB presented two recommendations along with costs and timelines. The recommendation are as follows:

- To create **Simplified Racing Rules for Grassroots & Recreational Sailing**. The aim is to reduce barriers to race organisation and participation across European and other MNAs, and to support the full sailing pathway from Foundation Sailing through Social to Competitive sailing and to grow the number people sailing for life & fun.
- To **Boost Sailing Along with Flagship Keelboat Events**. By supporting and leveraging a selection of existing large-scale, inclusive European sailing events as growth accelerators for the whole sport — they can be used to connect keelboat, dinghy, para sailing, social sailing, and spectator engagement in a shared festival format — and link these strategically to global sailing projects . Ideally use the keelboat events to promote sailing, make it more accessible, popular and work with organizers to be more open towards wider participation and linked events.

- b. John Philp (JP) presented the **Oceania Workign Group** Pillar 2 Implementation Plan that is based on 4 priority areas and develop the simple implementation plan for each of the following priorities:

- **Green Fleet** – simple beginner programme formats, racing with simplified rules, clear progression (try sailing)
- **Online entry** - level coach & instructor support – Pilot based on Yachting NZ's existing online model – extend to Samoa & Fiji
- **Low-cost participation pathway guidance** – guidance for MNA's, club owned boat models, staged progression before international class equipment
- **Parent & Volunteer support toolkit** – Ready to use resource for clubs across region, engage parents as volunteers, help parents support participation.

- c. Alan Alcindor (AA) presented the Afirca Workign Group Pillar 2 Implementation Plan that involves one main initiative: **Equipment Support Programme for African MNA's**.

This programme is supporting access to equipment, through the lens of sustainability & develoment that is alighed with World Sailing's Sustainability Agenda 2030. The objectives of the programme are as follows:

- Facilitate access to safe and usable second-hand equipment
- Strengthen participation and development capacity
- Align with global sustainability goals
- Enable long-term growth of sailing in Africa

AA presented the objectives of the programme and the key outputs and KPI's that are supported by targeted milestones and costs over a 4 year period.



d. Sigrid Beckmann (SB) presented the Pan Americas Working Group Pillar 2 presentation. The Implementation plan is defined by a minimum set of programs required to create sustainable access to sailing. • Entry programs (youth, schools, adults) • Equipment access (micro-fleets) • Instructor Development • Local delivery hubs • Inclusion programs • Coordination SB outlined the costs for each of the program and the KPI's. She also outlined the funding ecosystem similar to the version presented in Pillar 1. SB also presented an integrated impact on Pillars 1 & 2 and suggested that the Pillar content is switched to illustrate that participation at the grass roots Pillar 2 leads into the Pillar 1 (Competitive Sailing). e. The Asia Working Group did not present their Pillar 2 Implementation Presentation because members of the Working Group were not in attendance. It is deferred to the next meeting.
4. <u>Regional Hubs</u> World Sailing has contracted Koray Ezer to work on establishing High Performance Training Hubs. He is working with Bahrain and China on establishing two centers.
5. <u>2026 Work Plan</u> The Revised 2026 Work Plan that includes the new Cross-Committee Working Group and the renaming of the Pan American Working Group (formally the Americas Working Group) is on the Agenda of the Board Meeting held on May 19th. If approved, it will go to Council for final ratification on June 9th.
6. <u>ENP Definition</u> Vice President Tomasz Chamera, has suggested that the committee review the Emerging Nations Definition for the 2025 to 2028 period. The previous committee (Participation & Development Committee) approved the definition in Nov 2024 for implementation in January 2025. Action: Fiona Kidd (FK) to send the committee the current definition and the previous definition for review at the next meeting.
7. <u>2026 Development Webinar Series</u> There are two Webinars planned for June. The Theme is the "Social Impact of Sailing". The first will be from the 'Little Optimist' in South Africa and the second will be from the Hyderabad Yacht Club in India. Both organizations have made a significant impact in using sailing as a way of helping youth to grow and obtain opportunities for their own personal development in sailing and in life. Action: FK to send information on the Webinars to the committee members prior to the next meeting.
8. <u>2026 Development Symposium</u> FK reported that the development Symposium will not be held at the Annual Conference in its current form. There are two 3 hrs time slots set aside for Development oriented discussions. FK to report back any developments from the Board.
9. <u>Report from Executive Office</u> a. Report from the Board Representative(s) Beatriz reported on the upcoming Board Meeting taking place in London, May 19-21st. They will be discussing the Work Plan and many of the other priorities, in particular World Sailing's bid to return to the Paralympics.



Private & Confidential

b. Report from the Staff

FK reported on the two major programmes that are currently taking place.

- i. The first programme currently underway is the Development Coach Scholarship four-week residential programme delivered from 20 April to 16 May at the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy in partnership with the Andrew Simpson Foundation. 9 candidates from the following 9 nations are in attendance, ALG, BIZ, IND, JAM, MRI, TAN, TTO, SOL, and VIN. The Scholarship continues over the next 6-8 months with 3 Online Modules and 1:1 mentoring sessions. The Performance Coach Scholarship will take place in September. The application process to open in the last week of May.
- ii. The second Development Programme currently underway is the Youth Olympic Training Camp #3 taking place in Tangier, Morocco from May 4-9th. 13 sailors and 8 coaches are attending the training camp representing 7 countries (ALG, EGY, MAR, TUN, MAD, ANG, and RSA). It was the first training camp that Angola and South Africa attended. Unfortunately, Libya was unable to secure visas, while Senegal withdrew at short notice due to authorisation issues.

This camp is the third of four training camps organised by World Sailing and funded through Olympic Solidarity. The programme is designed to provide technical coaching support to sailors and coaches across Africa in preparation for the Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal, in November.

The Techno 293 Class provided two expert coaches, delivering four days of high-quality on-water training focused on technical development and race preparation.

10. AOB

Action: FK to investigate the Teams Webinar issue. Committee members are having difficulty connecting to the webinar.

Action: FK to summarize the Pillar 1 & Pillar 2 Implementation plans and circulate to the committee prior to the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled on June 2nd at 11:00 UTC.