International Regulations Commission, 2.b
WS Technical & Offshore Department
16 November 2026

WORLD SAILING INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS COMMISSION ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2027-2030

1. Committee Name

International Regulations Commission

2. Committee Members

Alan Massey – GBR - Chair	Johannes Christophers - GER	Rob Hoogstra - NED
Elena Matzaridou – GRE – Vice-Chair	Michael Mifsud - MLT	
Bedelmeneim Ben Hariz - LBA	Patrick Lindqvist - FIN	
Hamid Shomali - IRA	Rabih Salem - LBN	

3. Working Groups

Working Group	Lead	Members
IMO Surveillance	Alan Massey	All
ISO and EBA Surveillance	Johannes Christophers	SC, JC, MM
Polar Code and Navigation	Patrick Lindqvist	PL, RH, HS
Environmental regulation	Elena Matzaridou	EM, BH, RS

4. Remit and Strategic Alignment

"Ready for the Future 2025-2029"
"Olympic Vision"
"Sustainability Agenda 2030"
"Steering the Course: Women in Sailing"

Mission/Remit	Mission Statement/Remit: To provide advice on matters related to the regulation of recreational boats or craft by government actions or otherwise.
Alignment to WS Strategies	
Surveillance and reporting of regulatory developments	Good governance principles: 'adopt best in class governance practices'
Collaboration with WS and external specialist bodies on compliance issues	'A more collaborative approach in everything we do'
Promotion of marine environmental and sustainability issues	'Retaining our lead position on sustainability in sport'
Consideration of wider global safety and security factors for sailors	'Prioritise athlete safety'
Keeping pace with new technological developments with potential regulatory consequences	'Encourage innovation throughout the sport and embrace technology'

5. Objectives for the Year

List 3–5 specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) objectives for the year.

Objective 1	Attend and report on key meetings of IMO, ISO and EBA, submitting summaries for Board consideration at annual Conference
Objective 2	Make selective interventions within relevant bodies where the interests of WS might be impacted by regulatory developments
Objective 3	Issue Commission guidance from time to time on matters relating to regulatory changes and safety-of-navigation matters
Objective 4	Update the Polar Yacht Guide by end of March 2027
Objective 5	Update the piracy/armed robbery guidance by end 2027

6. Key Activities

- Break down the objectives into actionable tasks with deadlines and responsible parties.
- Define key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure progress and success.
- Outline the resources required to achieve the objectives.

OBJECTIVE 1	Attend and report on key meetings of IMO, ISO and EBA, submitting summaries for Board consideration at annual Conference			
TASKS	**DEADLINE**	**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**KPI**	**RESOURCE REQUIRED**
Compile and issue meetings attendance plan for the forthcoming year		Chair	Plan agreed by Commission members	Nil
Submit WS budget bid for Commission activities		Chair	Budget bid approved by WS	Sufficient funds allocated by WS to enable attendance
Compile and submit succinct meeting reports	Within 7 days of meeting end	Lead attendee	Reports issued and accepted	Time and expertise

OBJECTIVE 2	Make selective interventions within relevant bodies where the interests of WS might be impacted by regulatory developments			
TASKS	**DEADLINE**	**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**KPI**	**RESOURCE REQUIRED**
In consultation with the Chair or Vice-Chair, make concise verbal or written interventions in discussions where WS interests may be impacted	At the time	Lead attendee	WS intervention noted and, where appropriate, acted upon	As required to enable attendance
Record any such interventions in meeting report	Within 7 days of meeting end	Lead attendee	WS intervention noted and recorded/minuted	As required to enable attendance

OBJECTIVE 3	Issue Commission guidance from time to time on matters relating to regulatory changes and safety-of-navigation matters			
TASKS	**DEADLINE**	**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**KPI**	**RESOURCE REQUIRED**
Draft Commission guidance on specific subjects related to regulatory, safety and security matters, consulting with other bodies as appropriate	As agreed with the Chair	Subject-matter lead	Guidance agreed and issued	Time and expertise

OBJECTIVE 4	Update the Polar Yacht Guide by the end of March 2027			
TASKS	**DEADLINE**	**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**KPI**	**RESOURCE REQUIRED**
Convene expert input to review and update PYG	31th March 2027	Patrick Lindqvist	PYG revised and re-issued	Time, expertise and limited funding for PL's travel and accommodation, as necessary to consult with other experts

OBJECTIVE 5	Updated guidance on Piracy Risks			
TASKS	**DEADLINE**	**RESPONSIBLE PARTY**	**KPI**	**RESOURCE REQUIRED**
Liaise with the joint maritime security centre to update guidance	31December 2027	Alan Massey	Piracy Guidance revised and re-issued	Time and expertise

7. Reporting and Review

a. Submit an annual progress report to the World Sailing Board and present detailed findings at the annual Conference.
b. Commission Chair to report annually to the O&O Committee at Conference on regulatory developments and Commission activities during the year.

8. Continuous Improvement

At its annual meeting the Commission will specifically consider its processes and achievements over the preceding year and make an assessment of its overall effectiveness, seeking inputs from both Commission members and relevant external bodies. Recommendations for improvement will be welcomed both at that meeting, and at any point during the year where changes are considered necessary or desirable.