

2020 Olympic Sailing Competition

Events and Equipment – Regulations 23.1.3(f), 23.1.4 and 23.1.7

A submission from the Executive Committee

Purpose or Objective

To introduce a period of continuity in sailing's Olympic Events and Equipment that will:

1. allow ISAF, its committees, MNAs and the Olympic Classes to focus on working together to grow participation and enhance the overall event structure of the sport;
2. support ISAF's campaign for additional medals for kiteboarding in 2020.

Proposal 1

1. All ten 2016 Olympic Events and Equipment shall be included in the 2020 Olympic Sailing Competition.
2. Additional medals shall be sought from IOC for Kiteboarding in 2020.
3. The Olympic Classes contract, and ISAF's relationships with the Olympic Class Associations and manufacturers, shall be strengthened to give ISAF an appropriate level of control and authority over the continued availability of fair Olympic equipment, and to encourage joint initiatives to improve the universality and attractiveness of Olympic sailing.
4. The name of the Event using the Finn Equipment is changed in the ISAF Regulations from "Men's 2nd One Person Dinghy" to "Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy".
5. The Regulation changes to implement the above are detailed below.

Proposal 2

Add new Regulation 23.1.3(f)

- (f) Notwithstanding regulation 23.1.3(a) to (e) above, the ten Olympic Events and Equipment in Regulation 23.1.4 are selected for the 2020 Olympic Sailing Competition. Equipment evolution shall be permitted and shall be decided in accordance with 23.1.3(d). In the event that Sailing is allocated an additional medal for 2020, a Kiteboarding Event shall be selected. This regulation shall be deleted at the conclusion of the 2020 Olympic Games**

Proposal 3

Amend Regulation 23.1.4 as follows:

2016 Olympic Events and Equipment:

Men's Board - RS:X
Women's Board - RS:X
Men's One Person Dinghy - Laser
Women's One Person Dinghy – Laser Radial
Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy - Finn
Men's Skiff - 49er
Women's Skiff – 49erFX
Men's Two Person Dinghy - 470
Women's Two Person Dinghy - 470
Mixed Two Person Multihull – Nacra 17

2020 Olympic Events and Equipment:

Men's Board - RS:X
Women's Board - RS:X
Men's One Person Dinghy - Laser
Women's One Person Dinghy – Laser Radial
Heavyweight Men's One Person Dinghy - Finn
Men's Skiff - 49er
Women's Skiff – 49erFX
Men's Two Person Dinghy - 470
Women's Two Person Dinghy - 470
Mixed Two Person Multihull – Nacra 17

Proposal 4

Amend Regulation 23.1.7 first sentence as follows

23.1.7 Council may ~~decide to~~ **only** change a ~~specific part of Regulation 23.1.4 closer in time to the Olympic Games than permitted in Regulation 23.1.3~~ **decision already made with regard to selection of an Olympic Event or Equipment** if at least 75% of votes cast are in favour of a motion to ~~do so~~ **change that specific Olympic Event or Equipment selection.** In such an event, the timescales in regulation 23.1.3 shall not apply, and any subsequent voting process shall ensure that an Event or Equipment is de-selected, or new Event or Equipment is selected, only after a vote of more than 50% of votes cast in favour of the decision.

Notes to the submission

- i. Evolution of existing Olympic equipment is permitted, but only at the request or with the approval of ISAF.
- ii. Regulation 23.1.7 is simplified to make it clear that, if extra-ordinary circumstances require it (e.g. non-availability of Equipment), any Event or Equipment selection can be changed with a 75% vote of Council in favour of a motion to do so.
- iii. To give the campaign for additional kiteboarding medals the best chance of success, it is important that kiteboarding events are integrated into ISAF championships as soon as practical within the current Olympic cycle. Other submissions address this.
- iv. A separate submission includes a proposal to provide greater continuity, while enabling an appropriate degree of change, for 2024 and thereafter.

Current Position

1. The Men's and Women's One Person Dinghy Events have been selected for 2020, with the Equipment being the Laser Standard and Laser Radial.
 2. The Men's and Women's Skiff Events have been selected for 2020, with the Equipment being the 49er and 49erFX.
 3. The other six sailing Events for 2020 will be decided in 2014, and any Equipment changes will be decided in 2016.
-

4. The Event using the Finn Equipment is described in ISAF's Regulations as "Men's 2nd One Person Dinghy" but was known at 2012 Olympics as the Men's One Person Dinghy (Heavyweight)".
5. The current Regulation 23.1.6 requires that the Olympic Equipment contract is agreed between ISAF and the appropriate Classes and / or manufacturers by May 1st in the year four years before the Olympic Sailing Competition, and that if ISAF is unable to agree the contract for particular Equipment, Council shall decide alternative Equipment. The current regulations therefore already give ISAF the required contractual authority, and this submission clarifies ISAF's intentions.

Reasons

1. The existing Events and Equipment are providing a good and exciting representation of our sport, and support a wide diversity of athlete physiques and sailor skills. There is no clear benefit to any change.
 2. Change in Olympic Events and Equipment is disruptive and expensive to ISAF, MNAs and sailors, and can reduce the appeal of the sport to sponsors.
 3. Change in Olympic Equipment renders obsolete existing MNA (and parent) investment in the previous Equipment. The prospect of Equipment change can only discourage MNA and parent investment in Olympic Equipment.
 4. Young sailors cannot currently plan with confidence their route to Olympic participation. It is widely agreed that Olympic sailing success is typically at least an 8-year campaign.
 5. The IOC has advised that our uncertainty over Olympic Events and Equipment is a significant negative to our status as an Olympic sport. ISAF's Olympic Event decisions in 2012 brought this to greater attention.
 6. If ISAF does not support the existing ten 2016 Events and Equipment for 2020, then there will be little validity to a campaign to request an 11th Medal for 2020.
 7. The uncertainty caused by the possibility of change holds the sport back elsewhere. Securing sponsorship, regatta planning for 2017-2020, and liaison with the 2020 OCOG, are all made more difficult, and can lead to problems at events. At the Olympics, problems range from major challenges such as field-of-play planning and resourcing to specific issues such as camera mountings.
 8. Greater certainty of Olympic Events and Equipment will enable the ISAF Youth Worlds Championships to reflect Olympic pathways rather than sometimes being "one step behind".
 9. Greater certainty of Olympic Equipment will allow ISAF to work more closely with Olympic Classes, from control over equipment rules and manufacture quality to sports promotion and developing young sailors in emerging parts of the world. Currently a significant proportion of these classes' focus is spent on retention of Olympic status. Olympic certainty would allow them instead to focus fully on improving their equipment, and growing their participation, in partnership with ISAF.
 10. In return, the Olympic Classes Contract would be strengthened to ensure that ISAF has appropriate authority and control over the global availability, and manufacturing quality, of all Olympic equipment. With the current diversity of Olympic equipment supply models, this may require different arrangements for each class.
-

11. ISAF Council and Committees spend a lot of time in every four year cycle on this single issue, leaving insufficient time and focus on the challenge of continuing to broaden and improve the appeal of the sport. More time could be spent on such non-Olympic matters.
 12. If ISAF is to benefit from eliminating this uncertainty, then the earlier the decision is made the greater the benefit.
 13. The current title "Men's 2nd One Person Dinghy" suggests an overlap of existing Events. Whereas one of sailing's strengths is the diversity of physiques of its athletes, and the inclusion of both the Finn and Laser supports this strength. With the confirmation of the same Equipment for 2020 as 2016, the differentiation between the two Men's One Person Dinghy Events should be apparent through their titles. Having "Heavyweight" as the first word is simpler and consistent with the style used by rowing. Making this decision now will enable Rio 2016 Event titles to reflect ISAF's wishes.
-