

2016 Olympic Sailing Competition
Format Working Party Report

1. Event Format

1.1 RS X M & W,

- (a) Qualifying Series: 12 races, 3 races per day. The number of races per day may be reviewed by the ISAF Technical Delegates, the Olympic Management team and the RS X Class following the 2014 and 2015 Olympic test events.
- (b) Final: 1 race (top 10 from qualifying series).

1.2 49er, 49er FX, Nacra

- (a) Qualifying Series: 12 races, 3 races per day.
- (b) Final: 1 race (top 10 from qualifying series).

1.3 Laser, Radial, Finn, 470 M & W

- (a) Qualifying Series: 10 races, 2 races per day.
- (b) Final: 1 race (top 10 from qualifying series).

2. DRAFT Competition Schedule

Date	05-Aug	06-Aug	07-Aug	08-Aug	Tuesday 09-Aug	Wednesday 10-Aug	Thursday 11-Aug	Friday 12-Aug	Saturday 13-Aug	Sunday 14-Aug	Monday 15-Aug	Tuesday 16-Aug	Wednesday 17-Aug	Thursday 18-Aug	19-Aug	20-Aug	21-Aug
Day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
RS X M	Opening		EI	EI	1,2,3	4,5,6	R	7,8,9	10,11,12	R	M	R					Closing
RS X W	Opening		EI	EI	1,2,3	4,5,6	R	7,8,9	10,11,12	R	M	R					Closing
Laser	Opening		EI	EI	1,2	3,4	5,6	R	7,8	9,10	R	M	R				Closing
Radial	Opening		EI	EI	1,2	3,4	5,6	R	7,8	9,10	R	M	R				Closing
Finn	Opening		EI	EI	1,2	3,4	5,6	R	7,8	9,10	R	M	R				Closing
470 M	Opening		EI	EI	1,2	3,4	5,6	R	7,8	9,10	R	M	R				Closing
470 W	Opening		EI	EI	1,2	3,4	5,6	R	7,8	9,10	R	M	R				Closing
49er	Opening		EI	EI	1,2,3	4,5,6	R	7,8,9	10,11,12	R	M	R					Closing
FX	Opening		EI	EI	1,2,3	4,5,6	R	7,8,9	10,11,12	R	M	R					Closing
Nacra	Opening				EI	EI	1,2,3	4,5,6	R	7,8,9	10,11,12	R	M	R			Closing

■ Equipment Inspection
■ Opening Series
■ Reserve Day
■ Medal Race

The final schedule will be confirmed by ISAF and Rio 2016 following a review of the 2014 & 2015 Olympic test events.

3. Race Format

Courses will be windward / leeward or trapezoid with optional finishing legs. The finish legs may include windward finishes, leeward finishes, port or starboard reaches from the leeward gate and for the RS X M & W slalom finishes.

4. Target Times

4.1 RS X M & W

- (a) Qualifying Series: 20 minutes in non-planning conditions. 20 – 25 minutes in planning conditions.
- (b) Final: 20 minutes.

4.2 49er, 49er FX, Nacra

- (a) Qualifying Series: 30 minutes.
- (b) Final: 20 minutes.

4.3 Laser, Radial, Finn, 470 M & W

- (a) Qualifying Series: 50 minutes.
- (b) Final: 20 minutes.

- 4.4 Target times may be modified by the following consultation with the Format Working Party, the relevant Olympic Class and the Olympic Management team. Any final recommendations should be made no later than at the 2014 Events Committee Mid-Year Meeting.

5. Scoring System

- (a) Low Point System of RRS Appendix A. 1 point for a win, 2 for second, 3 for third, etc.
- (b) Double points for the Final, 2 points for a win, 4 for second, 6 for third, etc.
- (c) One discard after five races of the qualifying series are completed. The Final will not be excluded.

6. Rule 42

The Finn Class currently switches off Rule 42 at 10 knots and the 470 Class at 8 knots. The Format Working Party should review Rule 42 policies in consultation with the Olympic Classes, the Athletes' Commission, the Coaches Commission and other relevant ISAF Committees. Any final recommendations should be made no later than the 2014 Events Committee Mid-Year Meeting.

7. Background and Reasoning

- 7.1 The Format Working Party made its initial recommendations on the 2016 Olympic Format in November 2012. It was agreed that the Olympic Sailing Competition was too long and needed to be shortened in the future; the London 2012 competition schedule was 14 days long.
- 7.2 Following the recommendations made in November 2012 new formats were trialed at the 2013 ISAF Sailing World Cup and Olympic Class regattas. The Format Working Party engaged with the Olympic Classes and key ISAF stake holders to review the new formats. The ISAF Technical Delegates also reviewed the likely sailing conditions in August in Rio with the Rio 2016 Sailing Manager and other senior Brazilian ISAF Race Officials.
- 7.3 The Format Working Party recommendations reflect the need for a shorter overall competition schedule of 10 days. The number of races scheduled and the scoring system should enable the best sailors to rise to the top and there are enough reserve days to ensure the competition schedule is completed.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 The Technical Delegates should work with the Rio 2016 Sports Department to deliver the policies stated in Points 1-5.
- 8.2 The Format Working Party should work with the Olympic Classes, Race Officials Committee, the Coaches Commission and the Athletes Commission to make any further race management recommendations for the 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition; for example, the introduction of windward gates, middle gates, theatre style (restricted) courses close to the shore as trialed by the 49er Class, etc. to allow the Olympic format to remain current with the format used at other Olympic Class regattas. Any final recommendations should be made no later than at the 2014 Events Committee Mid-Year Meeting at the latest.
- 8.3 To help sailors prepare it is essential that as many decisions affecting the Rio 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition as possible are made at the 2013 ISAF Annual Conference.
- 8.4 The ISAF Technical Delegates and the Olympic Management team should evaluate the Rio 2016 Olympic Format at the 2014 & 2015 Olympic test events and implement any necessary changes to ensure a successful Rio 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition; for example, creating flexibility in the final competition schedule and course area schedule to ensure all racing is completed.
- 8.5 The Format Working Party should continue to work with the Olympic Classes and ISAF stake holders on recommendations for the 2020 Olympic Sailing Competition.