

World Sailing Council Minutes

The World Sailing Council met from 1000 – 1600 hours on Saturday 7 May 2016 at the Beau Rivage Hotel, Lausanne, Switzerland



Please refer to the World Sailing website www.sailing.org for the details of the submissions on this agenda/referred to in these minutes.

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Before commencing the business of the meeting, those present stood for a minutes silence in memory of colleagues, friends and sailors who have passed away since the last meeting of Council in Sanya, China in November 2015:

Vigo Jacobson (DEN) – President and Founder of the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA)

Robert (Bob) Oatley – Rolex Race Sailor

Ian Bruce – First builder of the Laser

Instructions were provided on the use of the voting system, microphones and papers.

Present:

Carlo Croce (ITA)	President
HM King Constantine	President of Honour
George Andreadis (GRE)	Vice-President
Chris Atkins (GBR)	Vice-President
Adrienne Greenwood (NZL)	Vice-President
Nazli Imre (TUR)	Vice-President
Gary Jobson (USA)	Vice-President
Quanghai Li (CHN)	Vice-President
W. Scott Perry (URU)	Vice-President
Andy Hunt (GBR)	Chief Executive Officer (non-voting)
Dick Batt (GBR) Harry Hermon (IRL) Alternate for John Crebbin (IRL)	Representatives of Group A – United Kingdom & Ireland
Andreas Lochbrunner (GER) Alternate for Rolf Baehr (GER) Sylvia Vogl (AUT) Alternate for Marian Hanžekovic (CRO)	Representatives of Group B – Central Europe
Tomasz Chamera (POL) Kamen Fillyov (BUL)	Representatives of Group C - East Europe
Jean-Pierre Champion (FRA)	Representatives of Group D – South Europe

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Dorith Stierler (ISR) Totos Theodosiou (CYP)	
Josep M Pla (AND) Alternate for Rafael Gonzalez (ESP)	Representative of Group E – Iberian Peninsula
Rob Franken (NED)	Representatives of Group F – Low Countries
Kurt Lonnqvist (FIN) Hans Natorp (DEN) Alternate for Stig Hvide Smith (NOR)	Representatives of Group G – North Europe
Oleg Ilyin (RUS) Alternate for Georgy Shayduko (RUS)	Representative of Group H - Euro-Asian
Malav Shroff (IND) Alternate for Khalifa M. Al-Sewaidi (QAT)	Representative of Group I – Middle East and West Asia
Karl C Kwok (HKG) Takao Otani (JPN)	Representatives of Group J - East Asia
Tan Wearn Haw (SIN) Alternate for KokHua Loh (SIN)	Representative of Group K - South and Central Asia
Jan Dawson (NZL) David Tillett (AUS)	Representative of Group L - South West Pacific
Pablo Masseroni (ARG)	Representative of Group M - South & West South America
Marco Aurelio de Sá Ribeiro (BRA) Alternate for Harry Adler (BRA)	Representative of Group N – Central & East South America
Gary Bodie (USA) Peter Hall (CAN) Cory Sertl (USA)	Representatives of Group P – North America
Ross Robson (RSA)	Representative of Group Q - Africa – South of the Sahara
Betsy Alison (USA)	Para World Sailing Representative
Jeff Martin (GBR)	International Classes Representative
Sarah Kenny (AUS) Alternate for Adrienne Cahalan (AUS)	Women's Representative
Sarah Gosling (GBR)	Athletes' Commission Representative
Philip Tolhurst (GBR)	Chairman, Constitution Committee (non-voting)
Apologies	
HM King Harald of Norway	President of Honour
John Crebbin (IRL)	Representative of Group A – Ireland, United Kingdom
Marijan Hanžeković (CRO)	Representative of Group B – Central Europe
Rolf Baehr (GER)	Representatives of Group B – Central Europe

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Rafael Gonzalez (ESP)	Representative of Group E – Iberian Peninsula
Stig Hvide Smith (NOR)	Representative of Group G – North Europe
Georgy Shayduko (RUS)	Representative of Group H - Euro-Asian
Khalifa M Al-Sewaidi (QAT)	Representative of Group I – Middle East & West Asia
Kok Hua Loh (SIN)	Representative of Group K – South and Central Asia
Harry Adler (BRA)	Representative of Group N – Central & East South America
Adrienne Cahalan (AUS)	Women's Representative
Hector Duval (DOM)	Representative of Group O - North South America, Central America and Caribbean
Cary Lee Byerley (ANT)	Representatives of Group O – North South America, Central America and Caribbean
Stan Honey (USA)	Oceanic and Offshore Representative

Also in Attendance

Alastair Fox	Head of Events and Competitions
Helen Fry	Head of Operations
Esther Hanson	Athlete Services Administrator
Debbie Harris	Operations Administrator
Jon Napier	Head of Legal and Governance
Malcolm Page	Chief Marketing Officer
Daniel Smith	Website and Media Co-ordinator
Jason Smithwick	Head of Technical and Offshore
Rob Taylor	Technical Co-ordinator

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Welcome by the World Sailing President

The President welcomed all present and detailed the list of alternates representing the permanent members of Council.

(b) Attendees, Alternates and Apologies

Constitution Committee interpretation of alternates representing Council members was detailed emphasizing that the purpose is to ensure groups are properly represented.

Apologies received from Hector Duval (DOM), Cary Lee Byerley (ANT) and Stan Honey (USA).

2. Reports

(a) Opening Speech

The President took the opportunity to update Council on the progress that has been

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made in World Sailing.

There are a number of important priorities that the President has focused on since the last meeting.

The President expressed his delight that Andy Hunt, the new CEO had joined World Sailing and advised they were working extremely well together.

It had been a long journey to find the right person to fill this crucial position - but the President felt with Andy the wait had certainly been worthwhile. There is a real sense of momentum as a result of his appointment and his positive actions and that he is a great asset to World Sailing and our sport.

One of the areas that the CEO and the President have worked on together is the development of proposals to further improve the governance of World Sailing. There are a number of important reasons why this matters.

This is a time when the international media and public spotlight has been so concentrated on world sport and the way it is run and governed. At the same time, the IOC and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations are both clear that change and progress are needed in this area. The President advised that part of his job as World Sailing President, is to ensure that we not just meet new governance standards, but exceed them.

The President advised that World Sailing's goal is to become a benchmark for International Federations.

The MNAs, Council Members and Committee Chairs have all been consulted on the proposals and the EGM will vote on them the following day.

If these measures are passed, they will enable World Sailing to become more professional, efficient, effective and better able to drive the global growth of Sailing in all its forms.

Good progress has been made in other important areas - including planning around a new Sailing World Cup strategy and ensuring Para Sailing returns to the Paralympic Games in 2024.

The President advised that we have also made good progress over the last few years in building up the Emerging Nations Program and more than doubled our investment - which has been made possible due to our sponsors.

And as we look to the future, the President is confident that we can grow our commercial resources and provide even greater support to all our MNAs.

The President announced that he was coming to the end of his first term as World Sailing President and that much had been achieved in this time - but he has a sense of 'unfinished business'.

The President believes that in the years ahead World Sailing has both new challenges and new opportunities and there is much more to do to ensure that Sailing continues to grow and prosper around the world therefore the President confirmed his intention to stand for a second, and final, term as World Sailing President.

The President has 3 main priorities:

- Better Governance
- Olympic and Paralympic development
- and the Sailing World Cup.

The President wants to ensure that the challenges that lie ahead in each of these

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areas are sailed safely and that the many significant opportunities to grow our sport, at every level, are secured.

On governance, the President said it was important to remember that the proposals that the World Sailing Council and EGM will vote on are just the start of a longer term modernization process that we need.

The vote at Council and the EGM is not the end of the journey – it is the start of a new one that if World Sailing gets this right it will lead to a more professional and dynamic World Sailing organization

On Olympic matters, the President advised that we all need to be mindful of the IOC's Agenda 2020 strategy and its appetite to introduce more modern, youthful sports and events to the Games. It is likely that five new events will be at the 2020 Tokyo Games including some of the newer 'activity' sports. The President advised that we are in a changing Olympic world and we need to be able to react to this. Sailing has a very strong Olympic tradition and we are blessed as one of the Olympic sports that can create incredible backdrops for broadcasters and viewers.

This will put us in a strong position to protect our Olympic status, and be very positive as we look to the future.

However, the President said we must work together – and in full consultation - we need to be creative in this new Olympic era, be willing to move with the times and embrace change and innovation. And it is this mindset that will underpin his second term if he is re-elected as President.

The President wants to see the sport reinstated into the 2024 Paralympic Games.

The President and CEO had had a very good meeting recently with the International Paralympic Committee CEO where they outlined proposals to ensure the growth of Para Sailing. World Sailing and the President's commitment to see the sport return to the Paralympic Games and work with the IPC to ensure this happens for 2024 was stressed.

This goal will be a key focus for the President in his second term and he is very confident it can be delivered.

Getting the Sailing World Cup right and in place is also a top priority for the President.

Together, World Sailing has been developing a strategy that will create a new flagship product in order to meet the many needs and views of our diverse Sailing family but there has to be the right balance. This is a big opportunity which has a real potential to boost World Sailing's global profile, increase participation in Sailing and bring new fans to our sport. This should be done in partnership with sponsors and broadcasters and we must also be open to the ideas of new host cities.

The President also expressed the need to take a look at other opportunities including Offshore Sailing – which is an important area of our sport and one of great potential.

As the President looks ahead he is encouraged and optimistic as we aim to protect and grow our sport and enter a new era with confidence and a willingness to be creative and develop.

It is this vision of growth, modernisation and innovation, while respecting our sport's great traditions that the President believes he can deliver if he is honoured to serve as World Sailing President for a final term.

In closing, the President thanked his fellow Executive Members for their tremendous work and the staff for their important contribution.

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(b) Introduction by the CEO

Presentations were given based on the initial priorities the CEO had identified which included discrimination, strategic initiatives including governance, Sailing World Cup, commercial, communications and Para sailing.

The focus on the remainder of 2016 will include the planning and delivery of the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games, delivery of the remaining 2016 Sailing World Cup events, refining and implementing Sailing World Cup 2017-2024 strategy, executing the new commercial strategy, modernising the structure of the organisation, organising the Annual Conference and developing a sustainability strategy.

The new Vision & Mission for World Sailing was presented which would now undergo consumer research before being launched later in 2016.

The CEO expressed thanks to Australia and New Zealand for stepping in as the venue for the 2016 Sailing World Cup Final and Youth Worlds.

(c) Training and Development Presentation

Vice President Nazli Imre gave a presentation on the Training and Development initiatives over the past 4 years and outlined the focus for the future.

(d) IOC Agenda 2020 – Kit McConnell, IOC Sports Director

The CEO passed on Kit McConnell's apologies for not being present at the Council meeting and introduced a video interview between him and the IOC Sports Director, Kit McConnell which highlighted the importance of the IOC Agenda 2020.

(e) World Sailing Foundation

Vice President Scott Perry outlined the set up of the World Sailing Foundation which has been established to support the Emerging Nations Programme, youth sailing and the environment.

3. Governance

(a) Annual Report 2015

Once the Statutory Accounts had been finalised the Annual Report 2015 will be circulated to the members.

(b) Governance Review

The CEO gave a presentation on Governance Review.

(c) World Sailing Discrimination Policy

The CEO gave a presentation on the World Sailing Discrimination Policy.

4. Events

(a) 2016 Olympic Sailing Competition

A video was shown by World Sailing Head of Competitions on the Rio 2016 progress. Two successful test events have been held and qualification events completed with 63 nations qualified. Challenges lie with logistics, equipment and preparation for the Paralympic Games. Venue construction in Rio is complete. Field of play has 7 course areas. The pipe belt has been completed to improve water pollution with contingency planning and special monitoring on the field of play areas. World Sailing are proactive with OBS and Swiss Timing with final tests being carried out on cameras and finalising live TV schedule. Swiss Timing will track all live races. Sailing in an iconic venue is an ideal opportunity to showcase our sport and reach a wide audience, increase World Sailing resources, Olympic news service and social

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media. 4000 Sailing tickets are available for sale every day and 70% of daily tickets are already sold.

i) Water Pollution Update

Dr Neb Niikolic gave an updated presentation on the Water Pollution issues in Rio.

(b) Sailing World Cup 2017

The Sailing World Cup was established in 2008 with a vision to establish an annual 'Olympic Games standard' series of sailing regattas concluding in a final at which SWC champions in all 10 Olympic events are crowned. There is a need to review the methodology; research and identify any weaknesses in the current product and develop a new concept. A review of the calendar, venues, qualifications, quotas, media and sponsorship were also being undertaken. Future goals include defining an elite model, becoming an Olympic Games qualifier and balancing sport with entertainment.

5. Submissions

Please refer to the 2016 Mid-Year Submissions online at www.sailing.org/meetings

(a) Submission M01-16 – World Sailing Constitution – Non-Discrimination

To update the provisions of the Constitution concerning non-discrimination in line with the Olympic charter.

Decision

On a proposal from Pablo Masseroni, seconded by Ross Robson Council unanimously approved submission MO1-16.

(b) Submission M02-16 – World Sailing Constitution & Regulations – Board of Directors & Executive Office

Decision

On a proposal from Pablo Masseroni, seconded by Rob Franklin Council approved submission MO2-16 (0 reject, 0 abstain and 36 approved – 36 participated) as amended.

Amend Articles 64 and 65 as follows:

~~OFFICERS~~ **DIRECTORS**

64. The ~~officers~~ **directors** of the Federation shall consist of the President, ~~and~~ **and** the seven Vice-Presidents (**at least two of whom shall be of each gender women**) ~~and the Chief Executive Officer~~. They shall be ex-officio members of all committees of the Federation and, ~~save for the Chief Executive Officer,~~ **shall** be entitled to vote on committees to which they have been appointed by the Council.

64.1 The Chief Executive Officer has the right to attend and speak at all meetings of the Board.

65. The ~~officers~~ **directors** (~~save for the Chief Executive Officer~~) shall be elected at a General Assembly and shall hold office until the election of their successors at the next Ordinary General Assembly and shall be eligible for re-election save as provided by Article 73.

2. Delete Article 67 and replace with:

67. The Board shall meet at least quarterly and at such other times as the President may decide. The Board may also meet by conference call or other audio-visual means.

3. Amend Article 68 as follows:

68. The ~~Executive Committee~~ **Board is a non-executive board of directors and:**

(a) shall be responsible for ~~implementing~~ **the implementation of** the policy decisions of the Council ~~and for taking all management and operational decisions on behalf of the Federation;~~

(b) shall propose to Council the strategic priorities of the Federation for its approval;

~~(c)~~ **shall supervise the work of the Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Office and has final responsibility for** ~~managing~~ the corporate and financial affairs of the Federation;

~~(d)~~ may seek such advice as it considers appropriate;

~~(e)~~ shall work in close collaboration with the chairmen of committees established by the Council;

~~(f)~~ shall, following each ~~Executive Committee~~ **Board** meeting, distribute a memorandum of the meeting's decisions to the National Authorities, members of the Council and committee chairmen; and

~~(g)~~ shall, in all its actions and deliberations ~~the Executive Committee~~ shall report **regularly** to the Council **and General Meetings.**

A further submission will be made in November 2016 in order to make even clearer in the Regulation that “at least two of whom shall be of each gender” for the make-up of the Board of Directors.

(c) Submission M03-16 – World Sailing Constitution – Governance Structure – Council & Board of Directors

Decision

On a proposal from Kurt Lonnqvist, seconded by Jan Dawson Council unanimously approved submission MO3-16.

(d) Submission M04-16 – World Sailing Constitution – Governance Structure – Chief Executive Officer & Executive Office

Decision

On a proposal from Ross Robson, seconded by Peter Hall Council unanimously approved submission MO4-16.

(e) Submission M05-16 – World Sailing Constitution – Chairman of the Athletes' Commission

Decision

On a proposal from Ross Robson, seconded by Sarah Gosling Council unanimously approved submission MO5-16 as amended.

Amend Article 36.1(g) as follows:

The Council of the Federation shall consist of:-

[...]

- (g) ~~a member appointed by and from the Athletes' Commission~~ **the Chairman of the Athletes' Commission;**

2. Amend Article 64 as follows:

64. The ~~officers~~ directors of the Federation shall consist of the President, the seven Vice-Presidents (at least two of whom shall be of each gender ~~women~~), and the Chairman of the Athletes' Commission, ~~and the Chief Executive Officer.~~

- (f) Submission M06-16 – World Sailing Constitution & Regulations – Annual Conferences

To provide that decisions on the location of Annual Conferences are taken by MNAs.

Decision

On a proposal from Scott Perry, seconded by Hans Natorp Council approved submission MO6-16 (5 reject, 3 abstain and 30 approved – 38 participated) with the following amendment:

- 21.1 The Federation shall hold a General Meeting in every calendar year as its Annual General Meeting at such ~~time and place~~ **date and time** as may be determined by the ~~Executive Committee~~ **Board** and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it. **The location of Annual General Meetings shall be determined in accordance with the Regulations.**

2. Amend Article 23 as follows:

23. The ~~Executive Committee~~ **Board** may whenever they think fit or upon the instruction of the Council convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, and Extraordinary General Meetings shall also be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by section 113 Companies Act 1931. **The date, time and location of Extraordinary General Meetings shall be determined by the Board.**

3. Insert new Regulation 37 as follows:

37 LOCATION OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

37.1 The location of the Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting held two years prior to the relevant year (except that the 2016 Annual General Meeting may determine the locations of the 2017 and 2018 Annual Conferences).

~~**37.2 The location of the Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting shall be in Europe in 2016 and each alternate year thereafter. In the other years, the location shall be outside Europe.**~~

And renumber accordingly

37.3 The Board shall invite bids from interested venues and shall publish in advance the criteria against which the Board will assess any bids received.

37.4 The Executive Office will undertake site visits to such candidate venues as the Board shall determine. The Board will then assess bids against the

published criteria and shall recommend up to three eligible bids to the Annual General Meeting. Each bidder may present to the Annual General Meeting and then Annual General Meeting will then vote to decide which bid is successful. The presentation and voting procedure shall be determined by the chairman of the meeting.

37.5 All successful bids shall be subject to concluding a suitable contract with World Sailing. In the event that:

- (a) a selected venue does not enter into a contract with World Sailing by a date specified by the Board;**
- (b) a venue withdraws after selection by the Annual General Meeting; or**
- (c) otherwise, there is no venue selected following the relevant Annual General Meeting,**

then Council shall have the power to select an alternative venue on the recommendation of the Board.

- (g) Submission M07-16 – World Sailing Regulations – Conflicts of Interest for Council and Committee Members

To strengthen the procedures for identifying and managing conflicts of interest

Decision

On a proposal from Pablo Masseroni, seconded by Kurt Lonnqvist Council approved submission M07-16. (0 reject, 0 abstain and 37 approved – 37 participated)

6. Future World Sailing Meetings

The President reminded everyone that the 2016 Annual Conference will be 5-13 November, Barcelona, Spain

7. Any Other Business

There was no Any Other Business

The President closed the meeting with thanks to Swiss Sailing and presented gifts to the President of Swiss Sailing, Vincent Hagin for hosting the Mid-Year meeting in Lausanne and to François Schluchter for his help and support to the Secretariat in the preparation of the event.