

The World Sailing Council Meeting Minutes
16 May 2024
Online via Teams



Present	Position/Representing
1. Quanhai Li (CHN)	President
2. Ozlem Akdurak (TUR)	Vice President
3. Philip Baum (RSA)	Vice President
4. Tomasz Chamera (POL)	Vice President
5. Sarah Kenny (AUS)	Vice President
6. Yann Rocherieux (FRA)	Vice President
7. Cory Sertl (USA)	Vice President
8. Marcus Spillane (IRL)	Vice President
9. Stacey Clark (GBR)	Group A
10. Fiona Bolger (IRL)	Group A
11. Edo Fantela (CRO)	Group B
12. Martin Vogler (CHE)	Group B (Alternate)
13. Piotr Oleksiak (POL)	Group C (Alternate)
14. Alexandru Micu (ROU)	Group C (Alternate)
15. Totos Theodosiou (CYP)	Group D
16. Ferran Muniesa (Esp)	Group D (Alternate)
17. Walter Cavallucci (ITA)	Group D
18. Ed Russo (USA)	Group E (Alternate)
19. Remco de Goederen (NED)	Group F
20. Annika Ekman (SWE)	Group G
21. Ulfur H Hrobjartsson (ISL)	Group G
22. Chun Qu (CHN)	Group J
23. Takao Otani (JPN)	Group J
24. Malav Shroff (IND)	Group K (Alternate)
25. Daniel Belcher (AUS)	Group L
26. John Philp (FIJ)	Group L
27. Walter Boddener (BRA)	Group N (Alternate)
28. Cary Lee Byerley (ANT)	Group O

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29. Hector Duvall (DOM)	Group O
30. Peter Hall (CAN)	Group P
31. Stan Honey (USA)	Group P
32. Dina Kowalyshyn (USA)	Group P
33. Alain Alcindor (SEY)	Group Q
34. Jan Martin Wilschut (NED)	WS Classes Committee Chair
35. Matthew Allen (AUS)	Oceanic & Offshore Committee Chair
36. Elena Papazoglou (CYP)	Women's Forum
37. David Staley (AUS)	Para Sailing Vice Chair

In Attendance

David Graham	Chief Executive Officer
Urvasi Naidoo	Director of Legal & Governance
Nelia Smith	Director of Brand & International Relations
Raksha Patel	Director of Finance & Business Operations

1. Opening of the Meeting

(a) Welcome from the President

The President opened the meeting and welcomed Council Members.

(b) Remembrance

The Council noted and paid respects to the members of the sailing community who had passed away since the last Council Meeting.

(c) Apologies for Absence and Alternates

There were no formal apologies. The Council noted the following alternates were appointed:

- In Group B Wolfgang Mayrhofer appointed Martin Vogler.
- In Group C, Kamen Fillyov appointed Alexandru Micu as alternate.

- Also in Group C, Eva Jodlowska appointed Piotr Oleksiak.
- In Group D, Javier Sanz Fernandez appointed Ferran Muniesa.
- For Group E, Nicolas Henard appointed Ed Russo as alternate.
- In Group K Abdur Arshad has appointed Malav Shroff as alternate
- In Group N Marco Aurelio has appointed Walter Boddener as alternate.
- For Parasailing, Betsy Alison appointed David Staley.

(d) **Declarations of Interests**

The Council noted the Register of Interest. Alexandru Micu noted that he was the President of the Romanian MNA. There were no other declarations of interests.

2. Report from the President

Council noted a verbal report from the President.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(a) **Council Minutes**

Council approved the minutes of Council's meetings held on the 15 and 18 November 2023.

Decision: Council minutes approved

There were no matters arising.

(b) **Board Minutes**

Council received information that the minutes of the Board's meetings held on 12 & 19 November 2023, 14 December 2023, 19 January 2024, 7 February 2024 and 25 March 2024 were available on the World Sailing website.

(c) **Decisions by Circular**

The following motions by way of circular resolution:

1. 27 March 2024 Neutrality Documents were approved including a Neutrality Policy and a new temporary Regulation 41.
2. 15 May 2024 Elections Documents. Amendment to Regulation 35 to make a breach of the Election Rules a disciplinary offence.

4. CEO Report

The Council noted a verbal report from the CEO giving an update on Events, Finance, Commercial, Sustainability, Development, Governance and Elections and thanking all the staff, volunteers and event organisers who had worked so hard to make this a very successful six-month period.

5. Finance

(a) Mid-Year Report

The Council noted the report.

(b) Audit Committee Report

The Council noted the report from the Chair of the Audit Committee, Phil Cotton.

6. Members

The Council noted that the Board had reviewed the temporary suspension imposed on Council Members and Committee Members from Russia or Belarus and agreed that there was no material change in the circumstances which gave rise to the suspensions in the first place and therefore those measures should remain in place.

7. Urgent Submissions

The Council noted that all three submissions had been withdrawn.

Vice President Sarah Kenny provided an update to the Council on the Regulation 23 Working Party.

8. Reports and Recommendations Not Based Upon Submissions

(a) Submissions from the Board

(i) Updates to the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

The Council approved updates to the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures as circulated subject to one friendly amendment proposed by Council Member Stacey Clark.

Decision: The amended Safeguarding Policy and Procedures were approved

(35 approve 0 reject 0 abstain)

(ii) Governance Reform Documents.

Vice President Philip Baum presented Phase 2 of the Governance Reform. The first batch of Regulations had been reviewed. These would come into force after the General Assembly in November 2024. A new Policy Register had been created to collate all minuted Council policy decisions from November 2013 onwards.

Decision: The documents were approved.

(35 approve 0 reject 0 abstain)

(iii) Amendments to the Constitution in relation to ED&I

Vice President Philip Baum presented several proposed amendments to the 2024 Constitution in relation to the Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Committee. If approved these amendments would be drafted and sent to the MNA for approval by way of circular resolution.

Decision: The documents were approved.

(35 approve 0 reject 0 abstain)

(iv) Transgender Policy

The CEO presented the policy and outlined the difficulty of balancing inclusion and fairness.

Following an open floor discussion regarding the principles of the policy it was noted that the policy would not come into force until 1 Jan 2025 and that the policy would be kept under a watching brief and could be amended at any time.

Decision: The policy was approved.

(29 approve 0 reject 5 abstain)

(b) Events Committee

The Council noted the report from the Chair of the Events Committee, John Derbyshire.

(c) Equipment Committee

The Council noted the report from the Vice Chair of the Equipment Committee, Shevaun Bruland. Under Agenda Item 7.a: iQFOiL sail sizes for LA 2028, the Equipment Committee made the following recommendation not based on submission to the Council:

1. That the Board would appoint a Working Party with the following composition and objectives:

A Board member, the Equipment Rules Sub-Committee Chair, a member from each of the following Committees and Commissions nominated by their respective Chairs; the Events Committee, the Equipment Committee, the Medical Commission, the Coaches Commission and the Athlete Commission.

- to assess the issues reported by the iQFOiL Class,
- to review the documentation provided,
- to analyse the evaluations conducted to date,
- to establish additional requirements necessary for World Sailing to approve the proposed changes.
- to make a recommendation no later than two weeks after the end of the 2024 Olympic Games to the Equipment Committee to either approve or reject the changes.

2) To permit the Equipment Committee to approve the changes after receiving a recommendation from the Working Party.

Decision: The recommendation was approved.

(30 approve 0 reject 1 abstain)

9. Any Other Business

It was noted that the schedule for the Annual Conference in Singapore would be circulated within the next two days and in particular Council were asked to note that the Council would meet four times over the course of the Annual Conference week.

Council Member Chun Qu advised the Council of the forthcoming 2024 World Sailing Keelboat Championships and asked for support for the event.

Council received closing remarks from the President. He especially thanked all the Committee and Commission Members for their work.

10. Next Meeting

The Council noted the next Council Meeting would be 4 November 2024 in Singapore.

There being no other business, the President closed the meeting.

The Live stream of the meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7h6QSsTQsw>