

WORLD SAILING POLICY REGISTER

SPECIAL EVENTS

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Special Event status originated in the Advertising Code, but is no longer referenced there. It is now used to give recognition to specific non-World Sailing events, or to approve exceptions permitted within the Regulations or the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 Today there is also the opportunity to grow the sport and its profile through events that do not originate within the traditional MNA / club / class structure. These events require the approval of World Sailing. Special Event status provides a better model for World Sailing's approval and oversight of such events than, for instance, establishing a formal relationship with the organisers.
- 1.3 The purpose of Special Event status is to enable World Sailing to:
 - (a) encourage, support and promote high profile events in the professional era;
 - (b) exercise consistently its control and oversight responsibilities towards events that are exceptionally permitted under the Racing Rules of Sailing and other various Regulations.

2. Requirements

- 2.1 Events that require World Sailing approval under the Racing Rules of Sailing, or have exceptions approved in accordance with other Regulations, should be categorised as Special Events and meet the associated requirements. Other organizing authorities may apply for their events to be granted Special Event status.
- 2.2 Approved exceptions that should trigger Special Event status include:
 - (a) Authorisation to grant a "World" title when that is not already permitted by World Sailing
 - (b) Rating system world championships.
 - (c) International events changing the RRS under RRS 86.1
 - (d) Events with changes to the Advertising Code
 - (e) Oceanic events; series of events in more than one country; international series of events with the same sponsor.
- 2.3 Therefore Special Events range from major event properties (such as the Volvo Ocean Race that are clearly seen as "World" and "Elite", that are professionally managed, have a high level of advertising or sponsorship, and have a high global profile and attract the world's very best sailors), to lower scale events where a small change to RRS or the Advertising Code has been approved.
- 2.4 The Board will categorise Special Events into two tiers on the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer: "Major" and "Standard".
 - (a) Major Special Events should pay a sanction fee to World Sailing, include appropriate World Sailing branding, and be promoted by World Sailing, all as mutually agreed.

As agreed with the organisers or as required by the Regulations, World Sailing appoints or approves the race officials and other expertise to support the event.

- (b) Standard Special Events should pay a sanction fee in recognition of the exception approval(s) granted by World Sailing.

2.5 Approval fees will be applied to all Special Events.

2.6 Special event status will be documented in a contractual agreement with the Special Event organizer.

3. World Sailing Classes

3.1 When World Sailing Classes' Equipment is used for World Sailing Special Events, the following standards shall be in place, unless written approval of the class:

- (a) Protection of the Class Calendar
- (b) Protection of World title or perception of World title whether it is for standalone event or for a series of events

POLICY DETAILS

Date made: [Insert date of policy adoption]
Date registered: 9 November 2024
Date commenced: 9 November 2024
Date amended

Responsible committee: Board
Administered by: Chief Executive Officer
Review date: November 2028
Related documents:

AMENDMENT HISTORY

PROVISION	AMENDMENT	DATE
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