

World Sailing Board Minutes

The World Sailing Board virtually on Wednesday 9 April 2025 between 11:00 - 13:30 UTC

Present

- 1. Quanhai Li President
- 2. Daniel Belcher Vice President
- 3. Tomasz Chamera Vice President
- 4. Beatriz Gonzalez Luna Vice President
- 5. Josep M. Pla Vice President
- 6. Cory Sertl Vice President

In Attendance

- 1. David Graham Chief Executive Officer
- Urvasi Naidoo Director of Legal and Governance
- Raksha Patel Director of Finance and Business Operations

1. Opening of the Meeting

a) Presidents Opening Remarks

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest.
 - Vice President Dave Hughes had sent apologies for his absence.
 - Vice President Tomasz Chamera declared his continued interest in the World Sailing Championships in Gdynia, Poland.
- c) Matters Arising

Appear below under Any Other business.

d) Decisions by email.

The Board had approved the Brazilian city of Fortaleza as the host for the 2027 World Sailing Championships in single-handed events.

2. Executive Office

- a) The Chief Executive Officer had provided a Management Report on the work of the Executive Office over the first three months of the year which the Board noted.
- b) 2025 Annual Conference The Chief Executive Officer updated the Board that the planning for the Conference in Dublin was well underway.

3. Events

- a) Events Committee WGs: see 8.a.
- b) Regulation 18 Termination of IRO Status.

The Board approved the Race Official Committee's recommendation to terminate the appointment of ********* as an International Judge, with the sanction if applying for future International Judge status he/she must complete the requirements again and cannot use the previously submitted test, references, and seminar attendance.

World Sailing Board Minutes



c) 2026, 2027 and 2028 Youth Sailing World Championships

The Board approved the recommendation from the Bid Evaluation Panel to appoint Vilamoura, Portugal, as the host venue of the 2026 Youth Sailing World Championships and La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain, as the host venue of the 2027 and 2028 – subject to contract and subject to commitment to regional hub development initiatives being confirmed within the contracts. The Board was discontent to have the event in Europe over a period of five years and it was agreed that more would be done to encourage bids from other Regions in the future.

4. Legal & Governance

- a) Committees and Commissions revision of the Board Matrix. The Board approved a revised matrix following the change in Board composition. See Appendix 1
- b) Nominations Panel Vice President Josep M. Pla gave a report on the recruitment process for the independent members of the Nominations Panel. The recommendation was the appointment of:
 - Chair: Diego Esteban, Male from Spain, Europe
 - Vicky Lowe, Female from GBR, Europe
 - Norma Olivia Gonzalez Guerrero Female from Mexico, Central and South America
 - Weidong Wang, Male from China, Asia
 - El Arabi El Jamali, Male from Morocco, Africa.

It was noted that there were a large number of applicants from Europe and very few from the other Regions. This composition ensured regional and gender representation.

The Board approved the recommendation.

The Board agreed that Cory Sertl would be the third Board Member on the Panel.

- c) Russia/Belarus The Director of Legal and Governance presented a paper with a recommendation that neutral athletes be permitted at World Sailing Events as this was in line with the IOC recommendations, that the temporary sanctions on Russian and Belarussian sailors, support persons and officials (not neutral) and participation of any boat owned or effectively controlled or managed by a Russian or Belarusian individual or entity be retained and that no international sailing events would be planned in Russia or Belarus until such time that the IOC position changes. The Board agreed that this recommendation be put to Council in May.
- d) Independent bodies: not discussed, following 4.b.
- e) Elections the Board noted a verbal update from the Chief Executive Officer regarding forthcoming elections in November.
- f) Eligibility Applications It was agreed that in relation to the pending application the Executive Office would seek to bring the two MNAs together to reach a solution.
- g) Safeguarding (Standing Item)The Board noted no new safeguarding matters.
- h) Safety (Standing Item)

World Sailing

World Sailing Board Minutes

The Board noted no new Safety matters

i) Case List UpdateNothing pressing for the Board to note.

5. Technical & Offshore

a) Wingfoil Equipment Registration: Fees

The Board approved the fees that will apply for the registration of Wingfoil equipment into the World Sailing 'Equipment Registration Scheme' as follows:

- £125 for the registration of each Front Foil, Rear Foil, Fuselage and Hydrofoil mast
- £60 for the registration of each Wing model and size
- b) Racing Rule Sailing (RRS) change for 49erFX

The Board noted that this potential change to the RRS was still being discussed with the Class and that it had already been approved via the delegated authority given to Vice President Tomasz Chamera and Vice President Line Markert.

6. Finance

a) The Board noted the finance reports presented and asked for further details on the budget for 2025. It was agreed this would be provided after the meeting.

7. Participation & Development

- a) 2025 World Sailing Inclusion Championship Venue
 - The Board approved the Para Sailing Committee recommendation that Oman be awarded the World Sailing Inclusion World Championship 2025 to take place from November 30 to December 8 2025.
- b) RS Venture Connect Class World Title
 - Noting the request was supported by the Para Sailing Committee the Board approved granting the RS Venture Connect Class the right to host a World Championship in 2025.
- c) 2025 Para Two-Person Keelboat Open World Championship
 - The Board approved the Para Sailing Committee recommendation to award the 2025 Para Two-Person Keelboat Open World Championship title to the RS Venture Connect Class, to be held within their Class World Championship in Oman from Nov 30 to Dec 8 2025.
- d) 2025 Para One Person Technical World Championship Title The Board approved the Para Sailing Committee recommendation to award the 2025 Para One-person Keelboat Open World Championship title to the 2.4mR class, to be held during their 2025 2.4mR World Championship, in Malcesine, Italy from October 7th to 12th 2025.

8. AOB

a) Working Groups – The Board agreed that the appointment of the working groups would be formally approved at the May Board Meeting.



World Sailing Board Minutes

- b) Ana Sanchez, Chair of the Racing Rules Committee, had requested to step back from her Chair role and proposed that Richard Slater be appointed as Chair of the Committee and Line Juhl be appointed as Vice Chair. The Board noted and agreed that this recommendation should be put to Council at the May meeting.
- c) On the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee there was a proposal from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee to nominate to the post left vacant by Chantal Hoffman from Seychelles, who had sadly passed away, Hui Wen Yeh from Chinese Taipei. The Board noted and agreed that this recommendation should be put to Council at the May meeting.
- d) Safety Commission Chair Vice President Josep M. Pla recommended Eurico Miguel Fernandes Teodoro as the Chair of the Commission and this was approved by the Board.
- e) Vice President Tomasz Chamera advised on an issue relating to awarding World Championships titles. He stated that together with Vice President Daniel Belcher and Vice President Dave Hughes he would work with Chair of the Classes Jan Martin to resolve this issue between the Classes and Special Events.
- f) May Board Meeting it was noted that the next Board Meeting was being hosted by the New York Yacht Club and the Board thanked Vice President Cory Sertl for her assistance in extending the invitation.
- g) Vice President Beatriz Gonzalez Luna explained she had received some correspondence regarding moving the venue from Long Beach to San Pedro for the LA 2028 Olympics and was ready to forward the correspondence to the Board and the Chief Executive.

There being no further items the President closed the meeting.

-END-

Appendix – Revised Board Responsibilities Matrix



Board Member Liaison Matrix

2025 - 2028



Index

- 1. Introduction
- 2. HQ Functions
- 3. Events
- 4. Committees & Sub Committees
- 5. Commissions
- 6. Council Groups
- 7. Regional Federations
- 8. Other





Introduction

Dear Council Members,

Subsequent to the Board meeting that took place on the 9th of April 2025, the Board member liaison roles for particular topics within the organization has been updated to reflect the vacancies left by Line Markert and Ozlem Akdurak.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout this process.

Best Regards

David Graham
Chief Executive Officer



Introduction cont.

Document Key

Board Position	Name & Surname	Initials Applied
President	Quanhai Li	QL
Chief Executive Officer	David Graham	DG
Vice-President	Daniel Belcher	DB
Vice-President	Tomasz Chamera	TC
Vice-President	Beatriz Gonzalez Luna	BGL
Vice-President	David Hughes	DH
Vice-President	Josep M Pla	JMP
Vice-President	Cory SertI	CS



HQ Functions

	Board Member Liaison	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Antimonopoly/FRAND/Conflict of Interest	TC	DB
Commercial – Sponsorship & Marketing	BGL	DH
e-Sailing	TC	DH
Finance & Risk Management	DB	JMP
Legal Affairs	JMP	CS
MNA Communications	QL	BGL
Office/Administration/UK Directors	CS/JMP/QL/DG	
Technology & Digital	DH	DB
World Sailing Trust	JMP	



Events

	Board Member Liaison	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Olympic Games	DB	CS/TC
Paralympic Events	CS	DB
Special Events	QL	All
Sailing World Cup	DB	CS/BGL
World Sailing Championships	DB	CS/BGL
Youth Olympic Games	BGL	CS
Youth Sailing World Championships	BGL	CS



Committees & Sub-Committees

	Board Member Liaison	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Athletes Committee	DH	
Audit Committee	DB	JMP
Equipment Committee	DH	TC
Equipment Rules Sub-Committee	DH	TC
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee	JMP	BGL
Events Committee	DB	CS
Governance Committee	JMP	CS
Growth of Sailing Committee	BGL	TC
International Judges Sub-Committee	TC	CS
International Measurers Sub-Committee	TC	CS
International Umpires Sub-Committee	TC	CS
Oceanic & Offshore Committee	JMP	DH



Committees & Sub-Committees cont.

	Board Member Liaison	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Olympic Classes Sub-Committee	TC	DB
Match Racing Committee	CS	DB
Para Sailing Committee	CS	DB
Race Officials Committee	TC	CS
Race Management Sub-Committee	TC	CS
Racing Rules Committee	TC	BGL
Regional Games Committee	BGL	JMP
Specialist Sailing Committee	DH	DB
Special Regulations Sub-Committee	JMP	DH
Team Racing Committee	CS	DB
World Sailing Classes Committee	TC	DB
Youth Events Committee	BGL	CS



Commissions

	Board Member Liaison	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>
Coaches Commission	DH	TC
International Regulations Commission	CS	JMP
Medical Commission	TC	BGL
Safety Commission	JMP	DH
Sailor Categorisation Commission	CS	DB
Sustainability Commission	BGL	DH



Council Groups

	Board Member Liaison
Group A – Ireland and UK	JMP
Group B – Central Europe	TC
Group C – East Europe	TC
Group D – South Europe	JMP
Group E – Iberian Peninsula	JMP
Group F – Low Countries	JMP
Group G – North Europe	TC
Group H - Euro-Asian	TC
Group I – Middle East and West Asia	TC
Group J – East Asia	DB
Group K – South and Central Asia	DB
Group L – South West Pacific	DB
Group M – South and West South America	BGL
Group N – Central and East South America	BGL
Group O – North South America, Central America and Caribbean	BGL
Group P - North America	CS
Group Q - Africa	JMP



Regional Federations

	Board Member Liaison
ASAF (Asian Sailing Federation)	DB/TC
ASCON (African Sailing Confederation)	JMP
Caribbean Sailing Union	BGL
EUROSAF (European Sailing Federation)	TC
Mediterranean Sailing Union	JMP
OSAF (Oceania Sailing Federation)	DB
PASAF (Pan American Sailing Federation)	BGL
SASC (South American Sailing Federation)	BGL



Other

	Board Member Liaison
ASOIF (Association of Summer Olympic International Federations)	QL/DG
ICOMIA (** If Required)	BGL
IMO (International Maritime Organization)	CS
IOC (International Olympic Committee)	QL/DG
IPC (international Paralympic Committee)	QL/DG
ORC (Offshore Racing Congress)	JMP
RORC (Royal Ocean Racing Club)	JMP
WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency)	TC





Thank You