

iQFOiL Class EGM 2024

SUBMISSION FORM

The deadline for submissions is **2400 hrs UTC on 29th March 2024**

This submission form shall be used as the format for your submission, saved as a PDF and sent by email to: info@iqfoilclass.org

Please read the following notes carefully before completing the Submission Form.

- Submissions shall be sent by e-mail to the Class Executive Secretary (info@iqfoilclass.org / valerie@iqfoilclass.org) either by a National Class Association being an iQFOiL Class *Full Member* or by the iQFOiL Class Executive Committee itself.
- To make your submission as clear as possible, the original exact wording received on submission forms shall be retained in the final formatted submissions. However, if wording is unclear the Class will consult the originator for clarification.
- Please click in the highlighted boxes in the Form below to insert the purpose or objective, the proposal, the current position and the reasons.
- If the submission proposes new policy, please insert the wording in full in the “Proposal” section and also complete the “Current Position” and “Reason” section.
- If the submission proposes a change to existing Articles, Regulations, the Racing Rules, or other Class or World Sailing Codes and Rules, please insert the current version in the “Proposal” section highlighting new wording as **bold and underlined**, and text to be deleted as ~~double struck through~~. The words “as above” should then be inserted in the “Current Position”. Clearly defined reasons should be inserted in the “Reason” section.
- The font and size for text in submissions is Arial 11pt
- The font Times New Roman 12pt should only be used when inserting current wording or new wording proposals to amend the Racing Rules of Sailing.

Authorisation to make a submission <i>(Only a duly authorised person may make a submission. Please detail name of authorised person)</i>	
Country Code: <i>(eg. AUS)</i>	ExCom
Name of Authorised Person:	Ronnie MEIR
Position: <i>(Position in NCA)</i>	iQFOiL Class President
Contact Email:	info@iqfoilclass.org
Date:	26.03.2024
<i>All submissions will be acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgment or you need any further information about the submission process, please contact info@iqfoilclass.org</i>	

Title:

Class Rule Change: Change of sail size

Subtitle:Reducing the sail size in the Men Senior category from 9m² to 8m²**A submission from:**

The iQFOiL Class Executive Committee

Purpose or Objective

The iQFOiL Class has been tasked with addressing the challenge associated with athletes needing to undergo substantial weight gain to meet the target weight requirements for iQFOiL sailing, potentially leading to health issues in the short, medium, and long term.

Moreover, this situation jeopardizes Olympic participation as many nations may withdraw support if their sailors fail to meet these prerequisites.

Likewise, this situation could lead to a substantial percentage of sailors abandoning their campaigns for the next Olympic cycle, along with a significant dropout rate among U19 sailors transitioning into the senior category due to the weight gain required for competitiveness.

The primary objective of this submission is to propose a reduction in the size of the sail to accommodate a broader range of athlete sizes, thereby optimizing performance in iQFOiL across a wider spectrum of countries.

Proposal**Section G – Sail****G.1 GENERAL**

All parts of the **Sail** and its associated fittings are to be produced by licensed manufacturers unless specified otherwise in C.10.1.

G.1.1 PARTS

- (a) **8.0 m² sail for the Men division.**

Current Position**Section G – Sail****G.1 GENERAL**

All parts of the **Sail** and its associated fittings are to be produced by licensed manufacturers unless specified otherwise in C.10.1.

G.1.1 PARTS

(a) 9.0 m² **sail** for the Men division.

(b) 8.0 m² **sail** for the Women.

For the Men and Women division:

(c) Battens and tensioners

(d) Camber Inducers

(e) Spacers

Reason

Health Concerns and Weight Gain: The current trend necessitates athletes to undergo significant weight gain programs to meet the ideal target weights for iQFOiL competition. This can lead to potential health risks and uncertainties in the medium to long term. Reducing the sail size from 9m² to 8m² would alleviate some of these concerns by lessening the need for extreme weight gain among athletes.

Enhanced inclusivity: The current trend towards heavier athletes could exclude a significant number of member countries whose athletes do not conform to the standard weight. Moreover, the realization that many senior athletes may retire after this Olympiad due to the challenges posed by the current weight requirement underscores the urgency for addressing the change. Additionally, it's crucial to consider the difficulties faced by youth athletes in meeting weight requirements. Reducing the size of the sail would make it possible to avoid this large drop in countries and sailors.

Transition for U19 Sailors: For young sailors transitioning from the U19 category to the Senior division, the current weight requirements can be demoralizing and challenging. Many U19 sailors find themselves within 20kg of the ideal weight for Senior competition, which not only affects their performance but also their motivation. By introducing an 8m² sail, the pressure for U19 sailors to gain excessive weight diminishes, making the transition to Senior competition smoother and less daunting.

Competitive Edge and Sponsorship Opportunities: With the current weight requirements, U19 sailors may take 1 to 3 years to reach their ideal weight for Senior competition. This prolonged period can hinder their ability to compete at the top level and attract potential sponsors during their formative years. By reducing the weight requirement through a smaller sail size, young sailors can achieve competitiveness earlier in their careers, enhancing their chances of securing sponsorships and accelerating their progress within the sport.

Ease of Transition and Class Growth: Standardizing sail sizes for both U19 and Senior categories facilitates an easier transition for young sailors entering the Senior circuit. Eliminating the need for additional equipment purchases encourages continuity within the Class and promotes long-term growth. Young athletes can seamlessly progress from youth to senior levels with fewer financial barriers.

Class Olympic Future: Windsurfing events are widely recognized as universally appealing. However, a significant decline in sailors and participating nations within the iQFOiL Class could prompt its reassessment for future Olympic cycles.

Impact on Wind Range and Race Quality: Decreasing the sail area from 9m² to 8m² will lead to a reduction in the target weight. Consequently, the wind range available for competition won't be compromised since the adjustment in the power-to-weight ratio will also be factored in.

Optimizing Durability through Smaller Sail Design: Smaller sails boast greater longevity due to their smaller panel sizes between battens. An 8m² sail maintains performance longer than a 9m² counterpart, potentially reducing the need for frequent sail replacements.

Equipment Reuse and Sustainability: Introducing an 8m² sail maintains compatibility with existing masts, minimizing the need for discarding older equipment. By repurposing V1 and V2 masts with minor adjustments, the Class reduces environmental impact. This approach aligns with broader efforts to prioritize responsible resource management.