

International iQFOiL Class Association Executive Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Date and time: 26th of February 2024 – 18h00 CET

Place: Online via the Zoom conferencing system

In attendance:

Executive Committee

Ronnie Meir (ISR) - President, Nicolas Goyard (FRA), Adrien Gaillard (MEX), Barrie Edgington (GBR), Lo-rand Utassy (HUN), Ewa Jodlowska (POL), Piotr Myska (POL).

Class' Manager Gonzalo Costa Hoevel

Class' Executive Secretary Valérie Boutet-Massonneau

Excused: Peina Chen (CHN), Mariana AGUILAR (MEX)

24' WORLDS LANZAROTE FEEDBACK

○ IMPACT VESTS

Request the Technical Committee to work on a explanatory document for the new impact vest/ buoyancy aid rule and maybe publish a list of the ones that were ok and the ones that were not ok in Lanzarote.

○ POSITIONING OF THE JURYS AND MEDIA BOATS IN THE FINAL OF THE MEDAL SERIES

There needs to be proper info on where the media boats and jury boats should position themselves, specially if one sailor is under the 5 second penalty rule.

There was interference of one media boat during one of the heats of the final series and this is worrying.

The possibility of using drones has been studied, particularly for the kite series.

However, it should be pointed out that kites do not have the same final system as iQFOiLs, and in particular they have the possibility of protesting after the end of their race, a possibility that iQFOiLs do not have. This system therefore seems more difficult to implement in our series.

Furthermore, it seems that even for kites, WS is not very confident about the reliability of this system following the problem encountered with the kite series at the World Championships in The Hague.

The 5-second penalty rule seemed to work very well in Lanzarote and further meetings with WS had happened to confirm the implementation of it at the Games.

○ ABOUT LOS ANGELES

World Sailing is suggesting that iQ and the kites use the same Final series format. This system could be a hybrid formula between the iQFOiL and Kite final systems: the Kite system would be applied during the Grand Final.

World Sailing will make its decision early in the Olympiad: around May 2025.

However, if this hybrid formula is really in the pipeline, the Executive Committee is proposing to test it at the

iQFOiL Games in the early months of 2025: 24' iQFOiL Games China + 25' iQFOiL Games Lanzarote + 25' iQFOiL Games Cadiz.

The Executive Committee also proposes to create a **Working Group** on the subject and to invite athletes and coaches from the Kite and to create a **survey** that would be sent to Kite and iQFOiL athletes.

NEXT WORLD SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The next World Sailing World Championships are scheduled to take place over two years in 2026 and 2027, although some bids are proposing to host all the Olympic series together in 2027.

If the WS World Championships are held over two years, the iQFOiLs will be grouped with the ILCAs and the Kites.

In April 2024, the short list of candidates will be examined and the final selection will be made in May.

If the world championships take place in 2026, it will be the 1st qualifier for the 28' Olympic Games, otherwise WS will have to work on the selection rules accordingly.

UPDATE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES

A first batch is already on its way to France and a second will be flown out a little later.

On receipt, the foils will be scanned by the same team of technicians as will be present at the Olympic Games in Marseille.

The members of the Executive Committee wondered what exactly would be scanned.

Gonzalo explains the wings and masts are going to be scanned. The main idea is to check whether or not the equipment has been modified between the time it was given to the athletes and the time it is checked for the Olympic Games through the scan of the factory, the WS scan upon arrival and the scan of the selected foil from the sailor on the 20th of July.

With regard to the rules that will apply to the use of this equipment, the iQFOiL Executive Committee asks to be able to see it before it is validated by WS in order to give some input.

10 sets of spare equipment will be available as spares on top of all the allocation already given to the sailors.

Several options are under consideration for the spares:

The first, which is currently favoured by World Sailing, is that once the athletes have chosen the equipment with which they wish to compete, the second set would be with the sailors but not in the water with their coach.

If there is any equipment failure in the water, there will be a rib with spares.

If an athlete needs to change a part of their equipment, it will be taken from this spares to complete the day and then the sailor can repair the damaged one or go to his spare (second set) for the rest of the event.

The second, which the iQFOiL Class would like to see implemented, would allow athletes to take their spare into the water with their coaches.

The problem is that no other Olympic Class operates in this way and World Sailing is not about to make exceptions. The Class points out that, as each Olympic Class has different equipment issues, it seems logical that the management of spare equipment should be different.

It's an ongoing topic with WS.

UPDATE ON THE SITUATION OF RUSSIAN AND BELARUSIAN ATHLETES FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES

World Sailing has put a bid protocol online for Russian and Belarusian athletes who will be able, under certain

conditions, to take part in the Last Chance Qualifier under neutral flag and try to qualify for the Olympic Games.

They must complete an application form and comply with the IOC's Neutrality Policy.

After the Olympic Games, these athletes will no longer be able to compete under neutral Flag. This possibility only applies to selections and the Olympic Games.

Athletes who qualify under neutral flag will benefit from reduced entry fees.

The question was raised as to how these athletes will be able to pay these entry fees, given that it is usually the MNAs who pay them.

If the IOC has no funds to help these athletes, the question of Class iQFOiL aid to the selected athletes will be put to a vote by the members of the Executive Committee.

GENDER EQUALITY ON iQFOiL EVENTS

At the last World Sailing Meeting in London at the end of February, all the Olympic Classes were asked to apply strict gender equality to their events.

World Sailing would like to remind everyone that this will be an obligation at the Los Angeles Olympic Games, so we need to start working towards it now.

Valérie points out that the iQFOiL Class has been working in this way for 2 years now and that this gender equality was perfectly respected at the 2024 World Championships in Lanzarote (iQFOiL Team, Race Management, International Jury Panel, Technical Committee, Media Team).

Karolina KLUSZCZYNSKA (POL), who works as an E.N. Class Coach or in the iQFOiL Race Management team, has been chosen to take part in the program set up by World Sailing to promote women to the position of International Race Officer.

ALERT ON NEW FOIL FUSELAGE

Nicolas GOYARD (FRA) points out significant differences he has measured between the old and new fuselages:

- the new fuselages (from mid-2022 onwards, broadly speaking) reduce V by around 0.4 degrees,
- roughly 0.1/0.2 between the front wing and the fuselage mast connection,
- 0.2/0.3 between the mast-fuselage connection and the stab.

Gonzalo confirms that there has been a change of supplier, but that the fuselage design has not been changed.

However, following Nicolas' comments, he is going to investigate further.

The Executive Committee Meeting ended at 20h08