The World Sailing Board met by conference call between 10:00 – 12:00 GMT on Wednesday, 31st March 2021.

**Present**

1. Quanhai Li - President  
2. Ozlem Akdurak – Vice President  
3. Jo Aleh – Chair, Athletes Commission  
4. Philip Baum - Vice President  
5. Tomasz Chamera – Vice President  
6. Sarah Kenny – Vice President  
7. Yann Rocherieux – Vice President  
8. Cory Sertl – Vice President  
9. Marcus Spillane – Vice President

**In Attendance**

1. David Graham – Chief Executive Officer  
2. Raksha Patel – Director of Finance & Business Operations  
3. Victoria Evans – Interim Director of Legal & Governance  
4. Nelia Smith – Executive Assistant

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1. Opening of the Meeting

   a) Presidents’ Opening Remarks  
   The President commenced by thanking everyone for arranging their schedules to attend the special Board meeting. The President congratulated the team on the delivery of the Q1 Regional Council meetings, that had a strong focus on regional development plans and commented that these are valuable opportunities to engage and receive constructive feedback from our stakeholders. He went on to comment on the good work being done by the staff and Board formed working party with regards to re-instating parasailing at the Games in LA 2028. The President thanked the Board members and staff that are continuously working on elements ensuring financial sustainability, more specifically the recent commercial meetings focused on scenario planning for the continued safe office operations and securing of funds for the emerging nations programme, parasailing campaign, women’s sailing & digital service to stakeholders. He confirmed that a recent meeting between IF’s and President Bach was positive and further shared written information received from the IOC related to a request limiting the accreditation requirements for IF staff, and that no international guests will be allowed. He urged everyone to support and adhere to the requests and guidelines issued by the IOC. The President concluded stating that the Offshore 2024 subject will be covered in the Matters Arising section of the agenda.

   b) Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest  
   No apologies for absence were received.  
   No further interests were declared.
c) Approval of previous minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2021 and acknowledged confirmation from the CEO that all minutes were published up to date on the WS website. A request was noted to arrange the website minutes in chronological order as opposed to date of publication.

d) Matters Arising

Paris 2024 Mixed Offshore Event

The Board noted the supporting paper outlining relevant information and background of the subject. Prior to the discussion of the paper and the decisions required, the President noted his disappointment that the IOC might not approve the Offshore event for Paris 2024 and commended the individuals that worked tirelessly towards implementing the democratically elected mandate.

It was noted that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) had unofficially advised World Sailing that approval of Offshore for Paris 2024 by the IOC Executive Board was highly unlikely. This course of action is said to be the result of the IOC’s mission to reduce the cost and complexity of delivering the Olympics, and is consistent with the IOC’s decisions in other sports such as athletics, where a cross-country event was declined and rowing, in which coastal rowing was also declined.

The Board was informed about communication from the IOC referring to a draft framework for a replacement event for Paris 2024 (should it be required) as follows:

- Alignment with Olympic Agenda 2020 + 5, including relevance to the youth, gender equality, innovation, universality and participation of the best athletes
- Maintaining full gender equality on both number of events and athlete quotas
- Prioritise universality and maximise the accessibility of the sport
- Should not add to the overall cost and complexity of the sailing events compared to the programme in Tokyo 2020
- Use of existing venues/FoPs
- The nine other approved events already selected for Paris 2024 are locked in, unless there is good logic to split a mixed event into men’s and women’s events.

The Board also added that a replacement event (if required) should:

- minimise disruption to MNAs and athletes;
- be based on existing events and equipment;
The Board were informed that the IOC had further stated that if a replacement event is required, final recommendations from the Olympic Program Commission will need to go to the IOC’s Executive Board by the end of May, for a decision to be made at the 8th June IOC’s Executive Board meeting.

The Board unanimously agreed on the following with regards to the process for selection of an alternative event for Paris 2024.

**Decisions:**
1. The Board will make a temporary Regulation 23 change to manage this unprecedented process.
2. The Board will open up and accept late submissions from relevant stakeholders within a stipulated time window
3. Submissions from external stakeholders will only be accepted re: the replacement event, and not re: any changes/amendments to the Regulations needed to replace offshore with the selected replacement event for Paris 2024
4. ONLY replacement event submissions complying to the IOC framework provided will be accepted.
5. The Board accepted the proposed timeline and actions indicated in the supporting paper, with possible adjustment to the timeline to be made if needed.
6. Any decisions made will be for Paris 2024 only and the selected replacement event will go into review for LA 2028.
7. The Board agreed to using the Lumi voting system as used during the November 2020 election.

2. Executive Office

a) Board Charter
   The existing Board Charter has been simplified and updated. The Board acknowledged receiving the revised document via AdminControl.  
   **Decision:** The Board agreed to send further feedback within a reasonable time frame to complete the process of approval and publish.

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