Sarah Kenny, Chair  
Guillaume Chiellino, Vice Chair

1. Impact of COVID-19

1.1. COVID-19 has had a sudden and major impact on plans for 2020. The Pandemic caused the cancellation of the following events: World Cup Series – Genoa, World Cup Final – Enoshima, Youth Sailing World Championships – Salvador, Women’s Match Racing World Championships – Auckland, Offshore World Championships – Malta. The only World Sailing events that have taken place in 2020 are the World Cup Series – Miami regatta and the Youth Match Racing World Championships – Auckland regatta.

1.2. Most of the Olympic Classes completed successful World Championships in early 2020. However, the Finn and 470 World Championships were eventually cancelled.

1.3. In the European Summer, a number of events were conducted thanks to clear guidance from the Medical Commission on hosting regattas with COVID-19 mitigation in place. European Championships and other regattas have taken place safely and successfully.

2. Tokyo 2020

2.1. With the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to 2021, World Sailing has been working closely with Tokyo 2020 and the IOC to ensure a successful Olympic Sailing Competition in 2021.

2.2. Tokyo 2020 has conducted a cost savings review for all sports and finalised a new schedule for all events. Despite the necessary cost cutting, activities on the Field of Play and the delivery of the competition have been prioritized by Tokyo 2020.

2.3. The complete schedule and Notice of Race will be published in October 2020.

2.4. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the remaining continental qualification events for Africa, Asia and Europe were postponed or cancelled. The updated calendar for the remaining qualification events can be found here: https://www.sailing.org/tokyo2020.php

3. Paris 2024 Olympic Games

3.1. The IOC Paris 2024 Programme Commission will finalise the event programme of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in December 2020. It is expected that the final quotas for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will also be confirmed.

3.2. World Sailing has worked closely with Paris 2024, the IOC and OBS on venue plans, formats and schedule and broadcast production. World Sailing will ensure that, in line with the IOC New Norm principles, the costs and complexity of the Olympic Sailing Competition are reduced.

3.3. The Quotas and Qualification Working Party is working on the key qualification principles for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. However, the IOC will not publish the Paris 2024 Qualification System Principles until after the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in late 2021.

4. Dakar 2022 Youth Olympic Games
4.1. On 15 July 2020, Senegal and the IOC mutually agreed to postpone the Youth Olympic Games - Dakar 2022 to 2026.

4.2. The selection of equipment for the Sailing events of the 2022 YOG has also been postponed.

4.3. The IOC has indicated that the events, quotas and qualification system principles for the 2026 YOG will be unchanged and decisions already made for the 2022 YOG will stand.

5. Youth Sailing World Championships

5.1. On 30 September, The Hague and World Sailing announced the postponement of The Hague 2021 Youth Worlds to 2022. It was agreed that a July 2021 Youth Worlds would be challenging for MNAs, sailors and organisers given the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the restriction on international travel and the financial crisis.

5.2. World Sailing is now working with MNAs to select a December 2021 venue; there has been strong interest to host this and it is important for youth sailors that there is a 2021 Youth Worlds.

6. 2021-2028 Event Strategy

6.1. With the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to 2021 and the postponement of The Hague 2022 Sailing World Championships to 2023, the implementation of the new strategy and calendar is challenging. In particular the Olympic Classes have had to review their plans for 2021, 2022 and 2023.

6.2. The Calendar Working Party is reviewing the 2021-2024 calendar and it is recognized that flexibility is going to be important – in particular in 2021.

6.3. With the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games to 2021, there will be no World Cup Final in Marseille in 2021. JSAF are looking at the possibility of hosting an International Regatta in Enoshima in June ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

6.4. World Sailing is working on commercial partnerships with ‘Classic’ regatta organisers in 2021 and beyond.

7. Events Committee Working Parties

7.1. Calendar: The Working Party is looking to identify adjustments needed to the 2021 event calendar to accommodate the delayed Olympic Games and is also looking at 2022 and 2023 following the postponement of the Sailing World Championships. Greater flexibility for 2021-2024 will be necessary.

7.2. Regulation 23: This is a joint Events Committee & Equipment Committee Working Party looking at the Regulation 23 process for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games. The Working Party will look at lessons learned from the Paris 2024 decision making process and prepare any guidelines or recommendations for improvement or change to the process. It is important that the the experience of the current Committee members is not lost when the Committees change.

7.3. Rankings: This Working Party is responsible for the World Rankings and is reviewing the implementation of the new ranking system for Paris 2024 whilst ensuring the World
Rankings work well in the lead up to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

7.4. Quotas and Qualification: This Working Party will be making recommendations to the Events Committee for the quotas and qualification system for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

7.5. Format: This Working Party is working closely with the Olympic Classes to define possible formats for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

8. Match Racing

8.1. The 2020 Youth Match Racing World Championships held in Auckland in February were a great success. The 2020 Women’s Match Racing World Championships scheduled in November in Auckland have now been cancelled but have been re-scheduled to take place in Auckland in 2021.

8.2. The World Match Racing Tour has been impacted by COVID-19 but is hosting a stand alone Open World Championship in Bermuda. The 70th Bermuda Gold Cup will take place between 26-30 October 2020.

8.3. The following venues have been approved for the Youth Match Racing World Championships:

- 2021 USA, Balboa Yacht Club, Newport Beach, California
- 2022 France, Club Nautique APCC, Pornichet
- 2023 Australia, Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, Rushcutters Bay, Sydney

8.4. The bids for the 2022-2024 Women’s Match Racing World Championships will be reviewed by the Match Racing Review Panel shortly and recommendations made to the Board. This was delayed awaiting the decision on the 2020 and 2021 events.

8.5. The Match Racing Ranking Working Party is working with the Executive Office to determine the best way to manage the MR Ranking List in light of COVID-19.