

14 April 2021

Dear Council members,

we hope you and your loved ones are safe & well.

Please accept our gratitude for your efforts to ensure our sport has progressed amidst a complicated start to 2021. Your continued support is very much appreciated; your tireless endeavours have enabled sailing to be relatively active in the first quarter, including the rearrangement of many of our qualification events for the Tokyo Olympics.

In parallel the Board, management and a number of volunteer working groups have been working relentlessly to respond to the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) queries raised in December 2020 to World Sailing and the Paris 2024 Organizing Committee, regarding the Mixed Two-Person Offshore event proposed for Paris 2024 Olympic Games. We thank our colleagues for their hard work; they answered all the IOC questions to the IOC's satisfaction. That said, on Monday this week we received a letter from the Sports Department of the IOC, and it is looking highly unlikely the event will be approved. We have attached the letter to this mail, you will see the challenges are:

- Field of play security scope and complexity
- Broadcast cost and complexity
- World Sailing not having the opportunity to deliver an offshore world championship

This is consistent with decisions the IOC have made in other sports.

This letter is not an official decision, but rather a direction of travel and assistance to help World Sailing secure our 10th medal at Paris 2024. We have been formally asked to provide the IOC an alternative event(s) should the Mixed Two Person Offshore event not be endorsed.

This is very disappointing news and we are aware this upset will be widespread across our community. World Sailing's first choice is our democratically decided Mixed Two-Person Offshore event, and we have made, and will continue to make this clear in our response. However, in light of the recent communication, we must now agree upon an alternative event(s).

We urge the World Sailing community to cease their unilateral lobbying and work collaboratively with the end goal of securing our 10th medal for Paris 2024. Given the proposed hard deadline, we believe is at significant risk if we don't agree.

Any new proposal must adhere to the criteria framework provided by the IOC, which is clearly outlined in the letter.

The Board of Directors discussed this at length yesterday, we appreciate this will be a disappointment and have requested the office to schedule a Townhall Meeting this Friday, 16 April 2021 at 12:00 BST, in which we will answer your questions.

During the Townhall meeting we will explain more context and the proposed process in order to ensure we move forward together to achieve our common objective of creating a sustainable future for sailing at the Olympics. Your MNA's (a maximum of 2 pax / MNA) will be invited to observe the session.

Please do not share the content of this letter, or the IOC letter to the Media, we will arrange media coverage on Friday post our meeting.

Best wishes,



Quanhai Li
President



David Graham
CEO

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HM King Constantine
HM King Harald of Norway

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