

Summary: 2032 Olympic Events Equipment Decision Framework (Part 1 & Part 2)

This document outlines World Sailing's decision-making framework, evaluation criteria, and strategic recommendations for the Olympic Sailing Competition events and equipment at the **Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games**, conducted under **Regulation 11.5**.

Part 1: Summary, Next Steps, and Action Plan

1. Where We Stand

- **No Formal Recommendations Yet:** In close collaboration, the Events Committee (EC) and Equipment Committee (EQ) reviewed the Joint Working Group (WG) report but decided **not** to make formal final recommendations or rankings at this stage.
- **The Two "North Stars":** All considerations are guided by two core objectives:
 1. Increasing broadcast attractiveness (creating audience value, visual clarity, and digital relevance).
 2. Contributing to the global growth of high-performance sailing (lowering material resource hurdles and encouraging broader participation).
- **Five Candidate Recommendations:** Informal polling of the EC and EQ identified five potential recommendations combining retained and new events (ranked in order of preference based on current polling):
 - **Recommendation A:** Retain MX Dinghy & MX Multihull; introduce M+W Kite & Men's/Women's Wingfoil. (Note: Retaining MX Multihull is conditional on a format review and supplied equipment).
 - **Recommendation B:** Retain MX Dinghy & MX Multihull; introduce M+W Kite & Men's/Women's Foiling Monohull.
 - **Recommendation C:** New MX Dinghy; retain MX Multihull; introduce M+W Kite, Wingfoil, & Team Racing.
 - **Recommendation D:** New MX Dinghy; retain MX Multihull; introduce M+W Kite, Wingfoil, & Mixed Team Tournament.
 - **Recommendation E:** New MX Dinghy; retain MX Multihull; introduce M+W Kite, Foiling Monohull, & Team Racing.
- **Why More Time is Needed:** Additional time is required for three major reasons: **feedback loops** (engaging the sailing community via townhalls), **robustness checks** (stress-testing against the IOC's *Fit for the Future* framework), and **refined polling** (addressing contradictions in initial poll results).

2. Next Steps & Action Plan

- **Timeline to Decision (Aug–Nov 2026):**
 - **9 September:** Council presentation of the *Update Events Decision Reg. 11.5*.
 - **Early October:** Draft final Joint EC/EQ Report produced.
 - **Mid-October:** Informal followed by formal EC/EQ meetings to vote on the final report.
 - **Late October:** Final Joint Report and recommendations passed to Council.
 - **Early November:** Council discusses and decides upon recommendations, forwarding them to the General Assembly.
 - **21 November:** General Assembly makes the final decision on Reg. 11.5 at the Annual Conference.

Part 2: Joint Working Group Report & Detailed Analysis

1. Context & Scope

- **Events Under Review (Reg. 11.4):** The 2025 General Assembly placed four events under review: **Mixed Dinghy (470)**, **Mixed Multihull (Nacra 17)**, **Men's Kite**, and **Women's Kite (Formula Kite)**.
- **Regulation 11.5 Options:** For each event under review, World Sailing can choose to: (i) retain event and equipment, (ii) retain event and evolve equipment, (iii) retain event and select new equipment, or (iv) select a new event and new equipment.

2. Evaluation Criteria

- **Level 1 Criteria (Applied to overall recommendations and single events):** Olympic broadcast attractivity, attractivity to athletes, cost of campaigning, universality, long-term predictability, simplicity, and cost to the organizer (OCOG).
- **Level 2 Criteria (Applied to new/slate events):** Unique Selling Proposition (USP) regarding broadcast and competition type, digital technology use, quota impact, equipment price stability, potential for supplied equipment, development stage, compatibility with existing fields of play, and strength of pathways (in and out of Olympic sailing).

3. Summary of Key Building Blocks & Events Evaluated

- **Men's and Women's Kite:** Fast and athletic, but faces challenges regarding broadcast visibility (hard to track athletes at high speeds), high equipment replacement costs, strict optimal weight demands affecting universality, and low youth championship participation.
- **Mixed Dinghy (470):** Proven 50-year pathway, highly accessible across diverse regions (strong in Asia/Africa), excellent light-wind capability, and stable campaign costs, though less visually dramatic for broadcasters.
- **Mixed Multihull (Nacra 17):** Features strong broadcast appeal and proven professional pathways (e.g., America's Cup/SailGP crossover). Retention is conditional on implementing a **format review** (such as SailGP-style short-group knockout races) and introducing **supplied foils/equipment** to reduce costs and competitive concentration among wealthy nations.
- **Wingfoiling (New Event Concept):** Evaluated via the GWA *FreeFly-Slalom* format (resembling boarder-cross with jumps and downwind pumping). Offers high broadcast appeal, short race durations, low infrastructure costs, and strong youth demographic alignment.
- **Foiling Monohull (New Event Concept):** A strict one-design, supplied-equipment class for separate men's and women's events. Highly attractive to athletes with strong professional pathways (America's Cup, SailGP), though equipment maturity and light-wind performance require validation.
- **Team Racing & Mixed Team Tournament:** Explored as alternative formats to introduce head-to-head competition, enhance national-team storytelling, and lower equipment-ownership barriers via supplied boats.