

Special Events

New regulation

A submission from the Chairman of the World Sailing Classes Committee

Purpose or Objective

To achieve clarity and transparency about what special events are, under which conditions they can be established; limitations to protect interests of classes affected.

Proposal

Add new regulation 25.8.13 as follows:

25.8.13 Special Events

25.8.13.a) Special events are:

- Americas Cup
- World Match Racing Tour
- PWA World Tour
- Volvo Ocean Race
- Extreme Sailing Series
- World Kiteboarding Tour

25.8.13.b) Unless otherwise agreed with the respective World Sailing Class, the following safeguards shall be in place for World Sailing Classes when World Sailing Class equipment is proposed to be used for World Sailing Special Events:

- protection of the World Sailing Class rules,
- protection of the Class calendar,
- protection and allocation of the World title(s) or the perception of allocation of the World title(s).

Current Position

There is currently no regulation governing “Special Events”

Reason

Although “Special Events” exist and are listed on the World Sailing Website (<https://www.sailing.org/events/special-events/>) there is no mention of “Special Events” in the

regulations, neither about the events itself nor under which circumstances and conditions special event status may be granted, and what the safeguards for existing World Sailing classes are.

The ICC minutes from 2015 note that

“The ISAF Special Event status is not covered anywhere within ISAF Rules or Regulations.

Urgent clarification is needed on the following:

- application and decision making process for awarding the status,
- the obligations linked to the ISAF special event status for the organisers,
- extent of exemptions which can be permitted to ISAF Rules and Regulations.

The above details shall be published on the ISAF website”

It is also minuted that there is a “live document” in the World Sailing office that “aims to explain under which circumstances an event may be awarded Special Event status and what are their rights and obligations; This paper is aimed to be a “live” document showing working practice”.

The chair of the Constitution committee commented that “the circumstances under which Special Event status are being given needed more clarification and that no arrangement should be in conflict with the Regulations.”

There is still no clarity about “Special Events” and windsurfing and kiteboarding classes are potentially affected in their rights by the awarding of special events. Therefore this matter needs urgent clarification and the conditions under which special event status may be granted need to be added to the regulations.
