EVALUATION WORKING PARTY – INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION – IFWC: FORMULA FOIL

Windsurf foiling is ready now – ready for 2024 – why wait for 2028?

ACTIVELY RACING

PWA foil events since 2017
2017 - Japan, Spain, Germany, Noumea
2018 – Japan, Korea, Spain, Germany
2019 – Japan, Korea, Spain, Germany

OPEN foil events since 2017 eg Portugal (Azores), Poland, USA, Brasil, Netherlands, NZL, SUI
IFCA 2019 foil championship on Lake Silvaplana

FORMULA FOIL
2018 – Europeans (Poland) and Worlds (Portugal)
2019 – Europeans (Portugal) and Worlds (Poland)

VENUES & CONDITIONS

Experience has revealed no issues regarding variety of venues with differing conditions:
LAKE – Silvaplana, SUI (also at altitude)
HARBOUR – Terceira, Azores, POR (perfect for "stadium" style racing)
GULF – Puck Bay, Gulf of Gdansk, POL (shallow bay)
OCEAN – Portimao, POR (open to ground swells)

Launch and recovery not an issue in a wide range of venues – deep or shallow water, harbour (slipway) or beach, ocean swell or steep chop ...

Course races have been held in wide range of wind conditions – 5>35 knots; tidal and non-tidal waters; sea conditions ranging from flat water to 'steep chop' and 'ground swell'.

COMPETITORS

Windsurf Foil racing appeals to a wide range of windsurfer, it is an "inclusive" discipline:
ABILITY* – Top Level from professional (PWA) to Olympic;
AGES** – Junior (u17) to Master (40+);
GENDER*** – male and female;
PHYSIQUES**** - lightweight (65>70kg) to heavyweight (90>100kg).

You would expect these claims to be made, but they are supported by evidence from event entries and media reports, backed by the World Sailing Survey and, I am sure, responses the WP will receive from the Test Team sailors.

Additional comments
Ability* - it also attracts "recreational" competitors, ensuring the widest possible appeal for Olympic windsurfing if foiling is selected for 2024.
Ages** - junior and youth racers at Techno Championships expressed excitement at the prospect of foiling; 20% of entries to 2019 Formula Foil Worlds were youth; 33% of entries to 2019 IFCA Foil Worlds were youth.

Gender*** - It is correct to say that entry levels are low compared to the Olympic class; this has always been the case as very few women are supported to compete other than on the Olympic equipment. Olympic Foiling will increase participation, and not just maintain levels.
Physiques**** - Equipment choices will increase opportunities for participation on a "level playing field"; equipment to fit the person, not (limited) persons to fit equipment.

Safety
There is no evidence of additional risks to competitors from racing boards fitted with foils.

FAIR RACING – WIDE APPEAL

IFCA Foil Worlds 2019
Top3: NED-55, DEN-291, SUI-601; 2 board brands, 2 foil brands, 2 sail brands.
Top10: 5 board brands, 5 sail brands.

IFWC Formula Foil Worlds
Top3: AUS-0, POL-23, POL-10; 3 board brands, 3 foil brands, 3 sail brands.
Top10: 4 board brands, 5 foil brands, 4 sail brands.

2020 – increased competitor/country participation, increased brand participation.

FORMULA FOIL EQUIPMENT

To illustrate the capabilities of FF

FOIL BOARDS

Future Fly – Flying Camel 175	L-2255 mm	W- 910 mm	V-175 Ltrs
Patrik Diethelm – Formula 200	L-2291 mm	W-1002 mm	V-200 Ltrs
Starboard - Formula 177	L-2274 mm	W-1003 mm	V-188 Ltrs
Starboard iFoil 100 *new registration*	L-2200 mm	W- 1000 mm	V-208 Ltrs

FOILS
Exploder Hydro Foil – versions for men and for women
f4 Windsurf Race – 100 and 120 versions
Z Windfoil Race

SAILS-RIGS
Challenger Sails – Foil: 10 sqm, 9 sqm, 8 sqm
Severne Hyperglide 2 - Sails: 10 sqm, 9 sqm, 8 sqm

SHARED USE
Windfoil 1 and iFoil tenders present equipment that is "class legal" in Formula Foil.
Most of the equipment is additional (different) from that presented for the Formula Foil.
Widfoil1 brands are supportive, with equipment for the Formula Foil, including:
Future Fly, Arnon Dagan – Pryde sails/rigs 10 sqm, 9 sqm, 8 sqm, 7 sqm;
Phantom, Manu Messiaen - Foil, and sails/rigs 9.5 sqm, 8.5 sqm, 7.5 sqm.

CLASS ADMINISTRATION

International Formula Windsurfing Class (IFWC) - a World Sailing Member Class since 2001.

The International Windsurfing Association was formed in January 2001 to unite the sport of windsurfing, and to provide a focal point for information, and a central administration for competitive windsurfing.

The IFWC is a founding member of IWA.

IWA member classes are administered according to their own Constitutions, hold General Meetings and elect their own committees; are responsible for their own Class (equipment) and Championship (event) Rules.

The IWA Office provides the secretarial and financial services; and administers the class championships by finalising event contracts and managing the online entry system.

Since its inception the IWA has:

- managed an established olympic class, IMCO, from 2002 until its demise;
- assisted the early development of the current olympic, RSX, class association;
- overseen the introduction of a junior/youth "pathway" class, Techno 293;
- managed the class providing equipment for 2010, 2014, & 2018 Youth Olympic Games.

The above "highlights" provide a window into the range of support that is available to the IFWC should Formula Foil Limited be adopted for 2024, and 2028.

By selecting Formula Foil Limited there will be a smooth transition for World Sailing into engagement with an established class, with a clear structure, able to meet the demands of being an Olympic Class



Francesco Zarbo, IFWC President & IWA Director



Ceri Williams, IFWC Secretary & IWA Executive Secretary