

World Sailing Policy

Individual Neutral Athlete Participation

March 2024



World Sailing Policy for participation of Individual Neutral Athletes and Support Persons with a Russian or Belarusian Passport in the Olympic Sailing Competition for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 (the Neutrality Policy).

1. Preamble

Pursuant to the recommendations issued by the International Olympic Committee (the "IOC") on 28 March 2023 and the announcement of World Sailing on 24 January 2024, this is the World Sailing Policy for participation of Individual Neutral Athletes ("AIN(s)") and Support Persons with a Russian or Belarusian Passport in the Olympic Sailing Competition for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 (the "Neutrality Policy").

2. Participation

2.1 This Neutrality Policy only applies to:

2.1.1 The Olympic Sailing Competition for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 which are those Events listed in World Sailing Regulation 23.1.4:

Men's Windsurfing	iQFOiL
Women's Windsurfing	iQFOiL
Men's Kite	IKA Formula Kite
Women's Kite	IKA Formula Kite
Men's Dinghy	ILCA 7
Women's Dinghy	ILCA 6
Men's Skiff	49er
Women's Skiff	49erFX
Mixed Dinghy	470
Mixed Multihull	Nacra 17

and

2.1.2. The Last Chance Regatta qualifying event, to be held as part of the Semaine Olympique Francaise, on 20-27 April 2024 ("Last Chance Regatta");

and

2.1.3. Where the AIN qualifies for the Olympic Sailing Competition at the Olympic Games Paris 2024 at the Last Chance Regatta, they will be permitted to participate in "Other Events" during a "Permitted Period". "Other Events" are those events occurring within the "Permitted Period" in those sailing events listed above in Clause 2.3.1 and in Regulation 23.1.4. The "Permitted Period" is 27 April 2024 to 28 July 2024.

- 2.2 Individual sailors of Russian and Belarusian sporting nationality and their support persons, as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing ("Support Persons") shall only participate in the events listed in Clause 2.1 in a neutral capacity, and in no case as representatives of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus, their Member National Associations ("MNA(s)") or National Olympic Committees ("NOC(s)").
- 2.3 Subject to the entry conditions stipulated in the Notice of Race, any sailor who satisfies the requirements of this Neutrality Policy shall be designated an "Individual Neutral Athlete", Athlètes Individuels Neutres" in French, ("AIN") and are entitled to participation in the events listed in Clause 2.1.
- 2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, following the Last Chance Regatta, 20-27 April 2024, those AIN sailors and their Support Persons who have not qualified for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 will immediately revert to their Russian or Belarusian sporting nationality at the conclusion of the Last Chance Regatta and as such will be subject to any temporary sanctions imposed by World Sailing on their participation in International Sailing. Those AINs who have not qualified for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 will not be entitled to participate in "Other Events" during the "Permitted Period".
- 2.5 Only persons holding a high-level medical or technical function which is essential to the participation of an AIN shall be granted accreditation to the events listed in Clause 2.1, following an application and successfully satisfying the requirements in accordance with this Neutrality Policy. World Sailing and/or the relevant Organising Authority (the "OA") reserve the right to limit the number of AIN Support Persons entitled to receive accreditation.

3. Neutrality

- 3.1 Any participation of an AIN and their Support Persons must fully comply with the Neutrality Policy, World Sailing Regulations, including the Anti-Doping rules, the Olympic Charter and any other regulations and rules applicable to the events listed in Clause 2.1.
- 3.2 In addition, the strictest neutrality towards the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus at any time since 24 February 2022, when the Russian Federation commenced the war in Ukraine, will be required for any participation by a sailor or Support Person in any of the events listed in Clause 2.1. Neutrality requirements are:

3.2.1 No link with the Russian or Belarusian military or with any other national security agency

Sailors and Support Persons who are or have been contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military since 24 February 2022, including any affiliated entities, or with national security agencies, cannot participate in the events listed in Clause 2.1.

3.2.2 No communications promoting Russia or Belarus from 24 February 2022 onwards.

Sailors and Support Persons must have refrained from any activity or communication, either verbal, non-verbal or written, associated with the national flag, anthem, emblem or any other symbol of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, their MNAs or NOCs, or from any support for the war in Ukraine in any media (including but not limited to interviews in any media, social media, tweets, retweets, and posted messages on X (formerly Twitter), posted images on Instagram, Meta (formerly Facebook) forwarded messages, comments on other posts, videos on YouTube posts and or comments etc.) at any time since the beginning of the military aggression in Ukraine by the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus.

Sailors and Support Persons must not make any public statements or comments or take any action or behave in any way that may prejudice the interests of the competition, its integrity, or the participant's neutrality as required as a condition for participation.

3.2.3 No active support for the war in Ukraine since 24 February 2022

Only sailors and Support Persons who support the peace mission of the Olympic Movement and have not actively supported the war in Ukraine may participate as an AIN.

Sailors or Support Persons contracted at any time since 24 February 2022 to the Russian and Belarusian military or national security agencies are considered as actively supporting the war in Ukraine.

Any other form of verbal, non-verbal or written expression, explicit or implicit, at any time since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, in particular public statements, including those made in social media, participation in pro-war demonstrations or events, and the wearing of any symbol in support of the war in Ukraine, for example the "Z" symbol, are considered to be acts of actively supporting the war in Ukraine.

4 Anti-Doping Requirements

- 4.1 All AIN sailors and Support Persons must comply with all anti-doping requirements applicable to them, in particular those set out in the World Sailing Anti-Doping Rules.
- 4.2 World Sailing may, in accordance with the World Sailing Anti-Doping Rules, stipulate any specific doping control requirements for AINs and Support Persons, noting that they have not been participating in international sailing competitions for over a year.

5. Application Process For Individual Neutral Athlete ("AIN(s)") and Support Persons

- 5.1 Individual Sailors and their Support Persons of Russian and Belarusian sporting nationality shall apply to World Sailing to be granted the status of Individual Neutral Athlete ("AIN") by submitting the relevant application form to legal@sailing.org before any stipulated deadline.
- 5.2 Sailors and Support Persons of Russian and Belarusian sporting nationality shall only be entitled to participate in the events listed in Clause 2.1 once they have received confirmation of their eligibility from World Sailing and for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 from the IOC.
- 5.3 Upon receipt of the application form, World Sailing Legal shall carry out verifications

to ensure compliance with the applicable requirements for such status of Individual Neutral Athlete/Support Person, as set out in Clause 3 of this Neutrality Policy.

- 5.4 After the verification process and input from the IOC, World Sailing Legal will present the applications to the World Sailing Board for approval.
- 5.5 Subject to Clause 5.6, World Sailing shall advise the outcome of any application for status as an Individual Neutral Athlete/Support Person to the relevant sailor/Support Person within fourteen (14) days of receiving the application form.
- 5.6 World Sailing Board may extend the 14-day deadline specified in Clause 5.5 for such further period or periods it considers appropriate, if additional verification or time is required in order to ensure compliance with the applicable neutrality requirements stipulated in Clause 3 of this Neutrality Policy.
- 5.7 World Sailing may apply a fee for the processing of an application where additional measures for the verification of the applicable neutrality rules are required, in accordance with Clause 5.6. In such a case where a processing fee is applied in accordance with this Clause 5.7, the processing of the AIN application shall be suspended until payment of any additional processing fee is received.
- 5.8 Following the Last Chance Regatta, 20-27 April 2024, those AIN sailors and their Support Persons who have qualified for the Olympic Games Paris 2024 will have all their documentation sent to the IOC for review by the IOC AIN Eligibility Review Panel (the "IOC Panel").
- 5.9 The IOC Panel will review the eligibility of each AIN athlete and their Support Persons proposed by World Sailing, in line with the principles of neutrality as set out in Clause 3. The IOC Panel will adopt a comprehensive approach, taking into account information from the respective IFs and open-source data, including potential submissions of information from Olympic Movement stakeholders. The IOC Panel will ensure that all proposed AIN athletes and their support personnel are subject to consistent eligibility and verification criteria, in addition to the work done by the IFs, prior to being able to participate at the Olympic Games Paris 2024
- 5.10 Should a duly qualified AIN athlete be declared eligible to participate in the Olympic Games Paris 2024, they will receive an individual invitation to participate in the Games from the IOC.
- 5.11 World Sailing shall publish on its website a list of sailors and their Support Persons to whom the status of Individual Neutral Athlete ("AIN") has been granted.

6. Entry

- 6.1 All AIN sailors and Support Persons entries will be taken as representing themselves and will have no MNA.
- 6.2 World Sailing will issue each AIN sailor with a temporary AIN Sailor ID. Russian passport holders will be designated AIN X and Belarussian passport holders will be designated AIN Y. AIN X and AIN Y will each be treated as a separate country for the purposes of entries.
- 6.3 Where the number of eligible AIN X or AIN Y sailors exceeds the stipulated quota places permitted for the relevant event, the AIN with the highest rankings between Jan 2020 – Jan 2022 will be selected to be entered. If there are no rankings available, then results from Class World Championships may be used. As a final resort, if there are no rankings or results, then a simple draw will take place to select the sailor who will be selected to

be entered.

6.3 World Sailing will verify the entry to the Organising Authority.

6.4 For entry to the Olympic Sailing Competition of the Olympic Games Paris 2024 the IOC will issue an invitation to participate.

7. Flags

7.1 Flags of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus (current or historical) shall not be raised or displayed at any competition venue, nor in any area where ancillary events are held, or any other area controlled by the Organising Authority ("OA") of an event, including hotel and village accommodation and transportation.

7.2 Where the use of a flag is necessary to identify Individual Neutral Athletes (e.g., at ceremonies, protocol events, on-site, TV/media displays), either an all-white flag shall be used or no flag shall be used.

7.3 The OA shall be responsible for ensuring that no flag of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus, or any other object referring to these countries, is displayed within the scope of, or in relation to, an event, including by spectators.

8. Anthems

8.1 The national anthems of Russia and Belarus (or any other anthem associated with the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus) shall not be played or sung at any time during or in connection with any of the events set out in Clause 2.1 in any competition venue, nor in any area where ancillary events are held, or any other area controlled by the OA of an event, including accommodation and transportation.

8.2 The anthem to be used to represent any Individual Neutral Athlete at any official ceremony (opening or closing, protocol, medal ceremony, etc.) shall be the anthem or song of the Paris 2024 Olympic Sailing Competition event. No anthem or song shall be used at any Other Event.

9. Uniforms and Clothing

9.1 The uniform worn by Individual Neutral Athletes (AINs and their Support Persons) shall be white in colour.

9.2 The uniforms (whether competition, warm-up, formal, ceremonial, casual, etc.), clothing, equipment, accessories and personal items belonging to Individual Neutral Athletes and their support persons that are worn, used and/or displayed at competition venues, or any area where ancillary events are held, or any other area controlled by the OA, shall not contain:

- any recognition of, or reference to, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, or their MNAs or NOCs, or any national identification of Russia or Belarus (such as flag, coat of arms, colours or any other national symbol or emblem, whether official or unofficial) in any language or format; or
- any emblem or identification, commercial or otherwise, of any Russian or Belarusian organisation or entity; or
- any expression (message, graphic element, symbol, etc) with a direct or indirect

political connotation.

- 9.3 Designs for any clothing to be used by an Individual Neutral Athlete (“AIN”) or their Support Persons must be submitted to World Sailing for approval. Any application must be submitted at least one (1) month prior to the event in question. Any use of clothing other than that approved by World Sailing may result in the disqualification of the sailor and/or disciplinary action.

10. Equipment

- 10.1 The boat and all the sports equipment used in sailing and all personal equipment must not contain:

- any recognition of, or reference to, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, or their National Federations or NOCs, or any national identification of Russia or Belarus (such as flag, coat of arms, colours or any other national symbol or emblem, whether official or unofficial) in any language or format; or
- any emblem or identification, commercial or otherwise, of any Russian or Belarusian organisation or entity; or
- any expression (message, graphic element, symbol, etc) with a direct or indirect political connotation.

- 10.2 The only designations which will be permitted on the boat and all the sports and personal equipment will be the Olympic Sailing Event branding, AIN designations and World Sailing branding. An illustration of the AIN designation is shown in Appendix 1 of this Neutrality Policy.

- 10.3 The colour of the equipment shall be as per the colours offered by the manufacturer and shall not be one or more of the colours shown in the flags of the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus. An all white hull or board and white sails and kites are acceptable for events where equipment is not supplied. At the Olympic Sailing Competition, supplied equipment may be used in the colour supplied.

11. Medals

- 11.1 Individual Neutral Athletes (“AIN”) may receive medals for their performances and participate in the relevant award ceremonies. Due to their participation as AIN individuals, these medals shall not count towards any medal table drawn up according to nations.

12 Media and Publications

OAs of Olympic Sailing Competitions and Other Events must withdraw references to Russia and/or Belarus in all documents and publications in both printed and electronic format, including, but not limited to, start lists, result lists, rankings, news articles, photos, social media posts, website posts and TV graphics. The acronym to be used instead shall be AIN.

13 Enforcement

- 13.1 World Sailing will monitor the implementation of the neutrality requirements as stipulated in this Neutrality Policy and reserves its right, at its sole discretion, to revoke

its decision to allow the participation of Russian and Belarusian sailors and Support Persons as AIN, if the circumstances so warrant.

- 13.2 Violation of the neutrality requirements as stipulated in this Neutrality Policy, including but not limited to providing false information, by any person or entity bound by World Sailing Rules and Regulations, may result in the World Sailing Board withdrawing the AIN status of any AIN sailors and Support Persons and may involve the imposition of additional sanctions, including but not limited to fines and or disqualification of results.
- 13.3 Any person whose application was not approved pursuant to Clause 5.4 or whose status of AIN is withdrawn pursuant to Clause 13.1 above may re-apply to World Sailing by submitting a new application to be determined by the World Sailing Board in its sole discretion. Any re-application will require an application fee (to be determined upon re-application) to cover the costs of additional independent verification of compliance with the neutrality requirements as stipulated in this Neutrality Policy.
- 13.4 World Sailing shall take all reasonable measures to enforce the neutrality requirements as stipulated in this Neutrality Policy.
- 13.5 The World Sailing Board may direct that any violations which are not dealt with pursuant Clause 13.2 are dealt with pursuant to the disciplinary procedures in the RRS and/or the World Sailing Regulations and this may result in the imposition of sanctions, including but not limited to, a warning, reprimand, fine and or disqualification of results. For these purposes World Sailing will act as the AIN's MNA.
- 13.6 Any conduct unbecoming the values of sailing towards any sailors or their Support Persons (including those designated as AIN) shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings pursuant to World Sailing Rules and Regulations and/or the Racing Rules of Sailing (the "RRS").

14 Appeals

- 14.1 For the avoidance of doubt, save for appeals afforded under Clause 13.5 or Clause 13.6, under the RRS or World Sailing's Rules and Regulations there is no appeal against any decision taken pursuant to this Neutrality Policy:
 - not to grant an AIN status application pursuant to Clause 5.4
 - the withdrawal of AIN status pursuant to Clause 13.2
 - Not to grant a re-application for AIN pursuant to Clause 13.3
 - To revoke the decision to allow the participation of Russian and Belarussian as AIN pursuant to Clause 13.1

Appendix 1



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sport / nature / technology



World Sailing