

## YOUTH SAILING and the ENP

It is one of the 3 main pillars of my candidacy for President of WS.

When I was President of the 49er Class, after the success of the OG in Sydney, Julian Bethwaite and I met and he had the idea to build a small 49er, specifically **aimed for the youth** of the world, the **29er**.

We wanted to bring **young people** to the colorful, exciting sport of sailing.  
I subsequently became the first President of the 29er Class for 5 years.

Later, in 2011, **I created the ENP** for the 2014 World Championships in Santander, with a substantial support from the IOC.

It was a huge success in terms of MNAs and young sailors participating in Clinics we organized worldwide.

One of the focuses of the **new WS Board** is **Youth and ENP**:  
**Building with young sailors the future** of our sport.

The **Training and Development activity** of WS has suffered a **substantial reduction** in the past 4 years. They are the big losers, the victims, because of the financial problems.

**Attention and resources** have shifted away from the programs for Young Sailors and from Enations.

**With the change in leadership we now have a new opportunity to rebuild these programs, individually with MNAs and in close cooperation with the Continental Associations.**

**Why is this Youth and EN Program so important?**  
**The Educational value of sailing:**

- Among Olympic sports, **Sailing is the best University for life.**
- Sailing develops many skills, fair play and a competitive spirit.
- Unlike any other sport**, Sailing requires a combination of extraordinary **physical shape**, intelligence for **winning tactics**, and a solid **knowledge of physics**.

**Resources WS need to succeed:**

- Money**: A much bigger share of the WS budget.
- A well designed **Sponsorship Program**.
- Permanent Local Coaches** in key geographic areas.
- A permanent Infrastructure**: a safe harbor close to where it is needed.
- Boats**.
- And a close cooperation with **Olympic Solidarity**.

**Sponsors:**

- There is much room for new global sponsors worldwide, which do not compete with local sponsors. This is the responsibility of WS.
- In the future, WS must design, in partnership with sponsoring Corporations, **tailor-made programs for Youth and EN**, a very attractive target for sponsors.
- I believe that WS Trust is then the perfect organization to execute this initiative with the individual MNAs.**

**Best Practices:**

- WS has worked very well in this area but **lacks money**.
- Best Practices to follow are the initiatives and programs in the UK, ---AUS, USA, NZL, FRA and others.
- I invite other **MNAs** to share with our new Board, if elected, **their new ideas** and experiences.
- Work closely with the **Continental Associations**, who know best the specific needs of **each region**.

**And finally, the WS Strategy for the next 4 years:**

- Move the Training and Development** area out of London, close to where it is needed:  
in Asia, Africa, Oceania, Caribbean, Latin America, Middle East,
- In a **harbor City** and assure that the host countries will support this WS initiative with financial and human resources.
- Redesign the WS Trust as the right organization**, to execute the Development Programs.
- Substantially increase the ENP and Youth development programs with a committed WS staff, repositioned, reassigned to new responsibilities, including sponsorship.**

**My years working with the IOC in Sponsorship and the relationship and trust I have developed in this area will be useful for this cause.**

- Make sailing affordable; better serve urban Youth with selected MNAs.
- Promote parasailing programs.
- Help reduce socio economic barriers in sailing.
- Promote gender diversity in specific cultures and regions.

**Let me take this opportunity to state that this will give the current WS Staff new, exciting opportunities. I am aware that the year has been very tough. The last thing I want is losing valuable, loyal, and experienced WS staff. There are enough vanity expenses to start the needed cost cutting program!**

The final 3 messages:

- WS must shift its attention to the Emerging Nations and the Youth**
- Give the WS Trust a new purpose, a new life**
- Bring WS physically closer to where the needs are, -- in the EN**

**Thank you!**