

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!