



World Sailing

Para Sailing Press Kit

sport / nature / technology

Contents

Sailing: a level playing field	3
Message from World Sailing President, Quanhai Li	4
Vision & Strategic Priorities	5
About World Sailing	6
Para World Sailing Strategy 2020-2023	7
Competition & Events	8
Classes	9
Classification	10
World Sailing International Classification	11
Paralympic Reinstatement Bid	13
International Paralympic Committee	14
Paralympic Sailing History	15
Para Sailing Heroes	21
Multimedia	27
Contacts	27



Sailing: a level playing field

"Everyone in disability sailing knows that it is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills, level the playing field and create a sense of adventure like no other accessible sport. So many unique individuals, with their own strengths and weaknesses, interacting with accessible and intuitive technology brings out an incredible display of ingenuity and creativity."

"To see disability sailing reinstated in the Paralympics would show a recognition of the unique opportunities the sport offers and an international commitment to making the world accessible for everyone - able-bodied or disabled, male or female, young or old, rich or poor."

Rory McKinna (aged 19 from Scotland, UK)

Sailing has an almost unique capacity to include people of all ages and abilities. It is one of very few sports in which people with and without a disability can participate on equal terms.

"I want to learn everything that the ocean has to teach me, and competing in Para sailing is a huge part of this journey. I am very thankful for all the opportunities I have had and will do all I can to secure these opportunities for para sailors in the future."

Jackie Gay (aged 59 from Canada, Rio 2016 Silver medalist)

Sailing takes many forms - from racing to cruising, to simply spending time on the water - in all kinds of boats, in any weather, on the sea or inland water.

"Sailing gives me the freedom to be in an environment that provides independent choice to manoeuvre wherever and whenever I want; something not possible on land."

Chris Symonds (aged 61 from Australia)



Message from the President



"Para Sailing has experienced huge growth around the world over the last decade. At the 2021 Hansa World Championships, 181 Para sailors representing 23 nations from 6 continents from Asia to Africa took part, a great testament to the popularity of Para Sailing today.

As Para Sailing continues to thrive, we will build on our plans to improve the development of the sport, find ways to encourage more athletes to participate and support the regions to host more Para Sailing and open events to encourage inclusivity.

It is a key priority of World Sailing to reinstate Para Sailing in the Paralympics.

We must pro-actively coordinate with the International Paralympic Committee to further understand the entry standards and requirements, as we continue our work to ensure reinstatement at the Los Angeles Games in 2028."

Quanhai Li
President of World Sailing

Vision

World Sailing has a strong commitment to Para Sailing and has identified a number of strategic priorities to support the growth of the sport in the coming years. In parallel, World Sailing is focused on its campaign to see the sport of sailing reinstated in the Paralympics at the Los Angeles Games in 2028.

Strategic Priorities

Participation

Grow the number of nations participating in Para Sailing and inclusive regattas at all levels. Ultimately, increase worldwide participation to 45 nations on 6 continents by the end of 2023.

Diversity

Broaden the range of physical, sensory and intellectual disability types that participate in sailing and encourage greater female participation. Recognizing and embracing disabilities outside the Paralympic sphere is not only important to growth and participation worldwide but also acceptance into mainstream sailing.

Inclusion

Expand the competition program at all levels to provide for all types and severity of disability (physical, sensory and intellectual), encourage greater youth and female participation, and promote Para Sailing disciplines or inclusive classes as part of pinnacle mainstream competitions.

Youth

With a goal of 20% of total athletes below the age of 30 in World Sailing sanctioned events.

Gender Parity

With a goal of 30% of total athletes in World Sailing Sanctioned events, with an ultimate goal of 50% female participation.

Equipment

Identify equipment that is available, affordable, transportable and well-suited to inclusive and Para Sailing programs.

Paralympic Sailing Development Program (PDP)

Integrate PDP programme into the overall World Sailing Training & Development Program and managed by the Para World Sailing Manager. Between 2020 and 2024 – hold a minimum of three PDP Clinics on each continent during the quadrennial period.

Competition

Grow the number and quality of Para Sailing and inclusive events at an international, regional and national level.

Affordability

Identify ways to reduce the cost of competing in Para Sailing events, at all levels: international, regional and local.



About World Sailing

World Sailing is the world governing body for the sport of sailing, officially recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). World Sailing is responsible for the promotion of the sport internationally, and managing sailing at the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The international federation is committed to growing Para Sailing worldwide in collaboration with its Member National Authorities (MNAs), major events and within the committee structure of the world governing body to achieve its strategic priorities.

While continuing to encourage MNAs to make Para Sailing a more inclusive and welcoming sport for both competition and recreation at a local and national level,

World Sailing supports the ongoing development and provides an exciting international program of inclusive competitions.

World Sailing promotes the values of equity, opportunity to excel and empowerment, while assessing and supporting programs for Para Sailing run by the MNAs. **Para World Sailing Committee.** ✨



Para World Sailing Strategy 2020-23

Over the last five years, the number of nations with sailors participating in international Para Sailing competitions has increased by 30%. There are currently nearly 750+ Para sailors registered with World Sailing.

The Para Sailing Strategy 2020-2023 commits to build on this success in collaboration with the Member National Authorities (MNAs) and major events.

Focusing on growth, development and an exciting international program of inclusive competitions, the ultimate goal of the Para Sailing Strategy 2020-2023 is to increase worldwide Para Sailing participation to 45 nations on 6 continents by the end of 2023. For comparison, at the 2020 ISA World Para Surfing Championships in the USA, nearly 150 athletes representing 22 nations took part.

Para World Sailing Strategy 2020-2023 ✨

Competition & Events

Promoting sailing excellence is a key element of World Sailing's Para Sailing strategy. This is why Para and able-bodied sailors compete against each other on equal terms at many international World Sailing events.

Para Sailing is included in the quadrennial Sailing World Championships in 2023 in The Hague, Netherlands. Para World Sailing Championships can be held in conjunction with Open Class World Championships in years not coinciding with the Sailing World Championships.

Para Sailing classes are included in the World Cup Series program with the aim of celebrating the very best athletes in the sport of sailing in a fully inclusive event.

World Sailing promotes the inclusion of sailing in Regional Para Games. MNAs are encouraged to establish National Para Sailing Championships and support National Championships in identified development or inclusive classes.

Find out more:

Competition 

Events 



Classes

Para sailors compete in a total of nine different classes (or types) of boat.

Three of these classes are currently selected for Paralympic Games pathway and qualifying international events:

- 2.4mR (single person, male or female)
- RS Venture Connect (two-person, mixed crew)
- Hansa 303 (single person, male or female)

Find out more:

[Classes](#) 

Class Name	Format
Hansa Class	One person dinghy (male or female)
Challenger	One person dinghy (male or female)
Martin 16	One person dinghy (male or female)
SKUD18	Two person boat (male, female or mixed)
Sonar	Three person keelboat (male, female or mixed)
2.4mR	One person keelboat (male or female)
RS Venture Connect	Two person (mixed gender)
Neo 495	Two person sports keelboat (male, female or mixed)
Sv14	Two person keelboat (male, female or mixed)



Classification

All athletes who compete in World Sailing's international Para events must have a Para World Sailing Classification. The purpose of the Para World Sailing Classification system is to measure the sailor's ability in order to:

- Enable fair and equitable competition at all levels
- In some formats, encourage crews of mixed classification to compete together and complement each other's disability
- Only measure functional limitations caused by physical capability
- Not be affected by the sailing skills, training or talent of the participant

Find out more:

[Classification](#) 

World Sailing International Classifications

Para Sailing is open to athletes with many types of physical, sensory or intellectual impairments. The classification system is based on the IPC Classification Code. Athletes must present a permanent eligible impairment resulting from a recognized underlying health condition, and must meet minimum eligibility criteria in order to be allowed to compete.

World Sailing believes it is important to broaden the range of physical, sensory and intellectual disability types that participate in sailing. Recognizing and embracing disabilities outside the Paralympic sphere is not only important to growth and participation worldwide but also acceptance into mainstream sailing.

Sailors may be classified with a sport class from 7 points to 1 point, with 7 indicating the least severe and 1 indicating the most severe eligible impairment.

The following are the benchmark profiles of athletes in each sports class:

1 point	Quapriplegic, complete; double through shoulder amputation
2 points	Double above elbow amputation; single above elbow amputation & single below elbow amputation
3 points	Single above knee amputation & single above elbow amputation double below elbow amputation
4 points	Single through shoulder amputation; double above knee amputation; double below knee amputation without prosthesis; single above knee and single below knee amputation without prostheses
5 points	Single above elbow amputation; single above knee amputation & single below knee amputation, with prostheses
6 points	Double below knee amputation, with prostheses; single below knee amputation
7 points	Single above knee amputation; single below knee amputation without prosthesis (excluding Syme's Amputation or equivalent)

Find out more:
[Para-Classification Rules for World Sailing](#) 



Paralympic Reinstatement Bid

The 2028 Summer Paralympic Games - known as LA28 and to be staged in Los Angeles, California - will be the first to be held in the United States since 1996. Para sailing made its debut at the Atlanta 1996 Paralympic Games with the mixed crew medal event contested as a demonstration sport.

World Sailing has LA28 firmly in its sights for Paralympic sailing reinstatement.

Para sailing was a successful Paralympic sport for five consecutive Games - from Sydney 2000 to Rio 2016.

In 2015, it was announced that Para sailing was being dropped from Tokyo 2020, along with seven-a-side football, in favour of badminton and taekwondo. A total of 22 sports were contested at the Paralympics in Tokyo.

World Sailing submitted a strong reinstatement bid for Paris 2024, but this was rejected - the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) made the decision that the Paris 2024 program would remain unchanged from Tokyo 2020.

World Sailing is now further strengthening its commitment to seeing Para sailing reinstated and to not only meet but, exceed the criteria set by the International Paralympic Committee.



David Graham, CEO of World Sailing

"Our international Para sailing athletes are some of the most accomplished sailors in the world who are inspiring the next generation. The growth of Para sailing today is increasing at an unprecedented pace.

"This is why World Sailing's mission to get Para sailing reinstated as a Paralympic sport is well underway. We are determined that our global Paralympic sailors will be reunited on the water at LA28".

International Paralympic Committee

The process of sports bidding to be included in the Los Angeles 2028 Paralympic Games is expected to follow the process of previous Paralympic Games, however this is yet to be confirmed.

If the International Paralympic Committee was to follow the same four-step process as Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024, the 2028 process would be:

- **Step 1:** Application (Q4 2021)
- **Step 2:** IPC Review & request for Declaration of Intent (Q1 2022)
- **Step 3:** Los Angeles 2028 Application Package distributed (Q1 2022)
- **Step 4:** Full proposal to be delivered (May 2022)



Paralympic History

Sailing was introduced as a demonstration sport at the tenth Paralympic Games in Atlanta (USA) in 1996. Sailing was included as one of the official Paralympic sports at the following five Paralympic Games, from Sydney (Australia) in 2000 through to Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in 2016.

Para sailors have raced in either the one person keelboat (2.4mR), two-person keelboat (SKUD 18) and the three-person keelboat (Sonar) all of which are open to mixed gender participation.

The first female Para sailor competed at the Sydney Paralympic Games in 2000. At Beijing in 2008, three female sailors claimed their first Paralympic medals. In 2012 at the London Paralympic Games, Great Britain's Helena Lucas won Gold in the 2.4mR class beating her male counterparts.

Medals have been won by 10 different nations from Australia to Israel.

Atlanta 1996

(X Paralympic Games)

Sailing at the 1996 Summer Paralympics consisted of one event, which was open to any gender and sailed in the Sonar keelboat. This was the first time sailing had been included in the Paralympics, and was presented as a demonstration sport, and not an official part of the 14 core sports on the Paralympic program, but medals were awarded. There were 59 male competitors from 15 nations.

  Andy Cassell, Kevin Curtis, Tony Downs, Ian Harrison

  Kirk Westergaard, John McRoberts, Kenneth Kelly, David Cook

  Waldo Esparza, James Leatherman, Christopher Murphy, John Ross-Duggan

Sydney 2000

(XI Paralympic Games)

At the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games two mixed events - one person keelboat (2.4mR) and open three-person keelboat (Sonar) - were staged on the waters of Sydney Harbour, giving spectators incredible panoramic views of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, Sydney Tower and the Central Business District. There were 61 male competitors and 1 female sailor, competing in 32 boats, representing 22 nations.

One person keelboat (2.4mR)

  Heiko Kroeger

  Jens Als Andersen

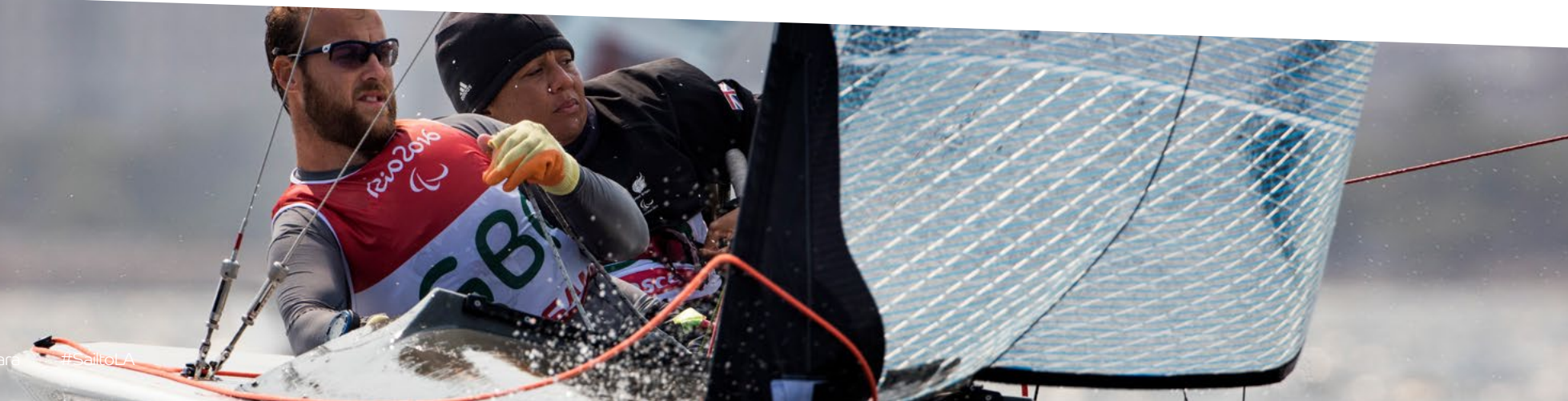
  Thomas Brown

Three person keelboat (Sonar)

  Noel Robins, Jamie Dunross, Graeme Martin

  Peter Reich, Peter Muentner, Jens Kroger

  David Williams, Paul Tingley, Brian MacDonald



Athens 2004

(XII Paralympic Games)

Sailing at the 2004 Summer Paralympics took place at the Agios Kosmas Olympic Sailing Centre. The sailors were a mix of physically and visually impaired men and women competing together. Again, the two classes sailed were the one person keelboat (2.4mR) and open three-person keelboat (Sonar). There were 61 male competitors and 1 female sailor, competing in 31 boats, representing 21 nations.

One person keelboat (2.4mR)

-   Damien Seguin
-   Thomas Brown
-   Thierry Schmitter

Three person keelboat (Sonar)

-   Dror Cohen, Arnon Efrat, Benni Vexler
-   Udo Hessels, Marcel van de Even, Mischa Rossen
-   John Ross Duggan, Jean Paul Creignou, Bradley Johnson



Beijing 2008

(XIII Paralympic Games)

Eighty athletes representing 25 countries in three keelboat classes made this event the largest Paralympic sailing competition in Paralympic history. The single person 2.4mR keelboat, the new two-person SKUD 18 keelboat, and the three-person Sonar, were the selected classes which saw three female sailors claim their first Paralympic medals. Competitors had a wide range of physical disabilities including degenerative nerve disease, blindness and polio. All were mixed events, meaning that men and women could compete together. There were 67 male sailors and 13 female sailors, racing in 41 boats, representing 25 nations.

One person keelboat (2.4mR)

-   Paul Tingley
-   Damien Seguin
-   John Run

Two person keelboat (SKUD 18)

-   Nick Scandone, Maureen McKinnon-Tucker
-   Daniel Fitzgibbon, Rachael Cox
-   John McRoberts, Stacie Louttit

Three person keelboat (Sonar)

-   Jens Kroker, Robert Prem, Siegmund Mainka
-   Bruno Jourden, Herve Larhant, Nicolas Vimont-Vicary
-   Colin Harrison, Russell Boaden, Graeme Martin

London 2012

(XIV Paralympic Games)

Participation records were matched again at London 2012. Eighty sailors competed in three keelboat classes - the 2.4mR, the SKUD 18 and the Sonar. Sailing at the 2012 Summer Paralympics was held in Weymouth and Portland. Great Britain's Helena Lucas won Gold in the 2.4mR class beating her male counterparts. There were 80 sailors in total, 65 male and 15 female, racing 41 boats, representing 23 nations.

One person keelboat (2.4mR)

- 🥇 🇬🇧 Helena Lucas
- 🥈 🇩🇪 Heiko Kroeger
- 🥉 🇭🇺 Thierry Schmitter

Two person keelboat (SKUD 18)

- 🥇 🇦🇺 Dan Fitzgibbon, Liesl Tesch
- 🥈 🇺🇸 Jean-Paul Creignou, Jennifer French
- 🥉 🇬🇧 Alexandra Rickham, Niki Birrell

Three person keelboat (Sonar)

- 🥇 🇳🇱 Mischa Rossen, Marcel van de Veen, Udo Hessels
- 🥈 🇩🇪 Jens Kroker, Robert Prem, Siegmund Mainka
- 🥉 🇳🇴 Aleksander Wang-Hansen, Marie Solberg, Per Eugen Kristiansen



Rio 2016

(XV Paralympic Games)

Sailing at the 2016 Summer Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro took place in Marina da Gloria, Copacabana. All were mixed events, meaning that men and women could compete together. There were 80 competitors in total, 66 male and 14 female, racing 41 boats, representing 23 nations.

One person keelboat (2.4mR / Norlin Mark 3)

-   Damien Sequin
-   Matthew Bugg
-   Helena Lucas

Two person keelboat (SKUD 18)

-   Daniel Fitzgibbon, Liesl Tesch
-   John McRoberts, Jackie Gay
-   Alexndra Rickham, Niki Birrell

Three person keelboat (Sonar)

-   Colin Harrison, Russell Boaden, Jonathan Harris
-   Alphonsus Doerr, Hugh Freund, Bradley Kendell
-   Paul Tingley, Logan Campbell, Scott Lutes



Para Sailing Heroes

All Para athletes are elite athletes in their own right, overcoming extraordinary challenges. Here are just a few of our Para sailors who are leading by example, shining a light on their love of the sport and what it means to them.

Full list of World Sailing Para sailors can be found [here](#) ✨



Name: Jordan Milroy

Nationality: SAM

DOB: 16.05.90

Career highlight: first Samoan athlete to compete at the Para Worlds in 2019

Jordan Milroy was the first Samoan athlete to compete at the Para Worlds in 2019. He suffers from cerebral palsy: "My brain sometimes forgets to tell my body that it has cerebral palsy. When I'm sailing, I have to overcome my limitations, looking for the wind, looking for the waves, looking at the boats, sailing fast and at the same time trying not to fall out." He competes in the Hansa two-person keelboat.

Jordan started sailing aged 7-8 years, encouraged by his mother. He wants to be a role model and mentor, so that children with disabilities, particularly with cerebral palsy, have someone they can relate to. He believes that it is important to foster and mentor a new generation of sailors with disabilities in Samoa.



Name: Fia Fjeldahl

Nationality: SWE

DOB: 10.05.99

Career highlight: competing at the Rio Paralympic Games 2016; 2019 World Championship bronze medalist

Fia started sailing when she was eight in summer camps before moving into club racing at the age of nine. At first Fia feared some aspects of the sport due to her disability, a low form of cerebral palsy, and avoided going out onto the water when the wind was up and the waves were high. Watching her friends progressing on the water made her realise she needed to make her own choices and not wanting to be seen as a beginner all of her life, pushed hard, and got back out on the water: "Because I had my handicap I always lacked some technique with tacks so I always had to think better."

Whilst Fia learnt her trade sailing dinghies alongside able-bodied athletes, her disability meant that she also qualified to sail within the Paralympic disciplines. At the age of 17 she represented Sweden at the Paralympic Games in Rio 2016, one of the youngest sailing competitors. Fia went on to secure a Bronze medal at the 2019 World Championships.



Name: Davide di Maria

Nationality: ITA

DOB: 16.05.01

Career highlight: Para World Sailing Champions 2019 two-person keelboat (RS Venture Connect) with Paralympian Fabrizio Olmi

Davide was born without his left forearm. For the past four years he has been racing for the Canottieri Garda in the FIV Paralympic team with impressive results. 2019 was a year full of success: second place in the 2.4mR one-person class at the national regatta in La Maddalena in April; then winner of the International Sailing Week racing a Hansa 303 in May; followed by overall victory at the Para World Sailing Championships in the two-person RS Venture Connect keelboat with Paralympian Fabrizio Olmi in Cadiz, Spain; and, finally, second place at the CICO (Italian Class Championship Olympic) with the 2.4mR single-person keelboat.

Davide started sailing at the age of 10 on the island of Elba. In 2017 he was talent-spotted and catapulted into his first U23 Paralympic youth meeting and six months later competed at the Hansa 303 European Youth Championship in Genoa. "I have chosen to always be myself and to make myself known for what I am. I hope that sailing can return to being a Paralympic discipline in 2028 and to be able to participate."



Name: Bradley Johnson

Nationality: USA

DOB: 09.09.70

Career highlight: Bronze medalist at the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens competing in the three-person keelboat

Bradley has competed at three Paralympic Games, twice as a sailor (2012 and 2004) and at the 2000 Games competing in the Sitting Volleyball team. At the 2004 Athens Paralympics he secured a Bronze medal in the Sonar class (three-person keelboat).

Bradley is a double amputee. While traveling along Interstate 75 from Gainesville, Florida, his car hydroplaned into a guardrail and his left leg was severed below the knee and his right leg above the knee. Not defeated and a keen sportsman, he started sailing at the age of 30. He has competed in multiple World Championships and Paralympic Games. Bradley is a lawyer and served as the lead associate in Americans with Disabilities Acts litigation. He is an advocate for equal rights for individuals with physical disabilities.



Name: Robert Glover

Nationality: NAM

DOB: 11.05.99

Career highlight: TBC

Robert attended his first World Sailing Paralympic Development clinic in 2017 in Kiel, Germany. He had been talent-spotted by World Sailing's Emerging Nations coach, Rob Holden. Robert suffers from limb deficiency in both legs and was pretty much self-taught in sailing until he went to his first PDP clinic. Representing Namibia, he is considered one of the rising stars of the African nations.



Name: Chris Symonds

Nationality: AUS

DOB: 24.2.60

Career highlight: Two-time Gold medalist at the 2021 Australian Para Sailing Championships

Chris suffers from Kennedy's Disease, a rare and progressive genetic condition affecting speech and mobility. He began sailing at 10 but his condition wasn't diagnosed until 2002. He thought his sailing career was over until he discovered the Hansa 303. In January 2021 at the Australian Para Sailing Championships, Chris claimed the Open and Para National titles in both the one-person and two-person keelboat divisions.

He is a passionate campaigner to see sailing reinstated at the Paralympics. "Regardless of disability, competing allows me to strive for and achieve my personal and sporting goals. Sailing gives me the freedom to be in an environment that provides independent choice to manoeuvre wherever and whenever I want; something not possible on land."



Name: Marinalva de Almeida

Nationality: BRA

DOB: 27.8.77

Career highlight: finished 8th overall in the two-person SKUD 18 class at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games

Marinalva was in a motorcycle accident at the age of 14 resulting in the amputation of her left leg above the knee. Now, aged 44, she is not only an athlete but a speaker and model too. Her early disabled sporting career took many forms - gymnastics, athletics, sailing and long-distance running on crutches. Marinalva competed at the Rio Paralympic Games in 2016 in the two-person SKUD 18 class finishing 8th overall, following which she was nominated the top Brazilian athlete in disabled sailing. She is well known in Brazil for having taken part in Big Brother Brazil in 2017.



Name: Hannah Stodel

Nationality: GBR

DOB: 27.8.85

Career highlight: three-time Paralympian

Hannah was born missing her right forearm but this hasn't held her back. She grew up surrounded by sailing and raced among the able-bodied until she was 15 and introduced to the sonar by Paralympic Gold medallist Andy Cassell. Hannah has represented Great Britain at three Summer Paralympics and has won three World Championships. The RYA awarded her Yachtmaster of the Year in 2017. Now Hannah is campaigning to be the first disabled female sailor to compete in the 2024 Vendée Globe - the solo, non-stop race around the world. She is also a motivational speaker, coach and advocate for disabled sailing.



Name: Damien Seguin

Nationality: FRA

DOB: 03.9.79

Career highlight: two-time Paralympic Gold medalist

Damien, who was born with no left hand, is a strong-minded athlete who has succeeded in many different areas of sail racing. An outstanding career to date, Damien has won two Gold Paralympic medals (2004 Athens, 2016 Rio) and one Silver (2008 Beijing) in the one-person keelboat 2.4mR class. He has also racked up an incredible nine World Championship titles.

Damien made history again in 2021 as the first and only Para sailor to ever compete in the solo, non-stop round the world race, the Vendée Globe. Considered one of the toughest races on the planet, he finished in 7th place after 80 days at sea, earning the respect of all his able-bodied competitors.



Name: Wei Qiang (Jovin) Tan

Nationality: SIN

DOB: 21.8.86

Career highlight: four-time Paralympian

Jovin was born with cerebral palsy but he has never let this hold him back. He is a four-time Paralympian and a Gold medalist at the Asian Games and ASEAN Para Games. "On the water, my disability was no longer a point of consideration. My passion was."

He began sailing at age 15 and was first selected to represent Singapore at the Paralympics in 2004. In 2012, Jovin won the Singapore Youth Award, the highest recognition the state gives to Singapore youth under the age of 35. He went on to become the first disabled sailing coach in Singapore and was nominated for Coach of the Year by the Singapore Disability Sports Council in 2020. "As a Para sailor, being able to compete at such a high level allows me to gain confidence, increase my self-esteem and gives me a sense of accomplishment. Sailing has helped me to lead a more positive life and taught me life skills that aid me greatly in my day-to-day life."



Name: Jackie Gay

Nationality: CAN

DOB: 15.10.62

Career highlight: Silver medal at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games in the two-person keelboat

Jackie has been involved in Paralympic sailing since 2006. Jackie sailed as a child in her father's boats around the UK and Europe, however, she was never involved in competitive racing until after her injury in 1994, when she lost her leg in a car accident in Africa. Jackie raced with her husband John McRoberts and their partnership won them multiple World Cup podium finishes, two Sail Canada 'Team of the Year' awards, culminating in a silver medal in the two-person keelboat at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games.

Since 2016, Jackie has been sailing single-handed in the 2.4mR one-person keelboat and in 2019 finished 7th overall in the Para World Championships, the highest finish for any Canadian and the top female sailor. "I want to learn everything that the ocean has to teach me, and competing in Para sailing is a huge part of this journey. I am very thankful for all the opportunities I have had and will do all I can to secure these opportunities for Para sailors in the future."



Name: Bradley Kendell

Nationality: USA

DOB: 2.8.81

Career highlight: Silver medalist at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games

In 2003, Bradley was flying with his father and a friend back to Clearwater from Jacksonville, Florida, in a small plane when it crashed, killing his father and friend and leaving him close to death. Ultimately, he lost both his legs. Having started sailing at age six at the Clearwater Yacht Club, sailing was an obvious choice for Bradley to get back into sports after the accident. Bradley took up Para sailing in 2006 and ten years later competed in the 2016 Rio Paralympics, securing Silver in the three-person Sonar keelboat class. In the same year, he won Gold at the 2016 World Para Sailing Championships. Bradley is the co-founder of The Never Say Never Pirate Camp. The camp is centered on teaching the sport of sailing to children with disabilities.

Multimedia

Photo Content

For a selection of copyright free images, please go [here](#).

Video Content

To view the reinstatement para sailing launch video, click [here](#).

Go World Sailing TV [here](#) to view other World Sailing video content.

Press Kit

To download a pdf version of this press kit, please click [here](#).

Latest News

Find all the latest news from World Sailing [here](#)
and Para World Sailing [here](#).

Contacts

Media please email ruth.grundy@sailing.org

Further contact details for
World Sailing can be found [here](#).



World Sailing

We are here to help!

If you have any questions regarding
information in this document or other
Para sailing queries, please contact:

Massimo Dighe
Para World Sailing Manager
massimo.dighe@sailing.org

www.sailing.org

sport / nature / technology

Official Partners

