

YACHTING

ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Affiliated to

- International Sailing Federation
- Asian Sailing Federation
- Indian Olympic Association

Room No. 403, IVth Floor
Chanakya Bhawan,
Chanakya Puri,
New Delhi - 110021

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE HELD AT NEW DELHI ON 30 JUN 2018

1. A meeting of the Selection Committee, Chaired by Admiral Sunil Lanba, PVSM, AVSM, ADC, Chief of the Naval Staff and President Yachting Association of India was held at 1100 hrs on 30 Jun 2018 in the office of the CNS, South Block, New Delhi to select the sailors / teams to represent India at the Asian Games 2018. The following members were present:-

- (a) Rear Admiral Atul Anand VSM, Secretary General, YAI
- (b) Dr Malav Shroff, Olympian
- (c) DP Selvam, Assistant National Coach

2. At the outset, the Secretary General informed the Committee that on 13 Jun 2018 Mr Ian Warren, Chief National Coach appointed by SAI, had tendered his resignation. He further added that this sudden development just prior to participation of the Indian teams at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 at Jakarta, Indonesia scheduled during 18-25 Jun 2018, would have had an impact on the performance of the teams, specifically the 49er and 49erFX teams. He stated that, for the other classes in which our sailors were participating, four Assistant Indian Coaches were deputed with the teams.

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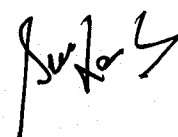
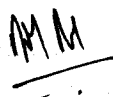
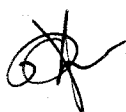
He further added that in order to overcome the lack of support to the 49er and 49erFX teams, a coach from France was identified and hired for the duration of the event, though the presence of the coach had proved beneficial to an extent, however, being new to the sailors, he could not be fully effective.

3. The Secretary General, thereafter, brought out that in accordance with the decision of the Annual General Meeting of the YAI, held at New Delhi on 18 Dec 2017 (copy placed at **Annexure I**), the Notice of Race for the Selection Regatta 2018 was issued on 31 Jan 2018 (copy placed at **Annexure II**). He also highlighted that the Minutes of the Meeting of the AGM were also placed on the YAI website for dissemination amongst the yachting fraternity. To ensure fairness of the Selection Regatta, a panel of International Jury and Race Committee certified by the World Sailing was appointed. In addition, the races were video-graphed using drones by a specialist company from Greece hired by the YAI. The footage was made available both to the Jury / Race Committee and the Sailors / Coaches for the purposes of ensuring complete transparency of the trials.

4. The Secretary General informed the committee that the YAI's Selection and Nomination Policy for the Asian Games 2018, duly approved by the YAI Council, was issued on 22 March 2018. He highlighted that in accordance with the AGM decision, Article 8.1 of Part B of the Selection and Nomination Policy clearly defined the **Selection Event** for selection of Indian sailing teams as **"In order to arrive at selection of best athletes to represent India at the Asian Games 2018, a Selection Regatta is being conducted off Chennai, India during 16-22 Apr 2018"**. He further added that, a copy of the same is also available on the YAI Website (copy placed at **Annexure III**).

5. Based on the results of the Selection Regatta 2018 at Chennai during 16-22 Apr 2018 the following sailors who achieved the first position in the underlisted events to be competed at the Asian Games 2018 were selected to represent India at

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the Asian Games 2018 to be held at Jakarta, Indonesia during 18 – 31 Aug 2018:-

Sl.No.	Class	Name
(i)	Laser (Std)	Vishnu Saravanan
(ii)	Laser (Radial)	Nethra Kumanan
(iii)	49er	Ganapathy Kelapanda Chengappa - Helm Varun Ashok Thakkar – Crew
(iv)	49er FX	Ekta Yadav - Helm Shaila Charles – Crew
(v)	470 (Men)	Atul Lande – Helm Chinthalacheruvu Sudhakar Reddy – Crew
(vi)	RS:X (men)	Jerome Kumar Savarimuthu
(vii)	RS :One Mix Team	Dayne Edgar Agnelo Coelho - Male Kathya Ida Coelho – Female
(viii)	Laser 4.7 (Open)	Govind Bairagi - Boy Harshita Tomar – Girl

6. The Secretary General, thereafter, informed the Committee that in accordance with Article 9.1 of the Selection and Nomination Policy issued by the YAI, since the organisers permitted up to 2 entries per event at the Asian Sailing Championships 2018, it had also been decided that the sailors / teams that had attained the first and second positions at the Selection Regatta 2018 at Chennai would be nominated to participate at the Asian Sailing Championships 2018. This would also help in ensuring the availability of adequate training partners during the intervening period of Selection Regatta 2018 and the Asian Sailing Championships 2018.

7. The Secretary General, thereafter, informed the Committee that, the IOA, in a note dated 25 May 2018 to the Executive Council of the IOA had promulgated a criteria for Selection / Participation for individual athletes / teams at the forthcoming Asian Games 2018. As per these guidelines, only teams that were ranked amongst the top 8 in their latest Asian ranking or individual athletes who had achieved the benchmark equivalent of 6th position were eligible for selection at the Asian Games 2018. He further added that Article 3 of the Note under reference also stated that in case of a NSF having promulgated a better criteria, then that would supersede the IOA criteria.

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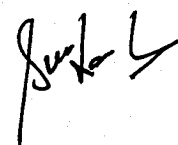
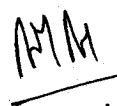
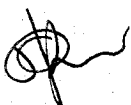
He further stated that in accordance with Article 9.2 of the YAI Selection and Nomination Policy for Asian Games, the YAI had already also included its intent to review the performance of the athletes who had qualified for selection to the Asian Games 2018 during the Selection Regatta 2018 at Chennai, if it merited consideration.

8. He thereafter, informed the Committee that the IOA, vide its letter No IOA/196/NFs/18thAG/2277 dated 09 June 2018 had requested the YAI to provide the "Entry By Name" forms to the IOA latest by 20 June 2018 along with the Minutes of the Meeting of the Selection Committee. He added, that considering that the teams would be proceeding to Jakarta on 15 June 2018 for participation at the Asian Sailing Championships 2018, the sailors / teams that had been selected based on results of the Selection Regatta 2018 were requested vide an email dated 11 Jun 2018 to submit the signed "Entry by Name" forms to the YAI prior to the departure of the team from India on 15 June 2018. This email was also copied to the sailors who had finished second at the Selection Regatta 2018. The Secretary General, informed the Committee that the "Entry by Name" forms duly signed by the sailors and the Secretary General had been submitted to the IOA on 16 June 2018, with a request to await the Minutes of the Selection Committee till after the completion of the Asian Sailing Championship 2018.

9. On 12 June 2018, Gautham Padmanabhan, father of Varsha Gautham through an email referring to the Selection and Nomination Policy issued by the YAI, stated that the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 was the nomination event for the Asian Games 2018 to decide who would represent India at the Asian Games 2018 and requested that the IOA be requested to await the results of the Asian Sailing Championship 2018, prior to finalising the selection of sailors / teams.

10. The Secretary General, thereafter, brought out that on 15 Jun 2016, recognising the fact that some of the parents / sailors / affiliated clubs had been selectively quoting the YAI's Selection and Nomination Policy for Asian Games 2018, implying to consider

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the results of Asian Sailing Championship 2018 as the final selection event, an email was sent to all the sailors / teams that were participating at the Asian Sailing Championships 2018, to clarify the issues, specifically, the clauses related Article 8.1, Article 9.1 and 9.2 of Part B of the YAI's Selection and Nomination Policy for Asian Games 2018 (copy placed at Annexure III).

11. The Asian Sailing Championships 2018 was held at Jakarta, Indonesia at the National Sailing Centre, Jakarta which is also the venue for the sailing competition at the Asian Games 2018. Racing was scheduled on 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 June 2018. However, due to inclement weather conditions racing could not be held on 25 Jun 2018, except for RS: One, RS:X and Optimist classes. The results achieved by Indian sailors at each of the 8 events where Indian sailors had been selected for representing India at the Asian Games 2018 Sailing competition are listed below:-

<u>SI.No.</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position in ASC 2018</u>	<u>Country wise Position</u>
(i)	Laser (Std)	Vishnu Saravanan	12/21	10/13
(ii)	Laser (Radial)	Nethra Kumanan	6/16	6/10
(iii)	49er	KC Ganapathy - Helm Varun Thakkar - Crew	1/10	1/7
(iv)	49erFX	Ekta Yadav - Helm Shaila Charles - Crew	3/7	2/5
(v)	470	Atul Lande - Helm CHS Reddy - Crew	11/13	8/10
(vi)	RS:X (men)	Jerome Kumar	14/20	7/10
(vii)	Laser 4.7 (Open)	Harshita Tomar - Girl	7/38	6/13
	Laser 4.7 (Open)	Govind Bairagi - Boy	5/38	5/13
(viii)	RS:One Team	Mix Dayne Coelho (Boy) Katya Coelho (Girl)	9/11	8/9

12. On 26 Jun 2018, Mr. Gautham Padmanabhan, father of Varsha Gautham in an email addressed to the YAI and other authorities, stating that Varsha had secured a second position ahead of Ekta Yadav in the 49erFX event at the Asian Sailing Championships 2018, suggested that the performance of sailors at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 should be considered as the final selection of Indian teams at the Asian Games 2018.

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13. The Secretary General brought out that the recent efforts of the YAI in promoting excellence amongst the top sailors was now reaping rich dividends. The performance of the 03 49erFX teams during the Selection Regatta 2018 and the 02 teams that recently participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 at Jakarta, Indonesia was a testimony to the success of the programme. The Selection Committee opined that with continued support for training and competition, it would enhance the chances of India to qualify for the Olympics 2020.

14. After due deliberations, the Selection Committee acknowledged that it is the aim of the Committee to select the best sailors to represent the country at Asian Games 2018 and the Committee has to reflect on a multitude of considerations, including not just individual performances at particular events or competitions, but take a complete view keeping in mind the likelihood of the sailors winning medals for the country as well as the overall aim of promotion of the sport of sailing in the country.

15. Therefore, the Committee also decided to undertake an all-inclusive race by race comparative analysis of both the teams of the 49erFX class at the Selection Regatta 2018 and the Asian Sailing Championships 2018.

Sailor	Event	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	R12	Total	Nett
Ekta	SR2018	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	(4)	(4)	3	2	1	22	14
Varsha	SR2018	2	(3)	3	2	(4)	4	2	1	1	1	1	2	26	19
Ekta	ASC2018	3	2	3	2	2	2	(5)	3	5	5	-	-	32	27
Varsha	ASC2018	2	3	(8)	3	3	3	3	5	2	2	-	-	34	26

16. At the Selection Regatta 2018 at Chennai in April 2018, a total of 12 races were competed out of the 12 scheduled. In the 12 races sailed, Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls scored a total of 22 points and after discarding the worst two finishes in accordance with Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020, they scored 14 points overall to finish in first position.

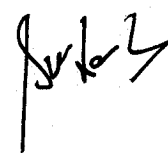
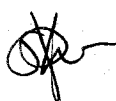
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Varsha and Sweta, scored at total of 26 points without discards and after discarding the two worst positions, she scored 19 points. It is noted that in Race no 6 Varsha and Sweta were awarded a penalty by the Jury wherein the position cannot be discarded under the rules. Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls attained 1st position in 7 races out of 12 competed and Varsha Gautham and Sweta Shervegar attained 1st position in 4 of the 12 races competed. Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls attained 2nd position in 2 races whilst Varsha and Sweta attained 2nd position in 4 races. Ekta and Shaila attained 3rd position in 1 race, whilst Varsha and Sweta attained 3rd position in 2 races. Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls were awarded 4th position in 2 races whilst Varsha and Sweta awarded 4th position in 2 races. Varsha and Sweta were penalised in 1 race by the International Jury for breach of Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 – 18.

17. At the Asian Sailing Championship 2018, a total of 10 races were competed out of the 12 scheduled races. In the 10 races sailed, the team finished in 2, 3, 8, 3, 3, 3, 3, 5, 2 and 2 positions at each of the races and overall they finished the competition in the 2nd position out of total 6 entries, one point ahead of Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls. Varsha and Sweta, scored at total of 34 points against 32 points scored by Ekta and Shaila, without discards. Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls attained 2nd position in 4 races out of 10 competed and Varsha Gautham and Sweta Shervegar attained 2nd position in 3 of the 10 races competed. Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls attained 3rd position in three races whilst Varsha and Sweta attained 3rd position in five races. Ekta and Shaila attained 5th position in 2 races, whilst Varsha and Sweta attained 5th position in one race and were scored as disqualified (8th) position in one race. Varsha and Sweta were penalised in 1 race by the International Jury for breach of Racing Rules of Sailing 2017 – 18.

18. The Committee was of the view that it is evident from the above table, on taking an overall view, the performance of Ekta and Shaila has been more consistent during both the events. Based on the consistency, it is also quite likely that if the two remaining races were held as scheduled at the Asian Sailing Championships 2018, the

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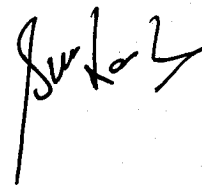
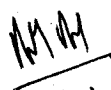


team of Ekta and Shaila would have finished ahead of Varsha and Sweta. It is also very important to note that the sudden resignation of the Chief National Coach on 13 Jun 2018 with whom they had trained for over 14 months since February 2017 had an impact on the performance of Ekta and Shaila at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018, whilst Varsha had hired the services of Peter Conway as her personal coach. The Committee notes that Peter Conway who was hired by the SAI during July 2010 to March 2016 as the Chief National Coach for Indian sailors had evidently played an important role in Varsha's performance at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018.

19. The Selection Committee recognises the fact that it cannot adopt a one-size fits all approach, however, it notes that same sailors perform differently on different occasions and a number of factors influence their performance. Both the teams stand at number two position amongst the other Asian nations likely to compete at the Asian Games 2018 and therefore, the Selection Committee finds no reasons to disregard the decision of the Annual General Meeting of 18 December 2017 and Article 8 of the Selection and Nomination Policy issued on 22 March 2018.

20. The Secretary General, thereafter, highlighted that the 'improper procedures' followed by Varsha in pursuing for her selection for Asian Games 2018 was not as per the laid down guidelines. He further added that she had approached various authorities and media, thereby bringing disrepute to the federation, further hiring of a personal coach without seeking prior approval of the YAI is also considered as a breach of the Code of Conduct. The Selection Committee, after due consideration of the facts highlighted by the Secretary General recommends that this matter be referred to the YAI Council for further examination and to recommend suitable remedial action, the Secretary General will prepare a suitable note to the Council highlighting all the facts for their consideration.

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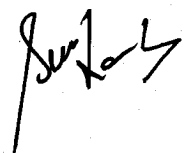
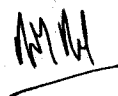
21. The performance of each of the selected Indian sailors / teams was thereafter, analysed in detail and a comparative analyses of the performance of sailors / teams from other Asian nations that had participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 was compiled. **The Selection Committee recognises the fact that the performance of some of the selected sailors may not have been optimal due to sudden resignation of Ian Warren, the CNC on 13 Jun 2018, just two days prior to departure of the team to Jakarta, Indonesia.** The details are as listed below:-

(a) **Laser 4.7 (Open) – Govind Bairaigi, Male, DOB 08/08/2001.** Only 8 races out of the 10 scheduled races could be competed as on the final day, racing was called off due to inclement weather. Out of a total of 8 races, he finished 1, 5, 6, 2, 8 and 3 positions in 7 races and 27th position in Race No 7. The sailor attained overall 5th position amongst a total of 38 competitors. This score is attributed to light and shifty wind conditions in which the races were conducted. The country wise ranking in respect of Govind Bairaigi is 5th amongst 13 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(b) **Laser 4.7 (Open) – Harshita Tomar, Female, DOB 02/03/2002.** Harshita sailed consistently during the Championships. Out of a total of 8 races sailed, she finished 10, 3, 7, 3, 9, 12 and 12 positions in 7 races and 17th position in Race No.1. The sailor attained an overall 7th position amongst a total of 38 competitors. The country wise ranking in respect of Harshita Tomar is 6th amongst 13 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(c) **Laser (Radial) – Nethra Kumanan, Female, DOB 21/08/1997.** Only 8 races out of the 10 scheduled races could be competed as on the final day, racing was called off due to inclement weather. Out of a total of 8 races sailed, she finished in 3, 4, 3, 5, 3, 6 and 11 positions in 7 races and 17th position in Race No.7. The sailor attained overall 6th position amongst a total of 16 competitors. The country wise ranking in respect of Nethra Kumanan is 6th amongst 10 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

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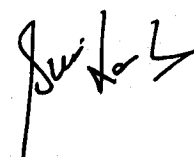
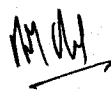
(d) **Laser (Standard) – Vishnu Sarvanan, Male, DOB 24/02/1999.** Only 8 races out of the 10 scheduled races could be competed in this event. In total 8 races sailed, he finished in 10, 10, 12, 16, 13, 12, 12 and 9 positions at each of the races and overall he finished 12th position out of a total of 21 competitors. The Committee expressed surprise at this performance as he had performed exceedingly well in the past one year at domestic events. His poor performance could be attributed to interference from his club which had interfered in the overseas training programme prepared by the Chief National Coach. The country wise ranking in respect of Vishnu Sarvanan is 10th amongst 13 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(e) **RS:X (Male) – Jerome Kumar, Male, DOB 25/05/1990.** Only 8 races out of the 10 scheduled races could be competed in this event. In total of 12 races sailed, he finished in 13, 14, 11, 11, 13, 11, 14, 13, 18, 16, 16 and 20 positions and finished 14th overall out of 20 competitors. The country wise ranking in respect of Jerome Kumar is 8th amongst 11 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(f) **470 (Men) – Atul Lende, Male, DOB 27/03/1986 and CHS Reddy, Male, DOB 02/08/1993.** Only 8 races out of the 10 scheduled races could be competed in this event. In the 8 races sailed, the team finished in 12, 12, 11, 12, 11, 8, 9 and 9 positions at each of the races and attained 11th position overall out of a total of 13 teams. The country wise ranking in respect of Atul Lende and CHS Reddy is 8th amongst 11 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(g) **RS One (Team Event) – Dayne Coleho, Male, DOB 18/03/1998 and Katya Coleho, Female, DOB 13/08/1999.** 12 scheduled races were competed in this event. In the 12 races sailed, Dayne finished in 4, 5, 5, 8, 2, 6, 3, 8, 7, 9 and 9 positions at each and overall he finished the competition in the 7th position out of a

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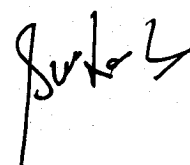
total of 12 entries. Katya finished in 9, 10, 11, 10, 11, 12, 12, 12, 11, 12, 10 and 11 positions at each and overall she finished the competition in the 11th position out of 11 entries. The Committee was informed that Katya had sustained an injury a day prior to the commencement of the event and competed at the event with a knee brace which affected her performance. This is a team event, where the combined score of the Male and Female competitors will be counted to arrive at the final standings. The country wise ranking in respect of Dayne and Katya Coelho is 8th amongst 9 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(h) **49er (Male) – Ganapathy Kelapanda, Male, DOB 18/11/1995 and Varun Thakkar, Male, DOB 10/02/1995.** 10 scheduled races were competed out of the 12 scheduled races. In the 10 races sailed, the 49er sailors finished in 3, 2, 1, 1, 4, 1, 5, 1, 1, and 2 positions at each of the races and overall they finished the competition in the 1st position out of 10 teams. The country wise ranking in respect of Ganapathy and Varun is 1st amongst 7 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

(j) **49er FX (Female) – Ekta Yadav, Female, DOB 22/10/1995 and Shaila Charls, Female, DOB 12/08/1994.** 10 scheduled races were competed out of the 12 scheduled races. In the 10 races sailed, the team finished in 3, 2, 3, 2, 2, 2, 5, 3, 5 and 5 positions at each of the races and overall they finished the competition in the 3rd position out of 7 teams. The country wise ranking in respect of Ekta Yadav and Shaila Charls is 2nd amongst 5 Asian countries that participated at the Asian Sailing Championship 2018 in this event.

22. The Selection Committee, thereafter deliberated on the performance of the teams and the analysis presented in respect of performance of each of the sailors / teams.

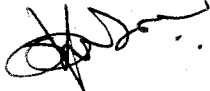
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After detailed discussions, the Selection Committee is of the view that the underlisted sailors / teams meet the criteria for Selection / Participation at the Asian Games 2018:-

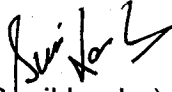
<u>Sl.No.</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Country wise</u>
			<u>in ASC</u>	<u>Position</u>
			<u>2018</u>	
(i)	Laser (Radial)	Nethra Kumanan	6/16	6/10
(ii)	49er	KC Ganapathy - Helm Varun Thakkar – Crew	1/10	1/7
(iii)	49erFX	Ekta Yadav – Helm Shaila Charles – Crew	3/7	2/5
(iv)	Laser 4.7 (Open)	Harshita Tomar – Girl	7/38	6/13
(v)	Laser 4.7 (Open)	Govind Bairagi - Boy	5/38	5/13
(vi)	RS:One (Mix Team)	Dayne Coelho-Boy Katya Coelho – Girl	9/11	8/9

23. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks to the Chair.


(DP Selvam)
Member 30/6/18


(Malav Shroff)
Member
30/6/18


(Atul Arand)
RAdm
Member
30/06/18


(Sunil Lanba)
Admiral
Chairman Selection Committee
30 Jun 18.