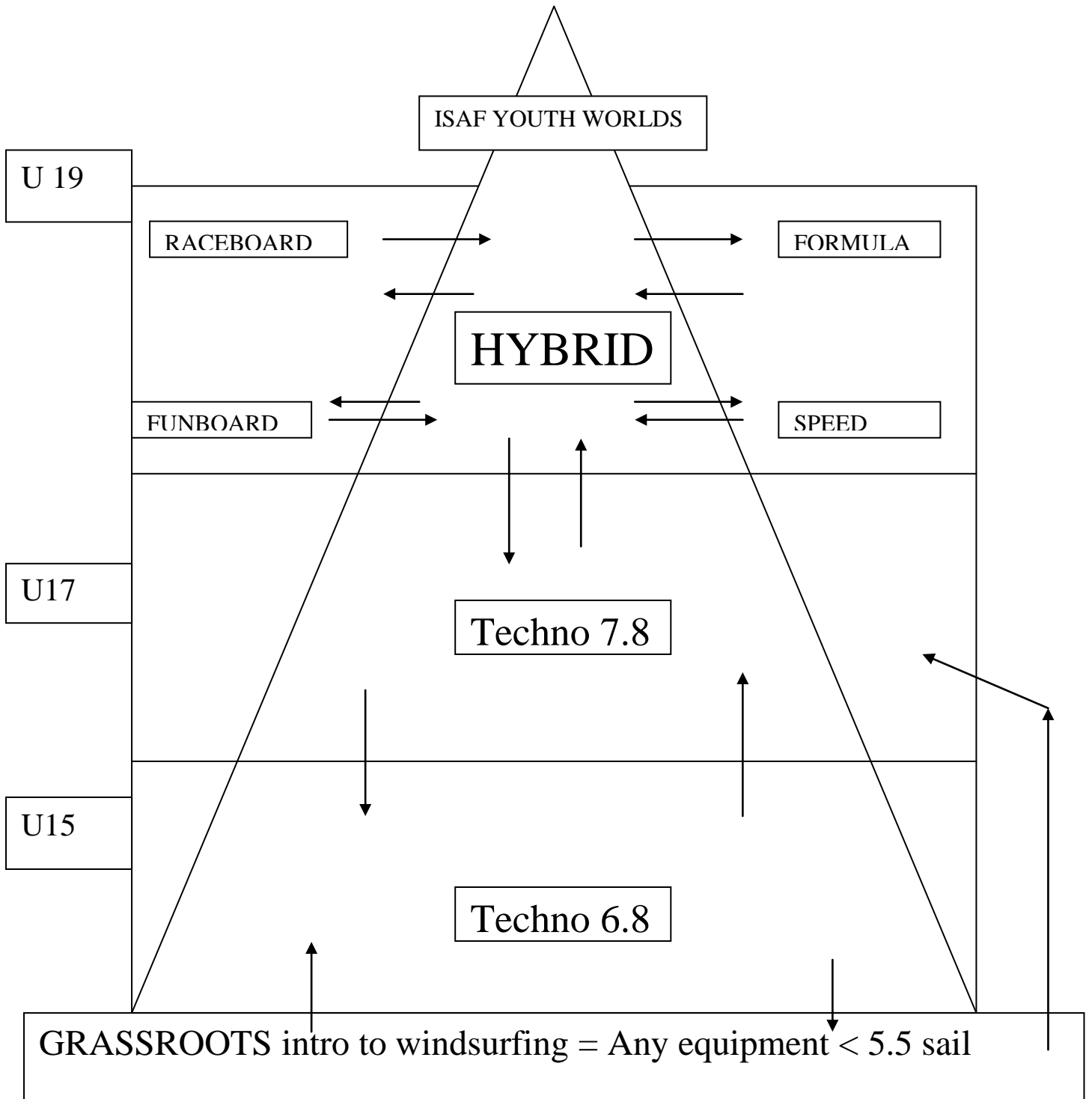


Windsurfing committee ISAF Conference 2006-11-06

Working Party paper

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Olympic pathway – Development of youth and junior windsurfing.



The above diagram shows the suggested pathway for MNAs wishing to instigate a structure for windsurfing, leading to participation in the prestigious ISAF Youth World Championships held annually for one boy and one girl under the age of 19. This pathway also forms the basis of an Olympic windsurfing structure.

The foundation of the pathway is participation in competition starting around the age of 12 although many start earlier within a local, more relaxed, competition environment, generally using any board with a rig less than 5.5 square metres. (There are many examples of beginner's systems in place around the world, and one suggestion would be to access the RYA's "Team-15" web site)

Stage 1. Techno 6.8

This ISAF recognised class is the preferred route to under 15 windsurfers and is growing rapidly around the world. The pinnacle of performance in this class is an age group award at the Techno class World Championships.

As can be seen from the diagram an overlap due to size, weight, or ability is possible between the sail size divisions within the class and the change down sail is any size below 5.5.

Stage 2. Techno 7.8

Having reached an age where the class rules dictate progression from the 6.8 division, the 7.8 sail size division leads both boys and girls to an ISAF recognised World Champion Title.

The previously used 6.8 sail is now the recognised change down sail for this division. Many national and international regattas include this class in their makeup.

Stage 3. Hybrid Raceboard.

The under 19 youth division has its pinnacle of achievement set at the ISAF youth worlds currently using the RSX class youth equipment. The pathway diagram shows the use of hybrid raceboards, of which the RSX is one, to include MNAs who through financial constraints or choice, wish to broaden the training capability within their youth squads. This approach can increase the number of world titles that can be targeted offering MNAs taking this route the possibility of using the results for funding.

As can be seen from the diagram a crossover between other windsurfing classes is a possibility offering the ability for MNAs to retain sailors recreational and competitive with the system.

Suggested website connections - Team15, BIC Techno, Raceboard,RSX, ISAF

Mike Dempsey.