

Format – ‘Four Point Final’

Meets IOC criteria

- 4 days total (3 days qualifying + 1 finals day (1 reserve))
- Medals decided on finals day, not before.
- Many teams with medal chance on finals day, creating a draw for many national broadcasters.

Stages

- Qualifying + Semi Finals + Finals
- Days 1,2 & 3: Qualifying:
 - Full fleet racing – windward / leeward
 - Nine races, three races per day, 1 discard, low point scoring
 - Race Target time 20 minutes to fit 30 minute TV window
 - Top 10 boats advance
- 10 teams advance to the semi final
 - One additional race of single points, do not drop
 - Participation flexible to as many as the whole fleet or as few as 8 boats in the race, final determination by story telling ability of broadcast and ability to umpire. The more teams there are the higher the stakes in the race, but it is a bit harder to manage and describe the action.
 - could be called the final fleet race
- 4 teams advance to the final
 - The top 4 make the final and carry:
 - 1st = 3 points
 - 2nd = 2 points
 - 3rd = 1 point
 - 4th = 0 points

Key Benefits

- Medals can all change everyone can win but there is some protection for the people who had a good series
- Decisive final day, where any team within reach of 4th overall can win any medal.
- This makes the regular racing the most important, including every final placing,
- Incentive to be the best on every race and every day of the competition, which rewards the best/highest performing sailors at that point of the cycle
- The final 4 teams can win gold in the last race, but the rest of the fleet are only risking a single position. Easy to explain.

Key Drawbacks

- Gimmicky, and the public might not be into such a contrived conclusion
- Four boat racing for just the win might not be compelling broadcasting.