

## **Extract of the Minutes of the Annual General Committee Meeting 2006**

The meeting was held in Neusiedl Austria on Thursday 27 July and completed after the EC Prizegiving on Saturday 29 July

In attendance were the General Committee with apologies from Lin Robson, Jim Cook, Fulvio Colletti, Ian McCrossin and Richard Phillips.

### **Finances.**

The Hon Treasurer explained that the hand over from his predecessor was taking a significant time as the bank required a great deal of documentation. Work is progressing with Adriaan Schmal to complete the previous accounts. The Hon Treasurer is also in contact with the Class Auditor. He has established that the class has a healthy bank balance, and he believes we have enough funds to make appropriate investments for the class like new equipment and promotional material. The Hon Treasurer will issue a budget as soon as possible and agreed to encourage Adriaan Schmal to complete the outstanding accounts.

### **Technical & Measurement:**

Peter Hinrichsen(PH) explained those issues which had been highlighted during the measurement at Neusiedl.

**Personnel Floatation Devices(PFD).** There was some confusion over the requirement for 50 Newton minimum buoyancy in the PFD, especially where the PFD was in a small or medium size, for which at first view the labels could be taken to imply 50 Newton buoyancy but on closer examination the smaller sizes did not meet this specification. Some smaller sailors had found it difficult to purchase 50 Newton PFDs which fit them. PH will write to ISAF to see if they have an alternative wording for this rule.

**Bands:** The bands on Masts and Booms were not all in contrasting colours, for example dark blue on black carbon masts, and were not always painted as required by the class rules. The class rules are to be changed to remove the need for a scribed mark on the mast and boom and define that on a carbon mast and booms, bands shall be white and remain visible.

**Carbon Mast weight:** The evidence from measurement showed that most carbon masts were in the range of 10.0 to 10.5 Kg. with the lowest weight being 9.4Kg. The Selden Masts were about 10.5Kg and the Avant Gard 10.0Kg. Concern was expressed that in order to reduce weight further a move to very high modulus carbon would be taken which would significantly increase costs. It was proposed that we should change the rule to set the minimum mast weight as 9.5 kg (from the present 8.5 kg) for 2008.

There had been some issues with Rudders in profile and cross section.

### **Amount of measurement:**

There was discussion about the amount of checks we do at regattas. It was pointed out that this question has been raised at a number of competitors hearings and the majority wanted to continue with the amount of measurement being done.

It was suggested that we should change the checks we do at each event. It was pointed out that this is already the case, for example at the 2006 WC rudder and centreboard

depth was measured, as this had not been done for some time. The measurers will review how measurement can be streamlined.

The lack of the digital readout on the class scale had been a problem at Neuseidl as some competitors arrived expecting their boat to be weighted, the corrector weights adjusted and their certificate endorsed. This problem was exacerbated by the fact that at Balaton measurement had been done in pouring rain, so certificates could not be altered. In future any competitor who wishes a change in his certificate correctors must notify the Chief Measurer. The rule however is that "each boat shall carry the corrector weight as shown on the measurement certificate". . It was pointed out that measurement is only a check, although the Chief Measurer and his team will try to be helpful but only if time permits. There was a suggestion that only a percentage of boats be checked, as a way of reducing the time and effort taken over measurement. It was pointed out that this would be very prejudicial to those chosen, while others go sailing, and not achieve the object of assuring all competitors that the competition is fair. PH agreed to look to see if some form of compromise over time and effort, without reducing standards, can be found.

#### **Measurement Budget.**

It was agreed that measurement at the WC and EC are a requirement for our International status and that standards have to be maintained. There is a cost associated with this and the Chief Measurer is allocated a budget of 1500 euros to defray expenses of the measurement team.

#### **Championships.**

The following are planned or suggested.

2007 WC	Mar Menor	Spain	July
2008 WC	Napier	NewZealand	Dec/January2009
2009 WC	Medemblik	Holland	June.

We would wait for the proposal from Croatia before making a decision on EC 2008. Since the meeting this has been agreed.

**Vintage Yachting Games.** A proposal has been received inviting the FD to join the VYG initiative. There was a consensus that this has the potential for good publicity for the class, but there were concerns about the costs, as it is unclear that the VYG and its events are completely self funding. It was agreed that Alberto Barenghi(AB) would write to the organizers to ask specifically for details of the finances and a copy of the budgeted costs.

#### **Publicity & Promotion.**

AB explained that the Harken contract runs to May 2008 and it is then likely that Harken will take a different approach. We can have 36,000 Euros worth of clothing over three years. ((3\*15,000) – 20% Vat). So far we have sold only 2320 Euros and already spent more than that for containers to St Petersburg.

The current proposal is that each National Secretary is to be given some sample clothing and together with the information on the website asked to collect orders which would be sent together to AB who would send the clothing to the Nat Sec for distribution. Each National organisation will be able to retain 10% of the sale value for their funds.

#### **Website.**

Tobias Frank(TF) stated that he thought that there was a need to change the image of the International FD website. The current layout had been in place for some years and it needed changing. The first page would not seize the attention of a potential new sailor to the class. The website contains a lot of good information which needs to be retained. The first one or two levels of pages need a new image. AB is to look at the costs of developing a new front page.

### **Other Promotion.**

TF suggested that the class should have 2 or 3 promotional photographs, without copyright for the class to use. AB agreed to discuss this with the photographer who took the photographs in Dervio. AB stated that he had a small sample of a draft promotional DVD which he would show the committee after the meeting to obtain their reaction and comments.

### **Presidents Report.**

There were some comments on the sale of FD/Harken clothing at this event. In a short time before the prize giving 2500 Euros had been sold. It was suggested that we should a) have a poster. b) have some samples hanging up at measurement. c) sell items for 1 hour each day after sailing. AB agreed to organise this at future events.

### **Bulletin.**

The Bulletin is regarded as a major instrument of promotion and advertising.

There is a need to have one or more new editors. This has now been successful. There is a great need for a variety of articles submitted by class members to provide an interesting publication.

### **Boat Registration and Class Records.**

Zsofia Csanda is to take over the roles of Boat Registrar, Class Records and selling of Sail Buttons.

### **ISAF Annual Conference.**

Alberto Barengi, Stephen Parry and Peter Hinrichsen will attend the ISAF Annual Conference.

### **Appointments.**

Reappointed:	VP Technical	Peter Hinrichsen
	Commodore NW Europe	Enno Kramer
Appointed	Chief Measurers	John Best and Paul Hemker.

### **2007 AGCM:**

The 2007 AGCM will be held in Mar Menor, the day after the World Championship on Sunday 22 July 2007.