



International Flying Dutchman Class Organization

to : All National Secretaries
date : 28 april 2012
from : Jan Lechler, Ronald Stalman
issue : European Championship and Euro Cup

Dear National Secretaries,

During the competitors forum at Altea the Executives gave their vision on the events calendar of the 2012. First of all with all offers on the table at the moment of planning we thought it was what we had to do. But we now must conclude that the 2012 isn't well planned.

Three major events in one season is a little to much we concluded. Especially when the worlds is not in Europe during such a season and the VYG has to be sailed.

The result is that this year the fleet is split between the major events. This doesn't help either the FD Sailors or the Organizers and Sponsors.

Our conclusion is that we should change our vision regarding the events in a season.

First of all we IFDCO- and National-events should not be competitive but work together to have the best balanced, organised and planned events calendar. We think by making choices and working together with all Nationals we can favor all countries and have more competitive and larger fleets at this events during the season. Yes this demands some more travelling, but we think this is the right opportunity to show how coherent we are as class.

To plan a balanced season full of events we need (to discuss):

- to ask individual countries to decrease their events;
- to plan the season together as individual country with all other countries Nationals;
- to cooperate as nationals and host an event in a (European) region;
- to pick existing events of yacht clubs for the calendar;
- to tell yacht clubs that they are not every year on the events calendar, but every other or maybe third year (this way you spread the events in a country and by doing this you could be next to a neighbour country and combine events);
- to promote each other's events.

The Eurocup will be renamed in the Euro Series.

By making this move we will not organise a European Championship anymore. Somehow we could decide to sail a final round at the last Euro Series event.

To sail against the best of the best we have the Worlds and that's all.

Euro Series events (all events must be at least 3 days and 9 races)

- start of season at Altea 1 week training and event sailing;
- Easter event;
- Ammersee/Achensee event;
- mid-summer event (Kielweek, Poland/Russia);
- end of August event (Garda, Italy/South-East France Swiss, event);
- October event;
- Final event (Could be also in Altea, because we have the offer from the Altea sailing club to leave the boats free of charge and secured in the Harbour during the winter. Then they are ready for training during the long winter at every time).

Board Executives 2012

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These events could even (or should even) be the National Championships of countries.

We think that this program also is interesting for potential sponsors. Sponsorship is eminent, because with sponsoring there is a possibility to supply a money chain for transportation.

The other weekends are for the Nationals in their own region. But like the IFDCO events the choice could be to inform yacht clubs that their event is only scheduled once every xx year. Informing the yacht clubs is a necessary. And in the best of interest for both the yacht club and the FD-class.

The suggested step is one to discuss, but we think the only way to stay an International Class. If we all decide this is the way to go first possible year to start such a season is 2014.

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And then there is our support and involvement in the Vyntage Yachting Games. At Altea we asked around in the boat park about the VYG. Many sailors didn't know the event.

This year the event is in Dervio (see Bulletin 157) and on the 20th of April 2012 Ronald posted an interview he did with Rudy den Outer the chairman of the VYG.
<http://www.sailifdco.com/interview-with-rudy-den-outer/>

This interview could clear our relationship with the VYG and the relevance of the VYG.

But why we are on the subject of event selection and better Internatinal Seasons we should also debate if the Vyntage Yachting Games should still be supported as a FD-event.

Waiting for your feedback!
Best regards
Jan Lechler
VP Championships IFDCO

Ronald Stalman
VP Communication IFDCO