

Minutes

IFDCO Annual General Committee Meeting

Place: Hannoverscher Yacht-Club, Steinhude, Germany

Date: Thursday, 26th May 2016

Begin: 16:00

End: 19:45

Participants: Executive Committee:

- Tony Lyall (President)
- Peter Van Koppen (Treasurer)
- Jan Lechler (VP Championships)
- Marc Strittmatter (VP Communications)

Administrative Officers:

- John Best (Chief Measurer - retiring)
- Zsófia Csanda (Boat Registration)

Commodores:

- Ian McCrossin (AUS & NZL)
- Fred Schaaf & Carlo Brugman (NED)
- Tom Greten (GER)

Also present

- Meike Greten (General Secretary Designate)
- Tanja Heijink (Chief Measurer Designate)

TOP 1 [Presidents Opening Remarks](#)

The President Tony Lyall opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and submitting of their reports.

TOP 2 [Apologies for Absence](#)

Apologies were received from Paul Hemker (VP Technical) and Ed Cox (General Secretary - retiring).

TOP 3 [Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGCM – Sydney 2015](#)

The Minutes of the AGCM held 6th January 2015 in Sydney were agreed.

The Minutes of GCM September 2015 in Umag were agreed.

TOP 4 [Matters arising from those Minutes not covered by Agenda items](#)

No matters raised.

TOP 5

Class Organization Update

General Secretary:

Ed Cox is standing down as General Secretary. Tony Lyall recorded his thanks for everything he has done over the last 3 years. Meike Greten had been duly nominated as the new GS. There being no other nominations it was resolved that Meike Greten be elected as General Secretary.

VP Technical:

Paul Hemker has completed his first 3 years as VP Technical, and has agreed to stand for another term, there being no other nominations it was resolved that Paul Hemker be elected for another 3 year term.

Chief Measurer:

John Best is standing down as Chief Measurer after these Championships having done an excellent job in that role for many years. He is proposing that Tanja Heijink takes over his role. Tanja Heijink has attended an International Measurer (IM) Seminar and passed her test, and is just waiting approval to become an IM by World Sailing at their conference in November. Resolved that Tanja Heijink be appointed as a Chief Measurer.

VP Development:

No nominations were received for the position of VP Development. Tony Lyall will take care for an appropriate suggestion.

The President Tony Lyall thanked everyone for all their hard work over the last 18 months.

TOP 6

President's Report

The President Tony Lyall presented his 'bucket' list of things he wanted to achieve as President of the IFDCO

- be more transparent, open and democratic about our decision making
- improve communication with National Class Organisations & members etc.
- be more accountable financially
- to have an accurate & up to date annual International Membership list
- to increase the number of young people entering the class
- attract a major Class sponsor

The decline in active sailors and in particular the fall in the number of sailors/teams attending regattas and championships in several countries for instance GBR & USA is a real concern and something we on the GC need to be aware of and act upon accordingly.

It's great to see that we have a nucleus of young sailors joining the class. The group from Germany is very enthusiastic and we need to encourage and support them whilst at the same time working with other countries to follow their 'lead' as they are the future of the Class.

The President's Report of Tony Lyall was adopted.

TOP 7 General Secretary Report

There is no report from the General Secretary, it is the same as in the last Bulletin.

TOP 8 Treasurers Report

Fees:

- It is important to inform the sailors what the IFDCO does with the fees for the class. The IFDCO needs to act more transparent.
- The FD class organization has a low fee compared to other classes.
- The dues were put up in 2014 from 20 to 25 € and in 2015 from 25 to 30 €. A goal for increase of membership dues is the support of younger sailors and a new measurer trailer.
- Decision was made to leave membership subscription fee in 2017 as it is (30 €).

Trademark :

- The IFDCO has a trademark. Peter van Koppen will talk to Alberto Barengi about the background (why, what, payment, bill). The intention was once to get better sponsors.
- Decision was made to stop the trademark effort because the class doesn't get better sponsors.

The Treasurers Report of Peter van Koppen was adopted.

TOP 9 Accounts for year 2015

The Accounts were shown and explained by Peter van Koppen.

TOP 10 Update on 2016 to date

-

TOP 11 Proposed Budget for 2017

The budget for 2017 will be proposed later in 2016.

TOP 12 Sub-Committee Reports

i. Technical

Sail numbers and country markings from spinnakers were eliminated to allow easier sale of spis since the numbers are normally stenciled.

There was a request for reducing weight of the mast. Decision was made not to reduce the weight of the mast, keep it at 8.5 kg and ask the manufacturer to reinforcements in spreader, gooseneck and deck area.

There was a request for changing the sail fabrics to maylan mail sails. Decision was made that there won't be a change in sail fabrics for the FD class.

The Technical Committee Report from Paul Hemker was adopted.

ii. Sponsorship & Promotion

- A solution is needed, currently the class is supported by Bojsen Möller, König Sails, Württembergische with Kai Schäfers and Mader
- Meike Greten will talk to Sponsors who supported the Worlds in Steinhude

iii. Communication

- Homepage
 - Several technical and content updates have been done
- Social Media
 - Set up of a sub-working-group to inform sailors actively and regularly
- Forum
 - The forum was taken out of the website. A new marketplace will be published where people can sell FD stuff and buy things.
- Bulletin
 - The new design was developed with Caroline Rudorff. Jon Smale helped with the translations.
 - For the advertising billing a process has to be set up with Peter van Koppen
- NATIONAL CLASSES – latest developments in contacts
 - POLAND
 - new fleet (mostly from Cadet Class)
 - New homepage
 - New contact: Maria Sliska (maria@m-info.eu)
 - Brazil
 - Small fleet inn Sao Paolo
 - New contact: Roberto Montenegro (ralm@montenegrocons.com.br)
 - New Zealand
 - New PR Officer: Dave Hislop (dave.j.hislop@gmail.com)
 - Australia:
 - Contact lost, nobody in charge
 - USA:
 - No response from National Secretary Chris Liberti
 - Slow contact with Buzz Ballenger – no information about any regatta!!!!!!
 - Chile:
 - Contact lost.

The Communication Report of Mark Strittmacher was adopted.

iv. Finance

Peter van Koppen presented the budget and realization of the IFDCO. In 2015 a net result of -3.950 € were planned. The IFDCO realized a net result of -947 € in 2015.

The reason for the higher costs are the travel costs and container grants for the Worlds outside Europe and the investment in a video trailer.

The IFDCO has currently about 72.000 € in the bank.

The Finance Report of Peter van Koppen was adopted.

v. [Championship including future Championship](#)

Jan Lechler reported that he had a written contract with Russia for the Worlds 2017 in St. Petersburg where all points were very clear. In March this year, their problems got bigger and bigger with money and support of the Russia Sailing Federation. The project was stopped.

New bids to host the World Championship 2017 were received from Spain (Altea), Portugal (Tavira) and USA (St. Petersburg) and an updated bid from Italy (Scalino, who wanted to host the Worlds in 2018 first).

Decision was made that the FD World Championship 2017 will take place in Scalino.

Decision was made for 2018 (European place required) in July at Medemblik NED, 2019 (overseas) in January at Nelson NZL

The Championship rules need to be revised. Tony sends out the rules and everybody of the AGCM should read and comment it with follow up mode.

The Championship Report of Jan Lechler was adopted.

TOP 13

[Commodore Reports](#)

i. [Australia & New Zealand](#)

In Australia are 20 FDs of which 10 are sailing. New boats are build and imported.

ii. [Germany](#)

The class in Germany has grown with around 20 new sailors because of the Worlds.

Germany had 2 promo boats, one has been sold because of the costs.

Tom Greten asked to be more than careful with technical changes in the future to protect the existing members of the class.

iii. [Italy](#)

No representative in the meeting.

iv. [Nederland](#)

The Netherlands have 95 members of which 60 are IFDCO members. These are constant numbers. At championships 30 boats are starting, normal regattas are sailed with an average of 10 boats. There are 2 promo boats. At the annual meeting 50 members are around.

The class is active but needs bigger numbers. Every 10 years there is a World Championship in The Netherlands for which the national FD organizations holds back money. Next one could be 2018 or 2019 in Medemblik.

v. [USA](#)

No representative in the meeting.

TOP 14 Boat Registration Report

Zsófia Csanda

- Boat registrations
 - a. In 2015 five newly boats were registered. Till April 2016 seven new boats were already registered.
 - b. If there is a change in ownership of a FD an info has to be send to Zsófia Csanda. This information will be published on the website, bulletin and national secretary “What to do when selling a boat?”
 - c. Zsófia Csanda will provide FAQ, Meike Greten will provide contract template
 - d. Resposable is the national secretary.
- Sail buttons
 - a. There are around 300 sail buttons left. As the company which produced them disappeared the decision was made to change from buttons to stickers. The handling will be much easier. Zsófia Csanda will order 1.500 stickers at the end of the year.

The Boat Registration Report of Zsófia Csanda was adopted.

TOP 15 Chief Measurers Report

The Chief Measurer John Best described a successful measurement of the participants of the World Championship in Steinhude. They measured 113 boats within 19 hours.

John Best did a detailed training on measurement procedures to Tanja Heijink. John Best is confident that Tanja Heijink is ready to be the next Chief Measurer.

John Best points out that the procedure of on water measuring has to be defined as Tanja Heijink is an active sailor and would do the job just in case she can continue with FD sailing.

John Best is retiring as Chief Measurer today.

Jan Lechler and Tanja Heijink will thing of a better solution for future stickers.

Tanja Heijink will put together a list with things an organization team of a World Championship needs to provide.

The Chief Measurer report of John Best was approved.

TOP 16 Matters arising from the Competitors Forum & National Secretaries Meeting

Trend: descending attendance at regattas.

Courses were discussed

Decision: Triangle, sausage

Good meeting with open discussions.

Meeting minutes will be send out by Tony Lyall.

TOP 17 World Sailing Meeting (ex "ISAF")

Decision: The FD class representative for the World Sailing meeting is Stephan Perry. His expenses will be paid by the IFDCO.

TOP 18 IFDCO AGCM 2017, election of officers for Executive & GC

The next AGCM will be held in Scarlino at the Worlds 2017.

TOP 19 Any Other Business

Euro Cup:

- Think about proposal for Euro Cup

World Ranking List

- Volunteer to take care of ranking list is Meike Greten. Tanja Heijink and Tony Lyall will send information about the history and requirements to Meike Greten.

Youth Grand: Proposal from Tony Lyall:

- Aims: to promote & encourage greater participation by young sailors at our World Championships.
 - To be known as Youth Grants
 - Grants only available for attendance at a World Championships
 - Grants available to anyone (helm or crew) under the age of 25 as of the published date of the first race
 - Applications forms to be submitted to the General Secretary prior to the Championship starting
 - Anyone applying for a grant must be a member of IFDCO at the time of making the application
 - Grants will only be paid upon attendance at the Championship
 - Grants will be paid by the Treasurer in cash (normally Euros) at the Championships event (to save costly bank charges)
 - Two levels of Grant
 - a. Continental
 - Inter-continental
 - Level of grant to be agreed each year at the preceding AGCM
 - This grant is in addition to any container grant or other sponsorship deal that may have been agreed
 - Grant application form to be included with the NoR. & posted on the website
 - Recipients of a grant are asked to write a brief article for the International Bulletin, just a few lines about their experiences

- For 2016 I'm proposing 75 Euro for Continental (in this case Europeans) & 150 Euro for everyone else

TOP 20 [Close of the meeting](#)

The Annual General Committee Meetings ends at 19:45.