

IFDCO Annual General Committee Meeting 2021

Meeting Minutes

Place: CN Altea, Spain
Date: Friday, 10th September 2021
Begin: 6:40 pm
End: 8:15 pm

Participants and distribution list for the General Committee:

Executive Officers:

- Peter van Koppen (President)
- Meike Greten (General Secretary)
- Roman Houdek (Treasurer)
- Rinaldo Rinaldi (VP Championships – not present)
- Guzman Egea (VP Communications - interim)
- Paul Hemker (VP Technical)
- n.n. (VP Development)

Administrative Officers:

- Tanja Heijnk (Chief Measurer)
- Tony Lyall (Boat Registrar – not present)

Commodores (National Secretaries of 3 major EU FD Nations + AUS & NZL, USA):

- GER: Tom Greten
- ITA: Eric Deleu (not present)
- NED: Maarten Bausch for Fred Schaaf
- AUS & NZL: Matthew Moore (not present)
- USA: Paul Hemker

TOP 1 [Presidents Opening Remarks](#)

Peter van Koppen welcomes the Committee to this Annual General Committee Meeting 2021.

TOP 2 [Apologies for Absence](#)

Rinaldo Rinaldi and Tony Lyall cannot join the meeting because of the current Covid-19 situation.

TOP 3 [Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGCM – Zoom 2020](#)

The Minutes of the AGCM held 8th December 2020 via Zoom are agreed.

TOP 4 Matters arising from those Minutes not covered by Agenda items

No matters arising.

TOP 5 President's Report

Peter van Koppen:

It is good to have the AGCM again at the Worlds and not just at home. It just feels much better! I'm very happy to see that the incredible efforts displayed by the Altea Sailing Club and the Spanish sailors is rewarded and we can sail here. The Covid-19 issue of course still is present and a lot of sailors are still worried about it with all its implications. We understand and respect that! Therefore, we are only 34 boats at the starting line. Of course, we hope that by next year we have all found a better way to live with this issue and will be able to have an old-fashioned World Championship with a big number of competitors! We still saw a fairly good amount of sailing under the circumstances. Again a good number of regattas in Germany with more than 40 boats at the Nationals. Also racing in Italy including their championship as well in Australia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Austria etc. Of course, I strongly hope that for 2022 we can uplift the amount of sailing worldwide. We are of course proud to present the Flying Dutchman App and hope it will improve communication in all kinds of way. For example: I heard that sailors from Chile need 4 sets of sails second hand... the app could also be used for these kinds of questions. Any suggestions to improve the App are welcome!

TOP 6 General Secretary Report (including any item from World Sailing)

Meike Greten mentions following points:

- We will update the Byelaws and champion chip rules soon
 - Plan to build up a member database as our Byelaws are requiring – therefore we would like to use the App. Details will follow.
 - Interested sailors from France, South Africa and Sweden. All came via our website.
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TOP 7 Treasurers Report

a) Accounts for 2020

Roman Houdek presents his report in a detailed way.

- On the 31-12-2020 Working account was € 41,103.25
Reserved account was € 52,696.55
- only 70 sailbuttons were sold as few races took place, including the World Championship, which was postponed to 2021
- 433 memberships fee are below the normal limit again due to the postponement of the championship.

It is a common practice for some members to pay the fee only when they are going to the World or European Championships. The success is the involvement of smaller organizations. We are now working on a list of members from each country for a better overview.

As a starting point could be watching national championships and participants in them

Now these are just member names and numbers. In the future, however, it would be appropriate to monitor the average age of members.

- Plaques for new boats 1,028.72 € to 9 new boats (1 russian old boat, 8 Mader)

b) Update on the Finances for 2021 to date

- On the 8-09-2021: Working account was € 44,810.25 (still expect payment from Germany - 7800 €), Reserved account was € 52695,55

- 485 membership fee were sold at the moment

I do not think that there will be any additional payments for membership this year - at most for Croatia.

It has succeeded with Russia, and it is still failing with Poland

- 70 sails buttons
- 3 new boats (Mader)
- there were some payments for the bulletin, new application, stickers (2021-2023) and other smaller payments.
- 10 young grants were paid out at the Altea world championship 9 from Spain and 1 from Germany

c) Budget for 2020/2021

The treasure book is in a very good balance between income and outcome payments.

TOP 8

Officers Reports

a) VP Championships

Rinaldo Rinaldo presents the results of the work of VP Championships:

- Information from Poland and US national secretaries is awaited for WC
- WC 2022 Italy, Campione

The event will be in September from Friday 2nd (starting of measurement) to Saturday 10th. The organization is already working and we are finding many opportunities for managing a very interesting agenda specially for family and people coming to Italy. I already know that some crews already booked their stay in Campione. We are also planning to organize (as Italian Class) a training international regatta in spring in Campione and I will share more detailed info as available.

- WC 2023 Poland
- WC 2024 USA (planned)

b) VP Communications

Caroline König and Meike Greten took care of the Bulletin 2021 which was sent out this year already.

As new VP Communications Guzman Egea from Spain is willing to take over the job. The GC appoints him as interim VP Communications.

c) VP Technical

Respectfully submitted by Paul Hemker, VP Technical

The effects of Covid 19 have resulted in very little activity of the Technical Committee. Tanja has arranged for an electronic Measurement Form prototype that is very promising. This will allow better control of the measurement data and personal information that is now being required by EC rules. There have been a few enquiries about rule interpretations that were requested mainly to understand how the rules are interpreted. Fortunately, very little controversy has been evident, and we will see as noted in the past, World Sailing has streamlined rule changes so they can be approved by WS and put in place fairly quickly.

At the moment there is a distinct need to expand the list of International Measurers and also a need to encourage those interested in the technical aspects of the FD to volunteer for the Technical Committee.

My thanks to Tanja for arranging for the electronic Measurement Form.

d) VP Development

The role of VP Development is currently not appointed. Andrey Novoderezhkin from Russia is willing to do the job.

TOP 9

Commodore Reports

a) Australia & New Zealand

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b) Germany

- Feeling the Covid-19-crisis, but not too much, more sailors are starting sailing

c) Italy

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d) Netherlands

- No races for two years now
- New members in old boats

e) USA

- National postponed because of Covid-19

- North American Nationals will be in October
- NY has a small attendance with less than 20 boats

f) GBR

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TOP 10 Boat Registration Report

Tony Lyall: Sorry I can't be with you this at this year's AGCM so please accept my apologies. Below is my report:

So far there has been 5 new FD's built this year (2021) – All Bootswerft Mader, This compares with:

- 2020 - 5 new FD's - again all Mader
- 2019 - 5 new FD's - 4 Mader & 1 Planatech
- 2018 - 6 new FD's - 5 Mader & 1 Planatech
- 2017 - 4 new FD's – all Mader

Most of the new boats being brought by the usual 'suspects'.

Registering change of ownership is generally going ok but at times I have to chase for IFDCO Membership Numbers and confirmation of Personal numbers (some think they can just pick a number they like).

The biggest issue is the new owners seem very reluctant (or maybe it's just laziness) to send me the original Measurement Form and instead insist on sending a scan or photos via e-mail which is no use at all as each time it is replicated, we lose clarity of the measurement figures to the point it becomes a useless piece of paper.

I appreciate that in some cases the previous owner doesn't pass on the original Measurement Form either because it's lost/can't find it, or they want to keep it. In those instances, I would say the new owner shouldn't pay for the boat until they are given the original paperwork.

So far this year I have issues 21 new sets of documents (MF & MC), 5 were for new boats the other 16 were for change of ownership. Out of that 21, 9 were not members of IFDCO. We have previously talked about charging those that are not members a fee (equivalent of one year's membership) for issuing new documents which I'm all in favour of, however I see a bit of an issue administratively, also I fear those that don't want to race in the big regattas don't want to be members so just won't bother to tell us about change of ownership the knock on effect being we will lose track of boats.

TOP 11 Chief Measurers Report

Tanja Heijnk presents her work as chief measurer:

2020-2021 were quiet years for measurement due to Covid-19. No championships has been sailed.

Nevertheless a few topics came along:

New rule Quick Release trapeze harness:

A trapeze harness worn by a competitor which may be used to support the competitor on a trapeze shall be of the quick release variety complying with ISO 10862 which allows the competitor to detach from the hook or other method of attachment at any time. A class rule may change this rule to permit trapeze harnesses that are not of the quick release variety, but a class rule may not change the requirement that a quick release harness comply with ISO 10862. Note: Rule 50.1(c) does not take effect until 1 January 2023.

The proposal is to check the opinion of the sailors during the competitors hearing.

1. Are we making an amendment to the current rule to bypass this new rule?
2. Are we following this rule

Electronic Measurement Form:

We are working on an electronic Measurement Form to replace the current handwritten one. The form will follow the rules of privacy. The owner of the boat can download a pdf and a few people can make changes f.e. during measurement.

Centerboard and Rudder Measurement:

A new template has been developed for measuring the centerboard and rudders. We are using this template now for more than 4 years and it is following the mylars. It appears that a couple centerboards and rudders does not meet the rules. We informed the owners about this, allowed them to sail the race and gave them the opportunity to change them for the next championships. It is communicated that every rudder and centerboard needs to meet the template as of the worlds in Spain. Due to Covid-19 we will postpone this to next year in Italy.

Measurement Worlds Spain:

Due to Covid-19 we had minimal measurement during the worlds in Spain. We would like to be able to keep 1.5 meters distance in the measurement. The other reason is that we would like to offer the sailors more time to train because a lot of sailors have not sailed that much because of Covid. The entries of the worlds are known boats so we expect that all boats are conform the rules. We expected to measure around 42 boats from 6 countries. Finally, 34 boats were measured.

In addition to the measurement light Paul and I had the option to do a full-measurement in case we suspected a boat would not be ok.

Stage 1: General inspection

- Only check if everything is there. We will not measure the length of the tow line
- Inventory of trapeze harnesses due to rule changes 2023

Stage 2: Hull and weighing

- We will do weight check
- We will do the weighing with the centerboard in. So people do not need to remove the centerboard
- Rudder safety
- Bow numbers

Stage 3: Spars + Equipment

- Visual inspection of the bands
- Inventory of spi poles and boom
- Check of boom stop
- No mast weighing if necessary

Stage 4: Centerboard and rudder

- Only rudder

Stage 5: Stage 5

- Only stamps of the sails

As said, we would keep the right for full measurement. We will not announce this in advance. So we secure people will come fully prepared.

And of course we will sticker every item to check if people are sailing with the proper equipment.

Lessons learned measurement Spain:

- Still attention is needed for Sail buttons. It is not ok to reuse old buttons. We need extra communication to the sailors and especially in measurement instructions.
- If we have measurement in a very warm environment a measurement area in the shadow is needed. Possibility is to start earlier (f.e. 8.00 or 8.30), have a longer stop during the heat (f.e. 12.30 -16.00) and start again at f.e. 16.00 until 20.00 hrs.
- We expect hopefully a lot of boats in Italy. We need to tell the sailors to measure their boats directly when they arrive and not wait until the last moment. In this way we are able to measure all the boats in a normal way.
- Extra communication is needed for centerboards and rudders as mentioned above.

New Measurers:

We are still looking for new measurers for the class. At this moment Paul Hemker and I are the only official measurers for the FD Class. Ioannis Remoundos is still valid as a new candidate. Due to Covid his training is postponed.

We are still looking for 1 or 2 new people who would like to become a measurer as well.

TOP 12 New VP Development and VP Communications

Andrey Novoderezhkin from Russia is willing to do the job of VP Development. We will start the official voting procedure.

Guzman Egea from Spain is willing to do the job of VP Communications. Guzman is appointed unanimously as interim VP Communications.

TOP 13 IFDCO-App

The official IFDCO App was published in July 2021. It has a lot of features for general communication, documents, events etc.

There needs to be done some marketing regarding the App so that everybody knows what he/she can do with it to stay in touch with other FD sailors worldwide.

TOP 14 Any Other Business

Competitors Hearing

The Competitors Hearing was held on 7th of September with 35 people.

It was talked about the next Worlds in Campione, Italy. As the wind system there may require adaption of the standard sailing time the competitors agreed on sailing morning races in Campione. They want to sail not more than 3 races a day.

Currently the Championship rules define that a race at a WC should be 100 minutes long. The competitors agreed on a shorter target time (around 60 minutes).

Sailors Meeting

It is intended to set up a world wide sailors meeting via an online conference system to invite every FD sailor to speak up and to be informed.

TOP 15 Closing of the meeting

The Annual General Committee Meetings ends at 8:15 pm.



Signature Meike Greten

General Secretary