

Minutes of Annual Meeting of National Secretaries
Vienna 30 April - 1 May 1994

Present: The European Commodore - Peter Schellhorn, Vice Commodore - Bart Reedyk, and National Secretaries from Austria - Andreas Muller-Hartburg, Denmark - Jorgen Holsoe, The Netherlands - Johan Tolsma, Poland - Stanislav Macur and Jerzy Najdrowski, Sweden - Hans Adolfsson, Tschechen Republic - Juri Capek and United Kingdom - Chris Williams.

Topic 1 The Commodore opened the meeting by thanking the Austrian Secretary for the planning and arrangements made for the week-end meeting. He welcomed the new National Secretaries from The Netherlands and Poland to their first meeting.

Topic 2 Report on 1993-94 Season

This was a long season with early good ice in several countries starting in late October/early November and lasting through to mid-April. Snow and lack of wind both played their part in providing periods where the ice could not be sailed. Regrettably this had its greatest impact in Poland over the period of the World and European Championships. However, the Worlds were completed with very varied conditions and produced a worthy Champion in Andreas Bock. The longest continuously sailable ice was in Sweden, where in March conditions in the Stockholm archipelago allowed sailing up to 50 km from shore (the first time for many years).

Topic 3 Reorganisation of European responsibilities

The meeting agreed with the Commodore's view and experience that the European organisation could not continue to be run by one person. The Commodore's proposal to share the work between a Commodore, a Vice Commodore and a Treasurer was discussed at length. It was agreed that the new organisation should consist of Commodore, Vice Commodore and Secretary, with the task of Treasurer included in the Commodore's responsibilities. The following were elected as the new Officers of EDNIYRA and to form the Governing Committee for a period of 2 years:

Commodore	- Bart Reedyk
Vice Commodore	- Andreas Muller-Hartburg
Secretary	- Chris Williams.

Topic 4 Renewal of Constitution for Europe and alignment with Constitution of North America

Andreas Muller-Hartburg had done a lot of work on a revised constitution of EDNIYRA and with expert legal advice has drafted a new Constitution. This is a much welcomed and valuable piece of work and the following timetable of actions was agreed:

- a. Translation into English by end July '94
- Bart Reedyk
- b. Review English version by end August '94
- Chris Williams
- c. Despatch to European Secretaries for comment
(German & English versions) by mid-September '94
- Bart Reedyk
- d. Comments on New Constitution by National
Secretaries to European Commodore by fax/letter/
telephone by 1 November '94
Action - all National Secretaries
- e. Final agreement at May 1995 National Secretaries'
Meeting.

Topic 5 Status of the European "Blue Book"

It was agreed that although there is overlap between the Blue Book and the IDNIYRA Year Book on the coverage of sailing rules, there is much in the Blue Book which should be kept. It would seem to be the proper place for the new constitution when it is agreed. Bart Reedyk agreed to scrutinize the Blue Book and suggest changes by 1st August 1994.

As a post meeting note the new Secretary proposes that the content and structure of the Blue Book be reconsidered by the new Governing Committee and a proposed "Way Ahead" be presented to the Secretaries' Meeting in May '95.

Action - Secretary

Topic 6 The IDNIYRA Year Book

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed not to make any proposals for changes to the IDNIYRA Year Book, but that we should investigate the possibility of printing and distributing the book in Europe using the computer disc from the USA. Results of the investigation to be reported to the next Secretaries' Meeting.

Action - Commodore and Secretary

Topic 7 Membership Fee

It was agreed to leave the EDNIYRA annual membership fee at DM.6 until May 1995. It is likely that the membership fees will need to be increased following a financial review and the 1995 Secretaries' Meeting. The Commodore, Vice Commodore and Secretary will review the EDNIYRA finances before the next meeting and report at that meeting with their recommendations. It was agreed that from now on we have only one kind of member, namely "a member". There is no subdivision between active and non-active members.

Action - National Secretaries to forward list of members with addresses, telephone & fax numbers, and fees for 94/95 season to Commodore by 1st September 1994.

Topic 8 The European Journal

This was stopped because of the workload involved. Some nations, e.g. The Netherlands and Sweden, have their own

annual national journals. Although there are a number of European ice sailors who would like to see the European Journal revived, there are no volunteers for the editorial or production tasks and it was agreed not to support revival, but to continue to use the US based newsletters (Runner Tracks) as the means of publishing European news.

Topic 9 Scheduling of major events in Europe

Conditions in Poland once again showed that the scheduling of 3 major events (ET, EC & WC) at one location in one week is too ambitious. It was agreed that the competitions in Europe should start on a Monday with the leading competition as the first event i.e. EC when the WC is in N. America, and WC when it is in Europe. The discussion also addressed the number of competitors to be allowed in major events and a system proposed by The Netherlands. An explanation of the system is attached as an Annex and it was agreed to use this system as a trial at the next European Championships subject to agreement on the new Ranking List.

Topic 10 Ranking List

As was to be expected, this led to a fairly emotive discussion. There seem to be few things closer to the heart of the ice sailor than the ranking list and it is probably true to say that whatever the system, we will never satisfy everyone! A lengthy discussion resulted in the agreement to wait for the anticipated publication of the ranking list resulting from the previous season. This should be in the April Newsletter and should contain an explanation of its basis. It was also agreed that the latest ranking list together with an explanation of its basis should be published in September every year. It was also considered that the subject of the ranking list and its updating should be discussed jointly by the European and N. American Commodores.

Topic 11 Racing Licences

The discussion covered the purposes of the racing licence and the qualifications. The meeting decided that since all entries to major competitions were processed through National Secretaries, who were obliged to ensure that all their entries were competent sailors with thorough knowledge of the rules and the requisite liability insurance, there was no longer any need for a licence card in addition. It was therefore decided to discontinue racing licences in Europe.

Topics 12 - 14 Election of new Organisation

Covered under Topic 3.

Topic 15 Insurance Policy

Since the decision of the May '93 Secretaries' Meeting to set the mandatory minimum insurance level at US\$.100,000 there has been unease that this was too low. At the same time it is alleged that N. American ice sailors

consider they would have the greatest difficulty in raising this minimum level since greater insurance cover serves to attract deliberate "accidents" and consequent lawsuits from the money seekers. There is, as yet, no evidence of this in Europe and the meeting agreed to:

- a. leave the European recommended minimum insurance level at DM.1 million;
- b. introduce an indemnity clause into all major European competition entry forms which would have the effect of limiting any claim to an upper limit of DM. 1 million and absolve the EDNIYRA officers from any and all liability for any damage or injury in the regatta.

Topic 16 Financial Review

A thorough examination of all the EDNIYRA Accounts shows that our Expenditure is considerably greater than our Income. This confirms the view at the Vienna National Secretaries' meeting that we may have to increase the annual membership fees in 1995/96. X

However there were some exceptional and one-off capital expenditures in 1993 (e.g. fax machines) and only a detailed examination of all the accounts and books before the 1995 Secretaries' meeting will provide a fully researched financial position and some recommendations. This will be done by the European Commodore and Secretary well in advance of the 1995 meeting. All National Secretaries will be presented with a financial statement and the consequent recommendations four weeks before the meeting.

It is regretted that membership fees for the 1993/1994 season are still outstanding from:

Czech Republic
Germany
Lithuania.

The National Secretaries concerned are being approached for these outstanding fees which represent approx. DM.4,000.

Topic 17 Date of the ET-EC 1995 in The Netherlands

The Netherlands will host and organise the 1995 European Championships and European Trophy. The dates will be 13-17 February 1995 starting on Monday 13th with the European Championships. In the ice sailing conditions that have prevailed over the past few years an alternative site is highly likely to be required. The choice will be Germany, Denmark and Sweden in that order. [It appears that the World Championships in N. America are likely to be 23-27 January 1995.] As agreed at the 1993 Secretaries' Meeting in Stockholm, the 1996 Worlds will take place in Austria.

Topic 18 Questions from UK

As a result of several questions from the UK Secretary the following actions were agreed:

- a. The role and current work of the Technical Committee will be re-examined by the new EDNIYRA organisation; this will include their presence at European Championships and Secretaries' meetings.
- b. The role of the Technical Committee in protest procedure should be clarified.
- c. Secretary to investigate reactions of NIA to 1993 questions from European Commodore.

Topic 19 Questions from Bart Reedyk (Vice Commodore)

- a. In the interests of saving valuable racing time during major events, a proposal to finish races according to the Grand Prix motor racing format was considered. Although there was some support for the proposal there were also many reservations and it was agreed that this format should not be used for the 1995 European Championships. However it was agreed that it should be trialled in National championships and the results reported at the next National Secretaries' meeting.
- b. In recent events several boats have appeared with 2 side stay attachment points on each end of runner planks. It was agreed that a request for a ruling on the legality of this development should go to the Technical Committee.
- c. It was agreed that the Dolly marker, introduced in 1993/94 in Europe, is an extension of the Leeward Mark and is part of that Mark. It does not therefore breach the NIA ruling (1977) which reiterated that the ice boat course is sailed around two marks (Windward & Leeward).
- d. As indicated under Topic 15, an indemnity clause for entry forms was agreed.
- e. It was agreed that entry forms should require date of birth to be shown so that those eligible for Over 50 and Over 60 trophies can be identified.
- f. The proposed table of lap time limits was agreed and should be incorporated in the EDNIYRA rules.

Topic 20 Date and country of 1995 National Secretaries' Meeting

The Netherlands has agreed to host the 1995 National Secretaries' meeting in the Amsterdam area during the week-end of 6 & 7 May with an evening meal together on 5th May.

Topic 21 Questions from The Netherlands

- a. It was agreed that the "ad hoc" Secretaries' meetings during the championships in Poland proved useful but should only be convened if deemed necessary by the Commodore.
- b. The proposal to hold the annual National Secretaries' Meeting during the period of the major competitions was not agreed.
- c. It was agreed to form an European DN Icesailing Authority (EDNIA) which would assume amongst other roles that of Appeal Committee for European DN

racing disputes. Since the new Constitution will not be effective until the 1995/96 season it was agreed that the Commodore would approach some nominees to fulfil this function for the 1994/95 season. The nominees to be approached are:

Austria	-	Hannes Blazsovsky
Estonia	-	Endel Voorema
Germany	-	Christian Seegers
Sweden	-	Jan Hesselman.

Topic 22 Questions from Poland

Poland proposes to host the 1994 European and European Junior Championships in November/December at Gizycko. Entry fees will not be required. The dates have yet to be decided but the proposal is to have the first start at 1200 on a Friday and the last start at 1400 on the following Sunday, with a final decision on racing at 1200 on the preceding Wednesday.

Topic 23 Questions from Denmark

The proposal from Denmark to allow a line to be fitted to the boom end round the mast and back on to the boom end is to be passed to the Technical Committee for a ruling and decision before the 1994/1995 season. The line would be required for safety reasons and would not have any influence on a boat's performance.

The Commodore paid tribute to the great contribution Peter Schellhorn had made to European ice sailing during his two years in office as Commodore. He also thanked all Secretaries present for their help in working through such a large agenda so constructively. He looked forward to another successful season in 1994/95 and hoped to see more National Secretaries attending the next meeting in May 1995. In conclusion he again thanked Andreas Muller-Hartburg for the Austrian hospitality and excellent arrangements.