

International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association Europe
(IDNIYRA-Europe)
Minutes and Decisions of National Secretaries
Balatonfured, Hungary 19 - 21 April 2002

Present: The EUROPEAN COMMODORE – Hans Adolfsson
The EUROPEAN VICE COMMODORE & TREASURER- Rob Schutte
NATIONAL SECRETARIES from:
AUSTRIA – Heinrich Rakuschan (for Roland Travnicek) & Helmut Posch
DENMARK - Jorgen Holsoe
ESTONIA - Peter Sarashkin
GERMANY - Rainer Hinrichsen
HUNGARY – Gustav Koltay with Gabor Csernussi
THE NETHERLANDS - Johan Tolsma
POLAND - Stan Macur
SWEDEN – Vivianne Karlsson (for Jan Fagerberg)
UNITED KINGDOM - Chris Williams (& SECRETARY IDNIYRA-Europe)
WEBMASTER – Dietmar Gottke

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from LATVIA, LITHUANIA and SWITZERLAND

Proxy Votes: Austria for ITALY
Estonia for LATVIA
Poland for BELARUS and LITHUANIA

Topic 1 Opening Remarks and Review of Season 2001/2002

The meeting opening was preceded by a welcome from Mr. Istvan Boka, the Hungarian Member of Parliament for the Balaton area, and Dr. Pal Kiszely, the Deputy Mayor of Balatonfured. Mr. Boka expressed his great pleasure at the return of Ice Sailing to Hungary. IDNIYRA-Europe had provided the encouragement needed to develop the sport in Hungary after a long break. There was a long tradition of sailing in Hungary and Balaton was its centre. The 2001/2002 winter had shown the potential to extend the tourist season and the intention was to host the Austrian DN Championships there next season. This meeting would contribute to local knowledge of ice sailing. The World Championships in 2004 would be a major attraction.

Dr. Kiszely, as an ice sailor for 35 years, expressed his very great pleasure at the presence of the European National Secretaries, wished them a good meeting, and hoped for good sailing and competitions in Hungary in years to come.

The Commodore thanked Mr. Boka and Dr. Kiszely for their warm welcome and expressed his great pleasure at having Hungary back in IDNIYRA. He then opened the meeting, welcoming all present. He then asked for a formal vote on the admission of Belarus as a new member of IDNIYRA-Europe which was approved unanimously. The Secretary undertook to inform the Belarus Secretary by e-mail and the Commodore said he would write a formal letter.

ACTION: Commodore

European Secretary

Review of Season 2001/2002

The 2001/2002 icesailing season in Europe has been very much affected by strange weather conditions. Unusually warm winds spoiled sailing in Sweden, Finland and Poland whilst our enthusiastic Hungarian iceboaters sailed on black ice at Balaton for a month. The combined WC/EC Regatta was moved from the Mazurian Lakes in Poland to Parnu in Estonia due to bad ice conditions. At very short notice the ice broke away from the Parnu coastline four days before the Regatta opening.. At that moment very few alternative sites

were available. Most lakes in Sweden and Finland were still covered with snow or slush. The Regatta was moved to Haapsalu and encountered all kinds of weather conditions from rain, calm and sunny to snow storm. Thanks to an excellent Race Organisation led by Stan Macur and the combined WC/EC Regatta formula we managed to sail a total of 23 races with 192 participants in four fleets. The largest

Gold Cup event ever. We also had some new countries participating (Hungary, Norway). Ron Sherry (US 44) won the World and European Championship in the most dignified manner.

In close connection to the Gold Cup we could witness another important event. The 2002 DN Junior and Optimist Class WC. We were all impressed by the sailing skills and good racing performance demonstrated by those kids and juniors. It also reflects the long term work that has been performed by devoted trainers and local ice sailing clubs. The support of future development of the Optimist and junior icesailing will be a main objective for the IDNIYRA organisation.

I also want to comment the important work carried out by our webmaster Dietmar Gottke who has provided a very useful tool for this very information dependent sport. The possibility to announce the dramatic decisions to move the WC/EC from Poland to Parnu and later to Haapsalu on the website and to publish results was a great advantage.

A lot of work has been done by our secretary Chris Williams to investigate the way to proceed in order to propose ice sailing as an Olympic sport. This will be of utmost importance for the future of the icesailing sport.

With more countries joining the IDNIYRA family each year- this year Belarus – and the focus on juniors, ice optimists and the Olympic Games I am looking forward to next season.

Hans Adolfsson
Commodore IDNIYRA Europe

Before moving to the next topic the Secretary drew attention to the representation at the meeting which was: 8 countries actually present

4 countries present by proxy

which left 6 European countries effectively without representation. It was agreed that countries which were not able to attend should be encouraged to nominate a proxy for the meeting (the limit being no more than two proxies per country present at the meeting). It was also regretted that North America was unable to send a representative to the meeting.

Topic 2 Minutes of European Secretaries' Meeting 2001

After an amendment to Topic 19 (European Members of the Technical Committee) these were agreed as an accurate record and approved. Secretary undertook to issue the amendment.

ACTION: European Secretary

Topic 3 Matters Arising from Topic 2 not covered by this Agenda

a. List of Trophy Holders

It was agreed that the list of trophy holders should be included in the invitation to the major IDNIYRA-Europe regattas. For 2003 Estonia undertook to action with the assistance of the Vice Commodore.

ACTION: Vice Commodore and Estonia

b. National Membership Lists

The Secretary reported that most of these had been on time and in the correct format. For the current year they MUST be e-mailed to the North America Secretary and the European Secretary in **Excel format** (e.g. as used by Denmark and Estonia) by **September 1st, 2002**.

ACTION: National Secretaries

Topic 4 Letters to the Board

a. Banning the use of discard for a DSQ result

This item had been covered in the 2001 meeting Minutes but not included in the 2002 WC/EC Sailing Instructions. It was agreed that it should be carried forward for the 2003 EC with the wording remaining the same:

"The decision whether or not a DSQ should be allowed to be discarded (thrown out) in a sailor's scoring should rest with the Protest Committee. Their

judgement should be based on the severity of the infringement of the Racing Rule.”

It was further agreed that this should be included in the Sailing Instructions for the EC in Estonia in 2003. **ACTION: Estonia**

b. **IDNIYRA-Europe Investments**

The meeting agreed that the Treasurer should seek a higher interest rate for a proportion of the IDNIYRA-Europe funds. **ACTION: Treasurer**

c. **Quantity of fibreglass in hull and plank construction**

Germany undertook to make a proposal to the Technical Committee seeking clarification. **ACTION: Germany**

Topic 5 Financial Reports 2000/2001, 2001/2002 and Budget 2002/2003

It was agreed that the IDNIYRA-Europe Financial Year should be from 1st April to 31st March. This should be reflected in the IDNIYRA-Europe Constitution. After examination of the Accounts by Austria and the UK they were accepted by the meeting and are attached to these Minutes.

ACTION: Treasurer & Secretary

Topic 6 WC/EC 2002 Report and Trial Assessment

The WC/EC 2002 was assessed as a most successful regatta, very efficiently conducted despite a major move from Poland to Estonia at short notice and some very challenging weather conditions at Haapsalu. The record entry of 245 was reduced to 190 by the move. The Race Committee and the Polish organizers and helpers were congratulated on a very successful event. A report is attached to these Minutes. The trial combination of WC and EC aiming at “maximum sailing for all participants” had met that criteria successfully but the effect of reducing ranking point opportunities was a severe disadvantage. It was unanimously agreed to:

- a. Revert to the previous major regatta system of WC and EC as two separate events.
- b. Limit the entry for the EC to 200 and, subject to the agreement of the IDNIYRA-NA Board, limit the entry for the WC 2004 to 200.

ACTION: IDNIYRA-NA Board

It was further confirmed unanimously that the host country has the authority to use the entry fee money as they judge appropriate for a successful regatta and this includes responsibility for any profit or loss resulting from the event.

Topic 7 Junior DN and Optimist Ice Yacht, WC 2002 Report

The two events – Junior DN (16-21 years) and ice Optimist (up to 15) were very successfully run in the days before the WC/EC in excellent ice and wind conditions. The ice Optimist proved to be a fast and safe ice yacht under good control. Stan Macur and Matti Hool were congratulated on the success of this innovative event. It was agreed that the IDNIYRA-Europe subsidy of €10 per entry would continue to be paid for the 2002/2003 season.

ACTION: Treasurer

Topic 8 Junior Programme Report

Sweden presented an excellent 10 minute video and a PowerPoint presentation on the Optimist version of the junior ice yacht. The film material and pictures originated from Estonian Youth and Junior Ice sailing events and was provided by Parnu Yacht Club. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed to name the vessel the Ice Optimist and this would be reflected in all the plans and website references. The Secretary undertook to inform the International Optimist Dinghy Association of this decision. It was further agreed to link the Optimist and IDNIYRA-Europe websites.

ACTION: Secretary & Webmaster

The Ice Optimist plans were examined and discussed and several changes agreed to be inserted before the plans were released for the Junior Section on the IDNIYRA-Europe website www.icesailing.org In summary these were:

- Fuselage - minimum weight including hardware 12 kg.
- Plank - minimum weight “ “ 5 kg.
- Blocks - number of blocks and type optional
- Length - no minimum length
- Runners - minimum blade thickness 3 mm.
- Flotation - The boat must be able to float in open water

ACTION: Stan Macur and Jan Adsten

Topic 9 IDNIYRA-Europe Insurance Report

The Secretary briefed that the reasons for SLE declining to continue with Ice Yachting insurance cover was a combination of a significant loss of revenue over the seasons covered, and a major risk reassessment following 11th September 2001. It was agreed that although there was little evidence of insurance claims for the 2001/2002 season, progress should be monitored by National Secretaries.

ACTION: All National Secretaries

Topic 10 IDNIYRA-Europe - NA Contacts Report

The presence of several IDNIYRA-NA members at the Informal National Secretaries' meeting in Haapsalu had been greatly welcomed. The Minutes of the recent IDNIYRA-NA Annual Meeting were distributed to those present (uncorrected version).

Topic 11 Year Book and Runner Tracks

The meeting expressed a strong preference for *Runner Tracks* to be put on the website but acknowledged that for the moment this was not agreed by IDNIYRA-NA. The latest edition of the Year Book was welcomed but some errors in the listings of European Officials had been noted. The Secretary undertook to correct these via the NA Secretary.

ACTION: Secretary

Topic 12 Internet Development

The Webmaster gave a comprehensive brief (online and offline) on his proposals for substantial improvements in the service to be provided by the IDNIYRA-Europe website. This included actions which should be taken in 2002 through to 2004. The following were agreed for 2002:

- a. Central ice reports for Europe
- b. Central regatta information
- c. Central regatta registration
- d. Start membership database for full implementation in 2004.

For 2003: Rule adaptation to web communication

For 2004: Web based database with all national entries.

Web based ballot vote procedure.

It was also agreed to fund the acquisition of a Lap top computer with the necessary connections and interfaces plus All Risks Insurance. It was agreed that funds would be provided to purchase some software programmes e.g. Forum and DataBase and software updates when justified and available. A budget of €5000 was unanimously agreed and would be included in the overall Budget for

2002/2003. Links with ISAF and Optimist websites would be set up. The Webmaster was congratulated and thanked for the significant improvements on the Website in 2001/2002, his quick and responsive service, frequently in his own time, and his far-reaching proposals for further improvements covered by his excellent brief.

ACTION: Webmaster

Treasurer

Topic 13 IDNIYRA Constitution Report

It was regretted that little significant progress had been made with the Draft Constitution (Aug 2000) and it was AGREED that IDNIYRA-Europe should now concentrate on tidying up its own section so that it could be agreed in Europe before being passed to the NA Secretary for inclusion in the next edition of the Year Book. In addition to correction of errors already identified, the following were to be included:

- a. Adjust Fiscal Year for Europe to April 1st to March 31st
- b. Adjust European Board election sequence [see Topic 34]
- c. Define Webmaster's function
- d. Electronic voting possibilities.

The Secretary undertook to lead on the above and e-mail the final version to the Commodore before all European National Secretaries for agreement. It was agreed that this must be done in time to pass to the NA Secretary by September 1st for publication. The Webmaster undertook to provide text for his function and the electronic voting possibilities. **ACTION: Secretary**

Webmaster

Topic 14 Racing Etiquette

A number of breaches of DN sailing etiquette had been noted at the WC/EC. These included:

Protest forms incorrectly used (if at all) and in particular racing rule infringed not identified.

Running straight up wind from the start line (up to 100 metres)

It was agreed that the Race Committee should be encouraged to ensure these breaches do not recur. **ACTION: Race Committees**

Topic 15 EC 2003 Estonia

It was confirmed that Estonia would host the European Championships in 2003. The dates were set at **Saturday 1st March until Saturday 8th March 2003**. The Opening Ceremony would be 5 pm 1st March and qualifications races start on Sunday 2nd March. Entry limit was agreed as 200 maximum and the aim would be seven races for all four Fleets. The entry fee was set at €100 plus €30 per start place (for IDNIYRA-Europe entries).

The European Trophy would be run after the EC if time and weather allowed and would be without entry fee.

The Secretary reported that it was likely that Drambuie would sponsor the Championships and negotiations were under way. It was planned to make a high quality film of the event at no cost to IDNIYRA-Europe. The sponsoring contract was to be established between IDNIYRA-Europe and the Sponsor.

ACTION: Estonia
Secretary

Topic 16 World Championships (Gold Cup) and NA Championships

IDNIYRA-NA (Eastern Lakes Area) would host the WC 2003, starting on **Saturday 8th February completing Saturday 15th February**. The NA Championships would follow the WC.

Topic 17 DN Junior and Ice Optimist World Championships 2003

Sweden (Vivianne Karlsson) informed about the Swedish offer to host the DN Junior and Ice Optimist World Championships 2003. The Commodore announced that the Swedish Sports Confederation's 100th Anniversary would be in 2003 and that the Junior Worlds might be included in the selection of 100 sports events.

It was agreed that DN Junior and Ice Optimist WC 2003 would be hosted by Sweden **from 21st to 23rd February**. This would be preceded by a **training camp from 18th to 20th February**. **ACTION: Sweden**

Topic 18 Host for National Secretaries' Meeting 2003

Estonia's offer to host the 2003 meeting in Tallinn was accepted with pleasure. The dates were set at **25th to 27th April 2003**. **ACTION: Estonia**

Topic 19 WC/EC 2004 (Hungary)

It was planned to hold these events on Lake Balaton from **18th to 25th January, 2004**. Hungary accepted Poland's kind offer to provide assistance with the Race Committee and organization. Subject to a survey in 2003, these events would be preceded by a **training camp for Juniors 12th to 14th January** and the World Junior Championships and Ice Optimist World Championships **from 15th to 17th January**.

ACTION: Hungary, Poland, Commodore, Secretary

Topic 20 EC 2005

The Netherlands' offer to host the European Championships in 2005 was gratefully accepted. **ACTION: The Netherlands**

Topic 21 Technical Committee – Report

There was no report from the European members of the Technical Committee. The Executive Board and the meeting expressed disappointment at the apparent lack of activity. It was acknowledged that without proposals from IDNIYRA-Europe members there was little at present for the Technical Committee to do. However, several proposals already submitted had not been actioned and after considerable discussion it was AGREED that these should be re-submitted with a copy going to the IDNIYRA-Europe Executive Board so that progress could be monitored. Any new proposals should also be copied to the Board.

**ACTION: European Technical Committee Members
All originators of proposals to the Committee
IDNIYRA-Europe Executive Board**

Topic 22 Election of European Member of Technical Committee

Karol Jablonski had acted as a temporary replacement for Daan Schutte who had resigned following the 2001 Secretaries' Meeting, and as the only candidate was elected by majority vote to serve for a period of six years as a European member of the Technical Committee.

ACTION: Secretary, Poland

The European members of the Technical Committee were therefore:

Anders Cederblad	elected 1999
Andreas Bock	elected 2001
Karol Jablonski	elected 2002.

Topic 23 Election of IDNIYRA-Europe Board Members

The Commodore briefed that in accordance with the IDNIYRA-Europe Constitution, Executive Board members should stand for election every two years. At present all the Board members were due to stand for re-election at this meeting. This provided the possibility of a complete change of leadership and consequent loss of continuity. In order to avoid this possibility it was proposed to amend the Constitution so that only two Board members would be required to stand every two years. In order to achieve this it would be necessary, on this occasion only, for two members to stand for an additional year. This was unanimously agreed and the following were elected unanimously:

Hans Adolfsson, Commodore	for one year
Chris Williams, Secretary	for one year
Rob Schutte, Vice Commodore	for two years
Stan Macur, Top Sailor	for two years.

ACTION: Secretary

Topic 24 National Iceboat Authority (NIA) – Nomination of European Candidates

The Secretary briefed that the European nominations submitted to Jane Pegel following the 2001 Secretaries' Meeting had not met the NIA Board's revised parameters which seek *young and active sailors with leadership*. The Commodore briefed that so far only one candidate had been identified. Following considerable discussion it was agreed that although more potential candidates had now been identified, they would have to be consulted as to their willingness to have their names put forward before further action could be taken. All National Secretaries and the Executive Board were encouraged to identify willing candidates and pass their names to the Commodore and Secretary so that nominations could progress.

**ACTION: National Secretaries
Executive Board**

Topic 25 Winter Olympics – Report

The Secretary provided a brief on the current position for Ice Sailing in the Winter Olympics, summarized as follows:

- a. The International Sailing Federation (ISAF) took the original initiative with IDNIYRA-Europe in 1995/96 when they briefed on the possibility of Winter Olympic participation. ISAF support had remained firm and if anything increased.
- b. It followed that Ice Sailing would one day be part of the Winter Olympics. If not the DN it would be another class, which would have the effect of significantly reducing DN Participation worldwide.
- c. Under the present IOC Rules the earliest participation as a New Sport would be 2010.
- d. The list of potential bidding cities for 2010 had been announced:

Andorra La Vella	(Andorra)
Bern	(Switzerland)
Harbin	(People's Republic of China)
Jaca	(Spain)
Pyeongchang	(Korea)
Salzburg	(Austria)
Sarajevo	(Bosnia & Herzegovina)
Vancouver	(Canada).

The final selection of bidding city candidates would be made by the IOC Executive Board on 28/29 August 2002. The host city for the XXI Olympic Games in 2010 would be selected in Prague on 2nd July, 2003. Ice Sailing would have to be part of the winning bid if it was to participate.

- e. ISAF had started to identify key personalities who needed to be lobbied for any progress towards Olympic participation. These were within ISAF and the bidding cities.
- f. The IDNIYRA continued to be an Affiliate Member of ISAF but would in due course need to be a full Member. This would cost marginally more annually but ensure fuller support.
- g. ISAF were well aware of what Olympic status could do to a class in terms of creating a split in specification interpretation. A good example was the Tornado. However, this need not happen and had not in most other classes e.g. Laser. The most effective counter measure was avoidance of loose specifications. To this end ISAF had already offered to assist IDNIYRA in tightening the specifications, and this would seem to be a significant task for the IDNIYRA Technical Committee, together with ISAF.
- h. The Board had been assured that they would retain control of the DN class Specifications and Racing Rules and it was made clear from the first meetings with ISAF that this was a non-negotiable condition.
- i. The present IDNIYRA By Laws covered the Gold Cup World Championships, the North American Championships and the European Championships. It was therefore probable that a change by two-thirds majority vote would be needed if the Winter Olympics were to be included in them.
- j. It was known that there was some opposition to Winter Olympic participation amongst the IDNIYRA membership.
- k. A class vote must be based upon full knowledge of all the facts, both for and against, and this would entail a period of informed articles in *Runner Tracks* and in particular on the website, where it is intended to set up a Winter Olympic discussion forum.
- l. The European initiative to introduce the Ice Optimist is considered a very significant development in the campaign to encourage young people to come and ice sail. These were to-morrow's top DN sailors and the future of the DN. They would also be the potential Winter Olympic participants.
- m. So far the Secretary had been conducting Winter Olympic negotiations almost single-handed but with the considerable advantage of living within 20 km. of ISAF HQ in Southampton. Help would be needed from across the DN community and in due course, a budget.
- n. There was a good deal to be done and the clock was ticking. The meeting APPROVED by majority vote the Secretary's offer to continue with the Winter Olympic campaign and to set up a working/support group with participants from several DN countries. A small budget was approved as an interim measure (€1000) and continuation of work towards a special public relations film was agreed. The Commodore thanked the Secretary for his comprehensive brief.

ACTION: Secretary

Webmaster

Topic 26 Any Other Business

(i) Safety

It was agreed that IDNIYRA-Europe had initiated some safety measures in recent years e.g. the Dolly marks and Red/Green colours on DN fuselage (Port & Starboard), however it was considered that more could and should be done:

- a. Fuselage colours should be made a formal specification change proposal and sent to the Technical Committee. Netherlands undertook to action.
ACTION: Netherlands
- b. Safety Officer at Regattas After lengthy discussion it was AGREED that the Race Committee Chairman should ensure that this official was

appointed, identified and given clear responsibilities. He/she should also be named on the Sailing Instructions for the Regatta.

ACTION: Race Committee Chairmen

- c. Alcohol and Drugs It was acknowledged that so far Ice Sailing had had minimal problems with alcohol or drugs but Race Committees needed to be prepared to take appropriate counter measures, with reference included in the Sailing Instructions. **ACTION: Race Committee Chairmen**
- d. Availability of Accident facilities It was AGREED that these should be identified clearly in the Sailing Instructions for any IDNIYRA-Europe regatta. **ACTION: IDNIYRA-Europe Regatta Organisers**
Race Committee Chairmen
- e. Limitation of number of Runners This was discussed at length and it was agreed that the Race Committee could choose to have the maximum of nine runners declared before or during the event. The procedure of measuring must be declared in the sailing instructions. **ACTION: Race Committee**
- f. Tiller hazard The Secretary briefed that although the likelihood of serious injury being caused by the tiller impacting on a skipper's face, throat or chest following a high speed collision was rare, this had happened, and a safety counter measure should be considered. Some skippers had already taken good safety action with a "weak" link on the tiller post which allowed the tiller to break off at that point under excessive pressure/force and thus minimize damage to the skipper. **ACTION: Secretary**
The meeting AGREED that with the likely considerable increase in Junior ice sailing all safety measures would become much more important and action needed to be started at once. **ACTION: All National Secretaries**
- (ii) International Festival of the Sea (IFOS) (Portsmouth) 24th-27th August 2001
The Secretary reported that the Ice Yacht stand had been a great success with much interest from young people in particular. The stand contained a DN and an Ice Optimist together with a fully restored 95 year old Dutch stern steerer. He paid tribute to sponsor BSC Consulting, the many volunteers who helped to make the stand, provide boats (and a mobile home), make a promotional video (free of charge) and man the stand for the four days. As a direct result of this project it was anticipated that there would be some UK juniors next season. The next IFOS was to take place in Edinburgh, Scotland from **23rd to 26th May 2003**. Volunteers to help with a stand would be welcome. **ACTION: Secretary**

The Commodore thanked all present for their time, attendance and constructive participation at a very successful meeting. He thanked the Hungarian hosts for all the excellent arrangements and hospitality provided and wished everybody a safe journey home. The meeting closed at 1215 Sunday 21st.