

International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association Europe
(IDNIYRA-Europe)
Minutes and Decisions of National Secretaries
Riga, Latvia 22 - 24 April 2005

Present:

IDNIYRA Europe Executive Board
European Commodore - Hans Adolfsson
Vice Commodore & Treasurer - Rob Schutte
Top Sailor - Stan Macur
Secretary - Chris Williams

National Secretaries

AUSTRIA - Niklas Muller-Hartburg (for Peter Munich)
DENMARK - Jorgen Holsoe
ESTONIA (Sunday) - Mati Hool with Mihkel Kosk (for Peter Sharaskin)
FINLAND - Reko-Anti Suojanen
GERMANY - Joerg Bohn
HUNGARY - Attila Pataki (for Gustav Koltay)
LATVIA - Ziedonis Antapsons with Gunnars Rozenbergs
LITHUANIA - Vadimas Grigonis
NETHERLANDS - Rob Schutte (for Johan Tolsma)
POLAND - Tomek Zakrzewski
SWEDEN - Ronnie Bjorkrot with Vivi-Anne Karlsson (Junior Programme)
UNITED KINGDOM - Chris Williams

NORTH AMERICA - Andre Baby, Commodore NA
Webmaster - Dietmar Gottke

Proxy Votes: CZECH REPUBLIC by Austria
BELARUS by Lithuania
ESTONIA by Finland (Saturday only)
ITALY by Austria
NORWAY by Sweden
SWITZERLAND by Germany

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Belarus, Estonia, Norway, Russia and The Netherlands. (Johan Tolsma whose letter of appreciation is attached)

Before the meeting opened the Commodore introduced Mr. Ansis Dale (O-13), Vice President of the Latvian Sailing Association, who welcomed all present to the city of Riga with its long Ice Sailing tradition stretching back to the late 19th Century.

Topic 1 Opening Remarks and Review of Season 2004/2005

The Commodore welcomed all present to the meeting with special greetings to the new German National Secretary (Joerg Bohn) and the NA Commodore Andre Baby. He noted that the attendance of 11 National Secretaries was the best for many years and with Proxies, 17 out of 18 European Nations were represented. His review of the season included the following highlights:

- (a) Congratulations to the Dutch Race Committee for the successful running of the EC 2005 regatta in very difficult and challenging weather conditions, and to the DN sailors who took part despite the move from Sweden to Finland (**Topic 6**).
- (b) Congratulations to the Polish Race Committee for the successful Junior DN and Ice Optimist World and European Championships with 6 Nations participating (**Topic 7**).
- (c) A summary of the Junior programme development with encouraging progress in NA, Estonia, Hungary, Russia and Sweden (**Topic 8**).
- (d) Progress on the Anti-Doping Policy (**Topic 15**).
- (e) The establishment of the Fiskeboda Ice Sailing Centre with very good ice for most of February, March and early April which enabled a very successful Junior Training Camp and the XV Square Metres European Championships held in early March.
- (f) The Golden Runner (details see **Topic 25**).

Topic 2 Minutes of European Secretaries' Meeting 2004

Following the emailed correction to the Norwegian Secretary's name, these were AGREED.

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

Actions on Trophies were reported as completed.

Topic 4 Letters to the Board

There were letters from Germany, Austria, UK, Sweden and Finland.

Germany

(a) *Changing the date of the IDNIYRA Secretaries Meeting to the week in which the European Championship is held*

This was discussed at considerable length with all the pros and cons being examined and balanced. A vote was taken from all National Secretaries, including proxies, and the proposal was ACCEPTED by 9 votes to 8. It was AGREED that as a trial the next (2006) National Secretaries' meeting would be held during the WC/EC in Finland (see **Topic 16**) but as a precaution, in the event of a site move or insufficient time, a back-up National Secretaries' 2006 meeting was planned for Vienna April 21-23, 2006.

(b) *To reduce expenditure, combine the position of Treasurer with that of Vice Commodore*

It was AGREED that where practicable the job of Treasurer would be combined with that of Vice Commodore. Words to this effect would be incorporated in the revision of "The Organisation of IDNIYRA Europe" (pp. 63-67, Year Book).

(c) *Eliminate the position of Top Active Sailor*

Discussion led to AGREEMENT to rename this post as the Junior Programme Manager.

(d) *National Championships: Highest ranked sailors of each participating nation to start without prequalification in "A" Fleet*

It was considered that although the National Secretaries could not impose this on any National Championship, this was AGREED in principle and supported so that "In any country's National Championship the highest ranked sailor (in the International Ranking List) from each participating nation should be allowed to start in the "A" Fleet without prequalification".

Austria

(a) *IDNIYRA Europe to have a "professional" race committee, paid for by IDNIYRA-Europe*

Lengthy discussion revealed that use of a professional race committee would involve considerable additional cost (much higher entry fee), employment and insurance responsibilities, and in addition would prevent host nations from the learning experience of running a major regatta (which many prefer to retain). IDNIYRA-Europe already owns some of the necessary regatta equipment e.g. portable shelters and measuring templates, and more could be purchased when needed. It was DECIDED to retain the present host national race committee system.

(b) *Late Entry rules following a move from the original host country territory*

It was AGREED that this question had been fully covered at the 2003 meeting in Tallinn under Topic 4, D-F. Austria had not been present or represented at that meeting.

(c) *Finish Line and Lap Time Limit*

See **Topic 14**.

United Kingdom

(a) *Pushing/Running* - See **Topic 14**.

(b) *Constitution* - See **Topic 13**.

Sweden

Change the Finishing Line – See **Topic 14**.

Finland

(a) *The future of T Runners* – See **Topic 10**.

(b) *Recommended a brochure/leaflet for the DN sport in English*

It was AGREED that this should be progressed. One already existed and was being updated, also an Ice Optimist brochure/leaflet.

See **Topic 13**.

ACTION: Secretary

(c) www.icesailing.org stickers or other advertising material

This was SUPPORTED and already exists in some countries.

Topic 5 Financial Report 2004/2005 and Budget 2005/2006

Both reports were briefed by the Treasurer [attached to these Minutes]. The accounts were checked by Germany and Finland and found correct. Under Expenses:

- (a) the unusually high cost of the National Secretaries' meeting was due to a "one off" decision to cover the costs of the few who attended in order to encourage better attendance at future meetings.
- (b) the €600 expenditure for the 3rd prize EC Perpetual Trophy was due to an error by Michael Burcynski and it was AGREED that he would be invited to pay €300 to IDNIYRA-Europe. The additional trophy purchased due to this error would be reassigned to another award.

**ACTION: POLAND
Treasurer**

The budget for 2005/2006 was AGREED.

Topic 6 EC 2005 Report

The Vice Commodore briefed the EC 2005, expressing thanks for his very hard-working Race Committee, who spent many weeks of meticulous preparation in the lead-up to the event and then many hours (and days) anxiously trying to locate sailable ice for 179 sailors from 16 nations. The move from Sweden to Finland stretched the planned budget and the great help from both the Swedish and Finnish local ice sailors was very much appreciated. The considerable sponsorship arranged for the event resulted in the reduction of the potential deficit, caused by the extensive travel costs, to €463.04 and the Netherlands very generously offered to cover this from their National funds. The meeting ACCEPTED the Financial Report from the event [*attached to these Minutes*] and Holland was congratulated on running a very well prepared EC Regatta in very challenging conditions with 13 races (A – 5, B – 4, C – 4).

Topic 7 WC/EC Junior DN and Ice Optimist 2005 Report

This event was hosted by Poland on Lake Dadaj from 3 to 6 March. The 69 participants (35 Junior DNs and 34 Ice Optimists) were from 6 countries: Estonia, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom, Poland and Latvia. The two-day event had contrasting weather with snow and light winds and difficult sailing conditions on the first race day (Sat.) and heavy wind with fast sailing on the Sunday and final day. Stan Macur was congratulated on a very successful event which had the largest number of participants so far in the Junior Programme. [*Financial Report attached to these Minutes*]. It was AGREED that the small loss would be offset by a grant of €100 from IDNIYRA- Europe.

ACTION: Treasurer

The Secretary raised the issue of the Optimist logo and disc on the sails. In the agreement with the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) a condition of their giving permission for use of the Optimist rig and sail in the Ice Optimist was the requirement to have both logo and disc on the sails of participants in major regattas (WC/EC). A "one off" exception was made by the International Jury for the 13 participants who had neither logo nor disc on their sails on this occasion, but this would not be allowed to happen again and would be re-emphasised in Junior Programme meetings and in Race Instructions. **ACTION: Junior Programme Organisers**

Topic 8 Junior Programme Report

It was reported that apart from Fiskeboda in Sweden, sailing conditions had been difficult and reduced the Junior activities. Fiskeboda had an outstanding season with Juniors in the DN and in the Ice Optimist from Ireland, France, Sweden and the UK. Stan Macur emphasized the costs and difficulties of moving the regatta site for a Junior competition. It was AGREED that in this event a postponement was the better and more practical option. Vivi-Anne Karlsson suggested that Junior Programme meetings should continue and this was SUPPORTED by all present. Encouraging progress in NA was reported by the NA Commodore. Much further discussion took place [*summarized in the Minutes of the Junior Programme Meeting*].

Topic 9 IDNIYRA-Europe Insurance report

The Danish claim reported in the Amsterdam Minutes (Topic 9) had been settled at DK.12000. The discussion was very full and the following key points emerged:

- (a) Sweden had succeeded in arranging a special cover for groups of ice sailors in DN and Ice Optimists with FOLKSAM. Details available from Hans Adolfsson.
- (b) Some difficulty was reported in dealings with Berckmeyer & Siemsen
- (c) There had been evidence of the cost of damage repair following an accident being inflated. It was agreed that this was a fraudulent practice and not in the interest of any ice sailors since it could eventually make it very difficult to get any insurance at all.
- (d) It was AGREED that documentation for any claim should always be
- (1) The Protest Committee findings (in a Regatta)
 - (2) A realistic damage assessment by a Technical Committee member (in a Regatta)
 - (3) In non-regatta incidents a competent equivalent of the above should accompany the claim

The Secretary undertook to write to the Insurers Berckmeyer & Siemsen

ACTION: Secretary

This procedure would be included in the revision of "The Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe".

ACTION: Secretary

Topic 10 IDNIYRA-Europe NA contact report

The NA Commodore was welcomed and thanked for his presence at the meeting. The main points in his brief were:

- (a) The IDNIYRA Constitution – covered under **Topic 13**.
- (b) The NA Annual Meeting [*Minutes attached*] from which the following were to be balloted:
 - (i) Number of races in the Gold Cup. To be effective 2006. It had been proposed to ballot this in May. NA Commodore agreed to postpone this ballot until September to provide time for IDNIYRA-Europe to vote since it would affect the WC in Finland in 2006.

ACTION: NA Commodore

- (ii) Eliminate T Runners
- (iii) Boom Jaw to be optional.

All three would now be balloted in the Fall (September). The ballot forms will be on the website and in *Runner Tracks*. IDNIYRA-Europe votes must be individual, signed by the voter with sail number, and returned either direct to the NA Secretary or (preferably) to the appropriate European National Secretary for forwarding in bulk to the NA Secretary. It was AGREED that Air/Surface mail or Email scanning would be acceptable.

IT WAS EMPHASISED THAT ALL REGISTERED EUROPEAN DN SAILORS WHO ARE PAID UP MEMBERS OF THEIR NATIONAL DN ORGANISATIONS ARE ENTITLED TO VOTE IN CLASS BALLOTS.

ACTION: All IDNIYRA National Secretaries

The NA Commodore concluded by encouraging and welcoming more European participation in NA regattas.

Topic 11 Year Book and Runner Tracks

Discussion revealed that many IDNIYRA-Europe Secretaries had not received the November 2004 *Runner Tracks* despite the arrangements in place. NA Commodore undertook to investigate and ensure that the dispatch of both *Runner Tracks* and the Year Book to all the European Executive Board, National Secretaries and European members of the Technical Committee via a European distributor (Christian Seegers at present) was functioning properly. The strong desire to have *Runner Tracks* on the internet was re-emphasised and the NA Commodore briefed that they were considering placing it on the website (PDF) two months after hard copy publication.

ACTION: NA Commodore

Topic 12 Internet Communication – IDNIYRA-Europe

The Webmaster provided a very comprehensive and detailed brief. [*His short summary is attached to these Minutes*]. He put considerable emphasis on the need to make more use of the internet IDNIYRA-Europe administration e.g. National membership lists, central regatta information, Race Instructions etc. He also highlighted the advantages of using the Skype software to greatly reduce the cost of telephone calls. He was warmly thanked for his excellent presentation and another year of significant progress in IDNIYRA-Europe use of the internet.

Topic 13 IDNIYRA Constitution Report

The Secretary reported that there had been no progress on the proposed IDNIYRA-Europe version of the Constitution which had been on the IDNIYRA-Europe website in draft form for 1 year. There had also not been any progress on this subject at the recent NA Annual Meeting. He therefore proposed to update the "Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe" (pp. 63-67 in the Year Book) and include all appropriate matter from the draft Constitution. In addition he offered to include any relevant matter from National Secretaries' Meeting Minutes over recent years (back to approx. 1992). This update would be circulated via the internet in the course of the next 5 months so that it could be agreed by IDNIYRA-Europe and included in the 2006/2007 Year Book. This proposal was welcomed and ACCEPTED. In the meantime action on the revision of the IDNIYRA Constitution remains with IDNIYRA-NA, and IDNIYRA-Europe would await further discussion.

ACTION: Secretary

The NA Commodore undertook to check the status of the existing "Constitution" vis-à-vis Michigan State Law.

ACTION: NA Commodore

Topic 14 Racing Rules

Three items were raised:

- (a) Finish Line – by Austria and Sweden

Austria considered that the finish line between the Leeward Mark and the Start Line as used in the 2005 German Championships was dangerous.

Sweden proposed to change the Finish Line from its present arrangement at right angles and to Port (looking upwind) of the Leeward Mark, to a line of 45° between the Leeward Mark and the Start Line with all yachts turning to Port when finishing. A discussion concluded that both "new and proposed" arrangements were dangerous and AGREED that IDNIYRA-Europe would continue to use the NIA

finish line, ensuring that the distances between the Leeward Mark and the Start Line and Race Committee were both adequate in the prevailing wind and ice conditions. It was also RECOMMENDED that a traffic cone (of different colour from that of the Dolly Mark) should be placed with the Scorers and Race Committee at the end of the Finish Line.

ACTION: All Race Committees

(b) Lap Time Limit – by Austria

Austria sought clarification of the lap time limit. It was pointed out that this is covered in both the By Laws – NIA Racing Rules D (p. 59, Year Book) and IDNIYRA Standard Sailing Instructions VI (p. 68, Year Book). In both places it clearly states that it is based on the distance between the marks and the lap is twice the distance between the marks. The standard used is 6¹/₂ minutes per mile and with one mile between marks this provides a lap time limit of 13 minutes. The Secretary suggested that it should also be stated in metric measurement (kms.) and this could be part of a necessary revision (update) of By Laws. NA Commodore supported such a revision (cleanup).

ACTION: Secretary

(c) Pushing/Running – by UK

The Secretary/UK raised the issue of illegal pushing and running in light air conditions. It had been a significant problem in the World and European Ice Optimist Championships with much running directly at the Race Marks and over the Finish Line with a resultant 20 DSQs! He pointed out that the present NIA Racing Rule D Propulsion (p. 71, Year Book) was too broad and non specific for DN and Ice Optimist sailing. Sweden had successfully used the Viking Diagram [attached] for several years and significantly reduced illegal pushing/running. He proposed that this should be introduced into IDNIYRA-Europe Regatta Racing Instructions in order to control illegal pushing/running, starting in the 2005/2006 season and subsequently be considered as an addition to the Racing Rules (By Laws p.59, Year Book) This came under the heading of FAIR SAILING and the proposal was AGREED for implementation in the 2005/2006 season.

**ACTION: All Race Committees
Secretary**

(d) Tie Breaker

This was raised in discussion and although the method was well covered in the By Laws DN Race System c (p.54, Year Book) the Secretary undertook to seek any clarification in previous IDNIYRA Secretaries' meeting Minutes.

Topic 15 Anti Doping Policy

The Secretary provided an update on progress:

- (a) All IDNIYRA-Europe nations were now signed up to the Copenhagen Declaration (Anti Doping).
- (b) Germany, Poland and Sweden DN organizations were part of their National Sailing Associations and therefore their ice sailors were liable to random dope testing by their respective National anti doping organizations.
- (c) IDNIYRA-Europe had now formally accepted the WADA Anti Doping Code and this could be found at www.WADA-AMA.org Click on Code Acceptance and scroll down to "OTHERS".
- (d) Telephone and email contact had been established with Mr. Tom Dielan, the WADA Director for European Sport, and he had been very helpful with advice.
- (e) The IDNIYRA-Europe Code still had to be fully developed. The present difficulty was the means to implement it – only Germany, Poland and Sweden had this.
- (f) It was emphasized that at no time had it been suggested that IDNIYRA-Europe had a doping problem; however, an anti doping policy would be a significant deterrent and was very much in the interests of FAIR SAILING.

In discussion the NA Commodore questioned the position of NA sailors competing in Europe. It was AGREED that at present only DN sailors from Germany, Poland and Sweden would be subject to dope testing.

ACTION: Secretary

Topic 16 WC/EC 2006 (Finland)

Finland confirmed their offer to host the WC/EC2006 and the planned dates were 4 – 11 March with Registration on 4th and first race on 5th. The planned site was Lake Pyhajarvi. A Race Committee had already been established and an internet site would be set up.

ACTION: Finland

Topic 17 DN Juniors and Ice Optimist WC/EC 2006

These would be hosted by Estonia at Parnu from 15 – 19 February and preceded by a training camp. The reserve dates in case of adverse weather/ice would be 15 – 19 March.

ACTION: Estonia

Topic 18 NA 2006

The NA Commodore briefed that the Eastern Region would host and NA Secretary would inform IDNIYRA-Europe as soon as dates were decided.

ACTION: NA Secretary

Topic 19 Host Secretaries Meeting 2006

As agreed under Topic 4, this meeting would be held on a trial basis in conjunction with the WC/EC in Finland. Jorg Bohn offered to coordinate facility arrangements. As a contingency in case of insufficient time or site move, Austria offered to host a replacement meeting, should this be necessary, in Vienna 21 – 23 April. The offers from Jorg Bohn and Austria were gratefully accepted.

ACTION: Jorg Bohn & Austria

Topic 20 EC/ET 2007

Sweden's offer to host the EC/ET 2007 was welcomed and accepted with gratitude.

ACTION: Sweden

Topic 21 Winter Olympics report

The Secretary reported that Winter Olympic participation for Ice Sailing remained a possibility, at the earliest in 2014. The decision on the host city would be made by the Olympic Committee in July 2007. Media interest in the sport had greatly increased as had interest from some potential event sponsors. Guaranteed ice was the major difficulty but the campaign would continue.

Topic 22 NIA –European participation

It was AGREED that although the DN was represented in the NIA it is a North American Authority and therefore no further action on European participation was intended.

Topic 23 Technical Committee report

Andreas Bock reported, via Joerg Bohn, that cooperation between Technical Committee members had been good and opinions on new proposals had been exchanged several times. The proposals on which a Class vote would be held this autumn had had European Technical Committee input

Topic 24 Election of IDNIYRA-Europe Officers

- (i) The following were unanimously elected for a two-year term:

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------|
| Commodore | - | Rob Schutte |
| Vice Commodore | - | Christian Seegers |
| Secretary | - | Chris Williams |
| Webmaster | - | Dietmar Gottke |
- (ii) The European Technical Committee member Dag Eriksson was re-elected for a 6 year term.
- (iii) As agreed under Topic 4, the Top Sailor position was re-named Junior Programme Manager. Stan Macur would be due for reelection at the 2006 meeting.

Topic 25 Any Other Business

- (a) The Golden Runner This trophy had been produced by Sweden in tribute to Ilmars Zarins (Imme – S-510). *[Details of the award process are attached to these Minutes]*
- (b) Fees for WC/EC Junior events After discussion it was AGREED that
 - (i) Juniors taking part in Senior EC/WC regattas would pay half the entry fee and no IDNIYRA-Europe fee (€30).
 - (ii) For WC/EC Juniors and Ice Optimist regattas the entry fee would be €20 with a further €20 from IDNIYRA-Europe funds up to a maximum of €1000.
- (c) Loss of ranking due to involvement in organizing a major regatta Any change to the ranking rules would require a By Law change and a class vote. Netherlands undertook to draft a proposal.

ACTION: Netherlands

The new Commodore paid tribute to Hans Adolfsson who had worked so hard in many areas of ice sailing during his 5 years in office. The significant expansion of the Junior programme (the future of the class) and the successful establishment of the Fiskeboda Ice Sailing Centre were largely due

to his drive, leadership and enthusiasm. Few sailors fully appreciate how much dedication, work, time and travel are involved in the role of Commodore. A farewell gift was presented.

The meeting closed at 1230 hrs on Sunday 24 April and the Commodore thanked all members for attending and wished them a safe journey home.