

IDNIYRA-Europe
International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association Europe
IDNIYRA-Europe Society e.V.
Minutes and Decisions of National Secretaries
Parnu, Estonia 15 – 17 April 2011

Present:	<u>IDNIYRA Europe Executive Board</u>	
	Commodore	Joerg Bohn
	Vice Commodore	Attila Pataki
	Treasurer	Christian Seegers
	Junior Programme Manager	Stan Macur
	Secretary	Chris Williams
	Webmaster	Dietmar Gottke
	<u>National Secretaries</u>	
	Denmark	Daniel Hansen
	Estonia	Mihkel Kosk
	Finland	Reko Anti Suojanen
	Germany	Joerg Bohn
	Latvia	Ziedonis Antapsons
	Netherlands	Hennie van den Brink
	Poland	Jerzy Henke
	Russia	Oleg Vasilyez
	Sweden	Tomas Lindgren
	United Kingdom	Chris Williams
	United States	Geoff Sobering
	<u>Proxy votes</u>	
	Austria & Czech Republic	represented by Christian Seegers
	Belarus	rep by Russia
	Hungary	rep by Attila Pataki
	Norway	rep by Sweden
	Switzerland	rep by UK
	Insurance Manager	rep by Joerg Bohn
Apologies	Niklas Mueller-Hartburg (Insurance Manager)	
	Czech Republic	
	Norway	
	Switzerland	

Topic 1 Opening remarks and Review of the Season 2006/2007

The Commodore opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance and thanking Mihkel Kosk and his supporting team for all the excellent arrangements which included transport to and from Tallinn and the accommodation and meeting facilities.

Review of the Season 2010/2011

The Commodore expressed his appreciation and thanks for the help received from many people to "spread the load" during the season. This team effort from the Board, the ice scouts in many countries, and National Secretaries made his job of locating a good site for the EC much easier.

Denmark Very good season starting early December with 3 days of excellent sailing: sunshine, wind, clear ice and no cracks or holes! Snow delayed more sailing until Christmas period. Lot of hard sailing in Jutland and especially Roskildefjord. Jutland championship not completed, with only 2 races. Seeland championships with 42 DNs (4 Dutch, 10 Germans, 28 Danes) 6 races in nice conditions, winner G890 Holger Petzke. Prizes only to Race Committee! No Danish championship because not sailed during time Danes are competing in EC. Lots of scrub racing in mid-March.

Estonia Early winter start late November. Sailing 4 Dec. Haapsalu and Parnu. Heavy snow and rising water level (Parnu) limited sailing until February when good conditions allowed many races in regattas. New Ice Optimist sailors in Tallinn and new DN Juniors in EC at Saaremaa.

Finland Season started again with Vikajarvi in Week 46. Successful regatta with 35 sailors from many countries. After mid-December extensive snow stopped sailing in whole country until mid-February when the sea ice formed in two places on South coast where ice was sailable until end of season. 4 out of 6 regattas sailed. On three occasions junior practising and testing with Ice Optimists.

Germany Disappointing season with too much snow. No regattas sailed. Lake Mueritz tried but fog prevented sailing. East German area investigated, Rostock area too small.

Hungary A long season from before Christmas until March. Good ice but poor wind. 4 attempts made to hold Hungarian Championships with 15 DNs. Succeeded on 4th weekend with 6 races and light wind.

Latvia A much better season with 3 regattas planned and completed. Several new young sailors in Ice Optimist class. Season finished 20 March.

Netherlands A fairly good winter especially in December. Much snow in the middle of the country but 6 weeks of sailing in the north with good ice and no snow. Two regattas on Lake Tjenkemeer – the “Friesland Open” and one week later, the Martin van Wettun Cup. Five good races in each. Lot of snow in the middle but sailing on Gouwee, DeKaag and Westeinder lakes. Nearly 40 new sailors and sail numbers now above 1000. Unable to sail Dutch Championships.

Poland A long but difficult winter. Season started second half of December but snow stopped sailing for one month until late January. Good conditions for sailing throughout February and much of March. 4 major regattas completed and then WC/EC DN Junior and Ice Optimist in Orzysz/Okartowo. Last races 19/20 March.

Russia Very poor season with too much snow. Asia Cup sailed on Lake Baikal mid-April.

Sweden An early start with very cold November but for the second year in succession no sailable ice North of Stockholm due to snow. Very good ice in the South from Christmas with Kungsbacka in particular. 3 regattas planned and sailed. Much sailing in Finland. Rain in late February took care of much of the snow and provided good Spring sailing.

United Kingdom The first ever British National Championships sailed early December on small lake near Manchester. 3 DNs on timed circuits with K11 (Gareth Rowland) as Champion.

North America Varied season with lots of snow.

Western Region Regattas in December and January. Ice Optimist NAs with 5 boats.

Gold Cup very tough. Limited to 1½ days and ended with major storm. No NAs or Annual Meeting.

Central Region Very little ice found. Fun regatta in March in Traverse City. Good sailing one week for tuning in January.

Eastern Region One day regatta early March after many attempts. North West IYA regatta – no wind/too much wind/shell ice but good parties which all enjoyed!

Junior Programme Daniel Hearn offering free Ice Optimist plans.
5 new active 10 racers.

Topic 2 Ascertainment of a Quorum

It was confirmed that the invitation to the annual meeting was issued in time and a quorum was present. Attendance list of the general meeting is attached.

Topic 3 Minutes of National Secretaries Meeting 2010

These were AGREED and APPROVED as issued.

Topic 4 Matters Arising from Topic 3 not covered by this Agenda

There were none.

Topic 5 Letters to the Board

This was covered under Topic 20 Various Proposals.

Topic 6 Financial Report 2010/2011 [attached]

The Treasurer provided a detailed brief on the Financial Report for 2010/2011. The period of loss in recent years was beginning to show a recovery, this despite very low interest rates on money in the bank. The low costs for the EC in Saaremaa had helped considerably in this financial recovery. It was confirmed that the €2000 support for the Junior Programme Manager was at a good level. Denmark checked the Financial Report in details and confirmed it to be correct. Copies provided to those Society members present. The Treasurer was warmly thanked and congratulated on his detailed financial work in 2010/2011.

Topic 7 EC 2011 Report

Commodore briefed ice checked in Poland, Lithuania, Estonia and Finland with a thorough search. Saaremaa in Estonia selected with an early decision (Wednesday). Later decision considered to avoid unnecessary travel. Good sailable ice very rare in Saaremaa. Excellent low cost accommodation in Kuressaare and very good machining facilities available at ice site with excellent support from local organisations.

Very good sea ice and favourable weather together with the very efficient PRC enabled 39 races to be completed in 4 days with very few accidents or protests. It was agreed that if possible there would be more social events at future major regattas.

The Commodore and the PRC led by Stan Macur were warmly congratulated on a very challenging and successful event.

Netherlands questioned the role over the regatta period of the nominated Host Nation (Lithuania).

Discussion revealed that Lithuania was well prepared at their primary site which was Lake Rekyva near Siauliai. Lithuania has only a very small active DN community. They had arranged for all the prizes. However after the event was moved to Estonia there was no possibility to move the planned logistics (e.g. local food at the opening ceremony) to the new location. Lake Rekyva has much potential for a major event and this would help to increase the number of iceboaters in Lithuania and the financial and logistical capabilities of the current small fleet. Many thanks were passed to Irute, Tadas, Dovidas and Dainus.

It was agreed that the responsibilities of the Host Nation should be placed in the Year Book.

Action: Secretary

Finland questioned the average age of the EC competitors and recommended that the trend should be monitored. (the average of EC 2011 was 47.8)

Action: PRC

Topic 8 WC/EC Junior DN and Ice Optimist 2011 Report

Snow prevented the event taking place in Estonia on the planned dates of 19-22 January. The reserve dates of 16-18 February were used in Poland with the only available sailable ice. This caused some nations to drop out due to school needs etc. A total of 36 DNs and 36 Ice Optimists took part over a 2-day period (17 & 18 Feb.) in challenging conditions with some excellent sailing and without any collisions or protests. Both Fleets completed 7 races.

UK commented on the high standard of fair sailing and the very efficient race organisation. The Junior Programme was an essential element in the future success of the DN class. JPM was warmly congratulated on yet another very successful major Junior DN/Ice Optimist regatta.

The suggestion to consider integrating the Junior Programme into IDNIYRA-Europe was briefly discussed and it was agreed that this should be a project for the Board and put on the Agenda for the 2012 Secretaries Meeting.

Action: JPM/Secretary/Board

WC/EC Junior DN and Ice Optimist 2012

Switzerland's offer to be the host nation for this event was gratefully accepted.

This offer made with the following conditions:

- a. One date with no postponement
- b. Poland as the venue with Lithuania as the alternative

These were accepted and the attendance of more nations anticipated. The entry fee remained at €30. Some funding to help with transport of material from faraway entries (e.g. NA and East Russia) was discussed and it was agreed that €1000 would be provided in addition to the current JPM allowance of €2000.

Action: JPM & Treasurer

[Post Meeting Note: Dates for WC/EC Junior DN/Ice Optimist 2012 are 15-19 February 2012.

15th Feb – training camp, 16th-18th racing days, and 19th reserve day if minimum races not sailed.]

Topic 9 Lessons Learned from EC 2011 and Junior DN/IO WC/EC 2011 EC 2011

Darling Marks

Sweden considered that the Darling Marks were too close to the marks. Following discussion and a similar proposal from G107 it was agreed that the distance between the course marks and the Darling marks must be a minimum of 100 metres. This would be inserted in the Year Book under "Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe".

Action: Secretary/PRC

Parking Brake

Some DNs were observed parked with the sail up, the plank on one side resting on a "horse" and the parking brake taped in the OFF position. It was agreed that this made no allowance for a strong gust of wind together with a change in direction and should not be allowed. Furthermore, it should not be

necessary to tape the parking brake in the OFF position; an adjustment of the parking brake holding bolt should be sufficient to hold it in the OFF position and leave the brake ready for immediate use. This would be covered in 2012 Sailing Instructions and at check-in all competitors would receive copies and a protest form. **Action: PRC/Secretary**

Sailing on the Race Course by non-participants during a race

There were a few occasions when this happened. It is forbidden by NIA Part IV Sailing Rules, B Right of way Rules, para. 9 and would be covered in sailing instructions. **Action: PRC/Secretary**

Control at the Windward Mark

The importance of a PRC member at the Windward mark was emphasised for Protest hearings if required.

Junior DN/IO WC/EC 2011

It was agreed that the Finish Line was too short and the scorers too close to the Leeward mark. This would be rectified in 2012. **Action: JPM**

Topic 10 Junior Programme Report

This was covered under Topic 8

Topic 11 Technical Committee Report

Dag Erikssen e-mailed the European Technical Committee report which covered two issues:

- a. Battens The addition of more thick shorter battens into the sail during a regatta in order to widen the rear part of the batten pocket and make the rear lead shorter in order to adjust the sail for more power in sticky conditions was considered by the Technical Committee to be allowable.
- b. The stick in the mast A proposal to disallow the use of an interchangeable stick in the mast was not agreed by the TC. This was further discussed under Topic 19.

Jane Pegel, Chairman of the Technical Committee (TC) was complimented and thanked for her hard work in the role.

A discussion on the availability of TC Questions and Answers concluded that it would be beneficial to all DN sailors if a section on the DN website was established for all questions and answers to and from the TC. This could be very informative and help to keep DN sailors up to date with developments.

Geoff Sobering undertook to speak with Jane Pegel. This would be regarded as a valuable advisory service. It was further agreed that if there is any doubt concerning a Technical matter it should not be considered legal until examined by one or all of the following: the Technical Committee, Race Committee or Protest Committee. In any case Technical Committee advice is essential. (see IDNIYRA Constitution Article X and Specification Management System Article IX)

Action: Geoff Sobering

Topic 12 IDNIYRA-Europe Insurance Report

Christian Seegers expressed very great concern over the inordinate delays in insurance payment from the accident at Lipno in 2008. Although much of this delay appears to be due to an administrative error, it was agreed that such delays were unacceptable. It was further agreed that in future any insurance company not meeting a claim within 2 years would be struck off the IDNIYRA-Europe list of eligible and acceptable insurance companies. **Action: Insurance Manager**

Topic 13 IDNIYRA-Europe NA Contact Report

Geoff Sobering briefed that the absence of the NA Annual Meeting meant no NA Board election was possible, so the current Board would remain in post for a further year.

Secretary briefed that the National Letter proposal had therefore been delayed for a further year. He also briefed that there was allowance for a Special Meeting in the IDNIYRA Constitution (Article VIII – Meeting and Quorum) but since National Letters had been in use for over 30 years, a further delay in making them “official” was probably acceptable.

There was considerable discussion concerning receipt of the Year Book which is covered in Topic 20.

Topic 14 Discharge of the Board of Officers

Commodore, Vice Commodore, Junior Programme Manager, Insurance Manager, Treasurer and Secretary.

It was unanimously agreed that the Board of Officers had discharged their duties according to the Constitution in a very satisfactory manner.

Topic 15 Amendment of the Constitution

Appointment of the Webmaster

It was unanimously agreed that the Webmaster should be a member of the IDNIYRA-Europe Board.

Action: Treasurer

Topic 16 Election of IDNIYRA-Europe Officers

The following were unanimously elected

- a. For a 2-year period:
 - Junior Programme Manager - Stan Macur
 - Secretary - Chris Williams
 - Webmaster - Dietmar Gottke
- b. For a 6-year period:
 - European Technical Committee - Dag Erikssen

All these officers accepted their appointments.

Topic 17 Determination of Contributions to IDNIYRA-Europe Society e.V and WC/EC Entry Fee

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the contributions would remain unchanged.

- a. IDNIYRA-Europe Society e.V. €45 per member nation and per registered starter in WC/EC 2012.
- b. Entry fee for 2012 WC/EC €150 per registered starter. A total of €195. Junior fee €75 (50% of entry fee for senior DN)

Topic 18 Budget 20112012

The Treasurer briefed the Budget which was unanimously agreed. Copies provided to those Society members present.

Topic 19 Various Proposals

- a. Mast Stick not allowed (P 58 and P 55)

A lengthy discussion concluded that the stick in the mast had a very useful function in enabling the mast to be used in different wind strengths without breaking. The problem had been that some sailors had been changing the stick type and position in the mast to provide different bend characteristics during a regatta. This was in contravention of the Sailing rules and the following was agreed:

 - (i) All masts with sticks must be thoroughly examined by the PRC before the races and properly marked and sealed.
 - (ii) Any competitor who was found to have altered the stick or its characteristics would be DSQ for the whole regatta without any protest allowed.
- b. New Starters (M 100, OE 221, K 1)

It was agreed that all unranked sailors should, where possible, have competed in big regattas with at least 10 starters on 3 occasions before entry into the WC or EC be considered. The appropriate National Secretary should be aware of the level of the ice sailing expertise of his unranked entries.

This is similar to National Secretaries' decisions on the same issue in 1994, 1995, 1998 and 2008.
- c. Remaining in the Lower Fleet at the Qualification Races (OE 221, K 1, L 112)

It was agreed that this would not be allowed and that IDNIYRA By-Law B7 Fleet Splitting was mandatory.
- d. Late Entry fee when moving to another country (K 1)

After much discussion it was agreed that when a major regatta (EC and WC) had to move to another country the organising Race Committee would accept late entries from sailors who were DN members of that country at normal (not double) fee.

This is a repeat of the agreement at the 2004 National Secretaries meeting and would be put in the European section of the next Year Book.
- e. 200-sec Safety Rule (G 624)

It was agreed that the following would be trialled in EC 2013:
The Race Committee would keep records of the lap time first lap first boat. In case it was 200 secs or less the next race would not be started unless a change in conditions promised a longer lap time first lap first boat. This change must be due to at least one of the following: longer distance between marks, less wind, slower ice.

Action: Race Committee EC 2013
- f. Need for a disclaimer for TV and Media Rights (OE 221, G 737 and K 1)

It was agreed that there was no requirement for a TV/Media rights disclaimer.

g. Banning the Discard of DSQ (K 1)

It was agreed that in the event of dangerous sailing and a severe infringement of the Racing Rules the decision whether or not a DSQ should be allowed to be discarded should rest with the Protest Committee.

Secretary undertook to draft a Proposal to change IDNIYRA by-Law B5(d)

Action: Secretary

h. Protest Committee Availability (K 1)

The non-availability of the Protest Committee Jurors caused delays in hearings in EC 2011. Such delays could be avoided if the Jurors were not sailors who had been on the ice for most of the day. It was agreed that in WC/EC 2012 Jurors would if possible selected from experienced DN sailors who were not involved in the competition.

Action: Race Committee EC 2012

i. Number of Days and Races in the EC if not sailed in conjunction with the World Championship

There were a significant number of proposals and following lengthy discussion the following was agreed.

Check in Sunday.

1st start Monday with Qualification Races.

Five races per Fleet per day until 5 races per fleet are completed. Then four races per Fleet per day until a total of 16 races per Fleet completed or conditions prevent further sailing. Sailing continues until PM Friday or when 16 races per Fleet completed. 2 throw outs only (after 5 and 10 races).

j. Eleven Runners at the next EC (P36)

Not agreed.

k. What redress is allowed when collision occurs (P36)

Covered by NIA Racing Rule B5(a) or (b)

l. No Darling Mark at the Leeward Mark for last lap (P36)

Not agreed. Danger and confusion to those still on the second lap

m. Two masts allowed in next EC (P36)

Not agreed.

n. Reduce the size of the A Fleet (P36)

Not agreed due to increased numbers in lower Fleets or creation of more Fleets and consequent time delays.

o. A Fleet first start in ranking order (P36)

Not agreed. Continue to use random (drawn) numbers for first start.

Topic 20 Year Book and Runner Tracks

The next Year Book was planned for publication in November 2011. A lengthy discussion centred on the circulation of the current Year Book. All European National Secretaries should have received their own copy and it appeared that this did not happen due to an administrative oversight. Geoff Sobering undertook to ensure that copies were despatched as soon as possible.

He also reported that the Year Book printing costs were to considerably increase due to the low numbers needed by sailors. It was considered possible that if the Year Book was available in Europe at a reasonable price, demand might increase and the greater print run in turn lead to reduced overall printing costs. GS undertook to discuss this with the appropriate NA authority.

The question of whether or not the Year Book should contain the Membership lists arose because of Data Protection implications; however it was concluded that as long as certain details were not included there should not be a problem.

Action: Geoff Sobering

Topic 21 Internet Communications

The Webmaster provided a comprehensive brief:

a. Agreed to register *idniyra.eu* for IDNIYRA-Europe at €12 a year. **Action: Webmaster**

b. Event calendar system explained at Gdansk, was installed in autumn 2010. Regrettably not used by all National Secretaries and it was hoped more use would be made in 2011/2012.

Action: All National Secretaries

- c. The PRC were encouraged to post better daily reports and results in the "Championship info" session in the forum. **Action: PRC**
 - d. The IDNIYRA-Europe Society constitution had been added to the Rules/Specs Section.
 - e. The IDNIYRA-Europe Organisation section required updating. **Action: Secretary & Webmaster**
 - f. The online registration system was running very well. No return to PayPal was agreed.
 - g. It was agreed that registrants' ages should be extracted from the entry list to provide an overview of average age of sailors. For EC 2011 the average age was 47.2.
 - h. It was agreed that all decisions from National Secretaries Meetings should be placed in a section on the website. **Action: Secretary & Webmaster**
 - i. The Webmaster should be informed of all texts which required updating.
- The Webmaster was warmly thanked for all his conscientious and hard work over the past year.

Topic 22 WC/EC 2012

Host Nation : Germany

Dates: Saturday 28th January to Saturday 4th February 2012.

Action: Germany

Topic 23 NA 2012

Date: 25th February 2012

Topic 24 Host National Secretaries Meeting 2012

Hungary's offer to host the 2012 National Secretaries Meeting was welcomed and accepted with gratitude.

Dates: Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd April 2012.

Action: Hungary

Topic 25 EC 2013

Finland confirmed their offer to host the European Championship 2013. **Action: Finland**

Topic 26 WC/EC 2014

The host nation for WC/EC 2014 would be discussed and decided at the next National Secretaries Meeting.

Action: Secretary

Topic 27 Other Business

Denmark proposed a vote of thanks to the Commodore for overseeing and organising a very successful season. This was unanimously agreed and applauded.

The meeting closed at 6 p.m. and the Commodore thanked the Parnu Yacht Club for all the excellent arrangements made for the week end.