

IDNIYRA-Europe
International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association Europe
IDNIYRA-Europe Society e.V.
Minutes and Decisions of National Secretaries
Balaton Fured, Hungary 21 – 23 September 2012

Present: IDNIYRA Europe Executive Board

Commodore	Joerg Bohn
Vice Commodore	Attila Pataki
Treasurer	Christian Seegers
Insurance Manager	Niklas Mueller-Hartburg
Junior Programme Manager	Stan Macur
Webmaster	Dietmar Gottke
Secretary	Chris Williams

National Secretaries

Austria	Roland Huber
Czech Republic	Vladislav Ptasnik
Hungary	Attila Pataki
Poland	Jerze Henke
United Kingdom	Chris Williams
United States	Deb Whitehorse

Proxy votes

Denmark	represented by Czech Republic
Latvia	rep. by Stan Macur
Germany & Sweden	rep. by Joerg Bohn
Switzerland & Netherlands	rep. by Chris Williams

Apologies: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland

Topic 1 Opening remarks and Review of the Season 2011/2012

The Commodore welcomed all present to the meeting with a full Agenda. A special welcome to Deb Whitehorse (North America) and Roland Huber (Austria) both attending their first European National Secretaries meeting. Regrettably no Secretary in place at present for Estonia and Lithuania. Finding sailable ice for the WC/EC was a significant challenge by one ferry (Sweden to Estonia) out of action and many hotels in Swedish ice sailing areas booked for conferences. Conflicting reports on ice conditions in Sweden (host nation) increased the difficulty of regatta site selection in rapidly changing weather. Orebro area selected and WC completed but move to Trollhattan area for EC caused by more snow. EC not completed due to more snow on what had been very good ice. Prize giving held at local gas station/café on Saturday morning. Commodore congratulated on the success of the WC in very difficult conditions.

Austria Although we also had at the beginning of winter rather warm temperatures we had some interesting regattas and training possibilities in Austria. A new location in Italy – just behind the Austrian border – was found. Lago del Prebil up in the mountains, rather small but big enough to have a lot of fun! In January, February and March we could sail on Lipno; in Carinthia and on Wallersee where we had on 28.02.2012 our Austrian Championship. Winner was Helmuth Romaner; OE 110. Neusiedlersee was due to the late cold weather not safe enough to sail. Ice sailing season started as long as with WC/EC in Sweden in February 12. There was no chance for ice sailing in December 11 and January 12.

Czech Republic We managed to organize 4 regattas in CR. Most attended was National Championship at Nove Mlyny where 25 participants raced. 2 Hungarians, 8 Austrians and 15 Czechs. Czech fleet consist from 15 active sailors who took part in the Czech Cup. The level of technical equipment constantly rising. Group of 5-6 sailors with interest to race internationally formed. Successful season as for results achieved in WC 2012 in Sweden, Jakub Zobac 7th in A fleet, one sailor present in B fleet, 2 sailors in top three in C fleet with chance to race in B, 3 sailors in D. There is no junior or Ice Optimist sailing programme.

Hungary In Hungary we started the season in early February when the cold hit Europe.

It was very cold and the lakes in Hungary had frozen very quickly and caused problems on the small and shallow lakes. Both Neusiedler lake and Velence lake had numerous cracks and above the warm springs open water. Therefore it was very dangerous to sail on these lakes. On the Balaton the ice built up also very fast and reached the thickness of 30 cm. We had excellent black ice – which looks indeed turquoise on the Balaton. Unfortunately it lasted for a few days only, because wet weather hit Hungary and soon we had 10-20 cm of snow throughout the country. The wind on next days built up 20-40 cm high snow drifts on the ice, which was big fun for slaloming, but made impossible and dangerous to organize any racing event. We could hope only for warming up at the beginning of March, but the warming was so extensive that the ice melted very fast and went in a few days. Unfortunately we could not organize the Hungarian Championship this year. If we have suitable ice this December, we will do our best to organize it.

Poland Season 2011/2012 This season was very short. The first regatta was held in early February and the last in mid-March 2012. Overall, seniors sailed in Poland nine races, junior 9 races, younger junior 7 races and Ice Optimist also 9 races. Polish Championship was a huge success! 81 sailors from 7 different countries took part. In total, Polish ranking have in this season 71 seniors, 37 juniors, 16 younger juniors and 41 Ice Optimists. This means that in races 2011/2012 a total of 165 Polish sailors took part.

North America As has become the norm, it was a great ice sailing season if you were willing to travel. The season began in early December with seventy plus DNs competing in the unsanctioned Western Challenge on Minnesota's Lake Christina with several international sailors in attendance. At the very end of December, the Central region was able to sail their 2011 regional championship on Michigan's Lake Missaukee and they are looking to December 2012 to complete this year's regatta. It was back to Minnesota to Green Lake for the 2012 Western Regionals in January. The Eastern region managed to sail all of their regattas including the Doc Fellows Regatta on Lake Champlain in Vermont and both the New England Championships and the Eastern Regional Championship sailed on Mallet's Bay in Vermont. Mallet's Bay was the original primary site of the North American Championships but snow forced a venue change of 1100 miles to the bay of Green Bay, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Minnesota had the best ice sailing conditions for most of the season.

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 2011

Subject to a correction to the dates at Topic 1 (2006/2007 to 2010/2011) these were AGREED and APPROVED as issued.

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

Secretary reported following completed:

- a. Host Nation and organising countries' responsibilities posted on European website (click on *Download*).
- b. In event of a move of a regatta to another country, DN members from that new country who have not already registered may do so at normal fee (not double) if there are still places available before regatta check-in closes (Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe 10.(4))
- c. New IDNIYRA By Law 5(d) introducing DNE to deter dangerous sailing.
- d. New IDNIYRA By Law 3 Allocation of National Letter designators and procedure for new countries.
- e. Record of European National Secretary Meeting decisions from 1978 to be put on website with indications on what is still relevant.
- f. Updating of Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe in Year Book.
- g.

Topic 5 Letters to the Board

This was covered under Topic 19 Various Proposals.

Topic 6 WC/EC 2012 Report

In very challenging conditions the Commodore and the PRC succeeded in completing the WC in two days at Orebro with Sweden as the host nation. No sailable ice in Germany (organising country). Lack of reliable ice scout information, lack of information on reliable accommodation availability. Ferry Estonia-Sweden out of action. EC not completed – snow. Prizegiving at a gas station/café near Trollhattan.

Topic 7 Junior DN and Ice Optimist 2012 Report

Very successful WC/EC held in Poland, very well organised by Switzerland and supported by the PRC. 84 participants – 44 Ice Optimists and 40 Junior DNs. Excellent prizes with giveaways for all competitors. Very good local support. Stan Macur and Switzerland were congratulated on a successful event. Presence of NA Ice Optimist sailor Frankie Hearn and father Daniel (key motivator in NA Ice Optimist programme) greatly welcomed. IDNIYRA-Europe support much appreciated and financial balance indicated that the current level of support was satisfactory. Sec. undertook to request major IO countries for numbers of IO sailors who had progressed into the Junior DN Class. **ACTION:**
Secretary

Topic 8 Financial Report 2011/2012

Treasurer presented his Financial Report from 16 April 2011 to 16 April 2012. This had been checked before the meeting by Austria and agreed. IDNIYRA-Europe was financially healthy and it was agreed that the funds allocated to the PRC and the Junior Programme were fully justified. The Treasurer was warmly thanked for his very efficient work and clear presentation. His intention to remain as Treasurer for a further two years was also warmly welcomed.

Topic 9 Lessons Learned from WC/EC 2012

The difficulties experienced in finding sailable ice and adequate accommodation indicated the necessity for more coordinated assistance and support for the Commodore from the host nation, and in addition funding for an Ice Scout from the PRC should be considered to help with EC 2013.

Topic 10 Junior Programme Report

The number of participants in the Junior DN and Ice Optimist WC/EC confirmed the success of this programme in Europe. Stan Macur and his team – PRC and many helpers and support from several nations e.g. Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia – all made a major contribution to this success and the future of DN ice sailing. Stan was warmly congratulated for his inspiring leadership.

Junior DN and Ice Optimist WC/EC 2013 dates set for **Monday 18th to Saturday 23rd February** on Lake Rekyva, Siauliai, Lithuania. Monday and Tuesday practice days, and Championship Wednesday to Friday with Saturday as reserve day if 3 races not completed by Friday p.m.

Topic 11 Technical Committee Report

The angle of sail batten pockets to the leech and the method of measuring had been a significant issue during 2011/2012 and the discussion continues. The absence of a European Technical Committee member at the meeting was regretted. Andreas Bock had emailed a suggestion for a Euro Technical Committee meeting to be held on the day before the EC.

Poland raised two questions:

- a. Percentage of wood and glue allowed in the hull.
- b. Were Teflon-covered runners legal?

Poland were advised to refer to Technical Committee.

Deb Whitehorse undertook to discuss with Technical Committee (Jane Pegel) the possibility of improving communications to/from them. It was agreed that Jane's work on the Technical Committee was greatly appreciated and much progress had been achieved in recent years.

Topic 12 IDNIYRA-Europe Insurance Report

Insurance Manager reported no incidents resulting in insurance claims in 2012 season and confirmation of cover by regatta participants much improved.

It was agreed that the single event insurance should be used by those sailors who had no other choice (i.e. no all-season insurance available).

Claim for Hennie van de Brink from 2008 WC remained to be settled.

Concern was expressed at the number of exaggerated values being used in boat damage claims. If this continued without control it would significantly impact on insurance premiums and lead to "refusal to insure" from companies. It was agreed by unanimous vote to set limits which would be listed in a disclaimer to be signed at check-in by all participants and in the Notice of Race. It would also be placed in the Organisation for IDNIYRA-Europe and under "Insurance" on the website.

The maximum claim values agreed were:

Hull	2 800 €
Mast	1 500 €
Plank	500 €

Runner	450 € each
Sail	750 €
Chock	100 €
Boom	150 €

Topic 13 IDNIYRA-Europe NA Contact Report

Secretary reported a very good year for cooperation between Europe and North America particularly with Jane Pegel, Jim McDonagh and Deb Whitehorse. Deb's presence at the meeting was greatly appreciated and European funding in favour of an optimized transatlantic communication would be included in the Budget (Topic 18).

An exchange of emails with the NIA Board via Jane Pegel had confirmed that the European Ice Boat Authority would continue to be needed in the event of a protest against the Protest Committee at a European major regatta WC or EC. Web Master undertook to confirm with the existing 3 members (Piotr Burczynski, Dietmar Gottke and Daan Schutte) whether or not they wished to remain as members of the Authority. **ACTION: Webmaster**

(Post Meeting Note) *Piotr Burczynski has decided to stand down as a member of the European Iceboat Authority and Stan Macur has agreed to take his place. The EIA Membership is therefore Stan Macur, Daan Schutte and Dietmar Gottke. This will be reflected in the Year book and the web site.*

Topic 14 Discharge of the Board of Officers

Commodore, Vice Commodore, Insurance Manager, Treasurer, Junior Programme Manager, Webmaster 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 Change of Section 6, paragraph 4 of the Constitution

Commodore to be elected for a term of three years. This proposal was withdrawn by unanimous approval.

Topic 16 Election of IDNIYRA-Europe Officers

The following were unanimously elected for a 2 year period:

Commodore	-	Joerg Bohn
Vice Commodore	-	Attila Pataki
Treasurer	-	Christian Seegers
Insurance Manager	-	Niklas Mueller-Hartburg

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

It was agreed that the contributions would remain unchanged.

- IDNIYRA-Europe Society e.V: €45 per member nation and per registered starter in EC 2013
- Entry fee for EC 2013: €150 per registered starter. A total of €195
Junior fee for EC 2013: €75 (50% of Senior DN entry fee). **ACTION: NOR drafter**

Treasurer raised question of need to restrict or charge for access to IDNIYRA-Europe website. Agreed to further discuss at next meeting with full reasons for and against to be provided well in advance.

ACTION: Sec, Treasurer, Commodore and other Board Members and Nat. Secs.

Topic 18 Budget 2012/2013

The Treasurer briefed the Budget which was unanimously agreed. Copies were provided for Society members present. It was agreed to allocate US\$600 towards NA representative's travel expenses when attending the meeting. Treasurer and his PA were warmly thanked for their clear presentation.

Topic 19 Internet Communications

Webmaster provided a clear brief on IDNIYRA online ballot system which had already been tested. The Features and Advantages together with a summary of the On Line Ballot System are described in the attachments. It was agreed that this would be used in Europe for the next DN Class Vote. A small amendment to the Constitution and Specification Management System was required and Sec/ Webmaster undertook to draft for submission.

Close liaison with IDNIYRA would be needed and Webmaster supported by Sec. undertook to progress this. **ACTION: Webmaster and Sec.**

Commodore undertook to discuss with NA Commodore. **ACTION: Commodore**

Topic 20 Various Proposals

- a. Online Voting

Covered under Topic 19.

- b. Grand Prix finish (Bart Rule)

Although this had been used effectively in major regattas for several years, it was not adequately described in either the IDNIYRA ByLaws or the Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe para 10 European Regattas. Sec. undertook to provide suitable wording. **Action: Secretary**

- c. 10 Runners for EC 2013

It was agreed to allow 10 runners to be allowed in EC 2013.

- d. Agreed that no stickers or sail tags would be required until first A Fleet race in EC 2013.

- e. Start Line angles

Race Committee to monitor start line angles.

- f. Defibrilators

It was agreed that in the interests of safety, defibrilators should be included in the Race Committee/PRC equipment and at least one member of that committee trained in their use. Renting of two would be considered, and Insurance Manager undertook to research and progress. **Action: Insurance Manager**

- g. 200 second rule (Topic 19 para e 2011 Minutes – Parnu)

It was agreed to use this in EC 2013 and include it in the Sailing Instructions. **Action: PRC/Commodore.**

Topic 21 Year Book and Runner Tracks

Deb Whitehorse (DW) explained that the printing costs of the Year Book were unsustainable and it would no longer be available as part of the US\$25 annual IDNIYRA subscription. It was now available in hard copy from Deb at US\$17 per copy (including postage) or online via www.ice.IDNIYRA.org The online version, which was easiest to access, was not currently up to date and Deb undertook to encourage regular updating. **Action: DW**

Deb was warmly thanked for all her efficient support in her role as the NA Executive Secretary.

Topic 22 EC 2013 Host Nation Finland

Sunday 10 to Friday 15 March, 2013

Insurance application: **Open** 24 September, 2012 **Close** 13 February, 2013 midnight

On line Registration **Open** 07.01.2013 1200 **Close** 17.02.2013 midnight

Entry Fee: Paid latest 22.02. 2013 midnight on IDNIYRA Europe account.

Notice of Race: out by 1 December, 2012

Action: Commodore

Action:

Secretary

**Insurance Manager
Finland
Secretary**

Topic 23 WC/NA 2013

January 26 through February 2, 2013 – Western Region NA

Topic 24 Host National Secretaries Meeting 2013

To be decided. Potential dates 26 to 28 April, 2013

Action: Commodore & Secretary

Topic 25 WC/EC 2014

To be negotiated before next meeting.

Action: Commodore

Topic 26 EC 2015

To be decided at the next National Secretaries Meeting. Czech Republic will consider.

Action: Czech Republic

Topic 27 Other Business

The Commodore thanked

- a. Deb Whitehorse for her attendance and constructive contribution to all discussions, which provided a useful NA perspective.

- b. Secretary for all the paperwork preparations for the meeting and the administration over the past twelve months.

c. The Vice Commodore for the excellent arrangements made for the meeting, hotel accommodation and transport, airports to and from hotel.

The meeting closed at 1130 Sunday 23rd April.