

**International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association Europe**  
**(IDNIYRA-Europe)**  
**Minutes and Decisions of National Secretaries**  
**Tallinn, Estonia 25 - 27 April 2003**

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

National Secretaries

DENMARK - Jorgen Holsoe  
ESTONIA - Peter Saraskin  
FINLAND - Reko-Autti Suojanen  
GERMANY - Rainer Hinrichsen  
HUNGARY - Attila Pataki (for Gustav Koltay)  
NETHERLANDS - Rob Schutte (for Johan Tolsma)  
POLAND - Stan Macur  
SWEDEN - Vivianne Karlsson (for Thomas Karlsson)  
UNITED KINGDOM - Chris Williams

Webmaster - Dietmar Gottke

**Proxy Votes:** BELARUS - Estonia  
LATVIA - Estonia  
LITHUANIA - Poland  
RUSSIA - Sweden

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from Norway

**Topic 1 Opening Remarks and Review of Season 2002/2003**

The Commodore welcomed all present to the meeting and briefed his review of the season 2002/2003.

An early cold winter provided ice from December in most parts of ice sailing Europe. The German sailors had their best season ever. Also Hungary reported ice for six weeks. Unfortunately snow and unusually long lasting high pressure weather systems blocked out ordinary sailing areas in Poland, Sweden, Estonia and Finland. This created big problems for the organisers of the European Championships for Ice Optimist and DN Juniors as well as for the DN EC 2003.

The 2003 European Championships for Ice Optimist and DN Juniors was arranged by IDNIYRA-Sweden. A record number of participants, 67 boys and girls in the ages 9-21 gathered on lake Siljan in February. Beautiful ice, sunshine, blue skies but no wind forced the regatta to be re-sailed in Estonia on Lake Saadjärv at the end of March. Jaan Akerman C2 defended his Ice Optimist Champion title. New Champion in DN Junior was C 36 Argo Voorema.

The DN EC 2003 with 180 participants was organised by IDNIYRA Estonia first week of March and located to Paldiski bay west of Tallinn. One week before regatta opening date the smooth ice area was covered by 2-5 cm snow that was predicted to melt in warm winds. No other options were available at that time. However the cold air stayed and so did the snow. The regatta was opened but the first start was delayed in hope of warm winds. In the meantime new ice areas without snow had formed on the Swedish and Polish coast lines. With no weather change predicted for the next 3 days the regatta was moved to Björkvik east of Stockholm, Sweden. On perfect black ice and some days in very hard winds the EC 2003 was completed. Thomas Karlsson S 580 won his 4<sup>th</sup> EC Championship with G 107 Bernd Zeiger and US 44 Ron Sherry giving him a hard fight to the last race.

Europe was also successful at the World Championships sailed first week of February on Lake Champlain in USA. Among 130 participants P 36 Karol Jablonski won the Gold Cup with S 580 Thomas Karlsson on second place.

The IDNIYRA-Europe website [www.icesailing.org](http://www.icesailing.org) and the special Junior Programme website [www.sisf.se/junior](http://www.sisf.se/junior) have improved considerably during the season and are now the primary tools for information exchange between active sailors and organisation officers.

Among many positive events last season I would like to mention the IDNIYRA NA and IDNIYRA Europe Executive Board meeting during the NA Championships and also the contacts with ISAF and IODA regarding Olympic and junior programme topics. Items that need preventive actions for next season are the rules for late entry and check

in for participation at major regattas.

WC/EC 2004 will be arranged by IDNIYRA-Hungary with support from IDNIYRA-Poland. Primary site is Lake Balaton and the date 18-24 January 2004. The planning has started and this will be a great event.

**Topic 2** **Minutes of European Secretaries' Meeting 2001**

These were agreed as an accurate record and approved.

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

**Trophy Holders** The Vice Commodore undertook to continue the search for missing trophies and provide photographs (from Bart Reedijk) to the Webmaster. The Webmaster undertook to place all available trophy photographs on the website. It was agreed that the Invitation for the WC/EC 2004 should contain the latest list of trophy holders.

**ACTION: Vice Commodore  
Webmaster  
Secretary HUNGARY**

**Topic 4** **Letters to the Board**

Letters were received from Denmark and Germany.

Danish proposals 1 and 2 were covered under Topic 23 (Technical Committee). The third Danish proposal addressed check-in procedure at WC/EC in Europe. It was agreed that this should be covered in the appropriate "Notice of Race" where personal check-in within the time limit specified should be mandatory and only *force majeure* e.g. car accidents, ferry/aircraft delays and significant illness may be accepted by the Race Committee as a reason for telephone or representative check-in.

The German letter contained a large number of points for discussion and decision, summarized as follows:

A. A proposal to change spec H13. – *Covered under Topic 23.*

B. German fleet appeal against Protest Committee decision to deny late check in at EC 2003. - *A lengthy discussion concluded that the protest had been handled correctly and fairly by the Protest Committee. The appeal was not sustained and no reimbursement would be made.*

C. Examination of the race area. – *Ice condition and race site infrastructure must be checked by Euro Commodore before final decision.*

D-F. Proposals regarding entry and check in requirements at WC/EC regattas in Europe. – *NIA and IDNIYRA rules and By laws supplemented by Notice of Race are valid. Entry and payment of entry fee in time and personal check in before deadline will be mandatory. Late entry at double fee will be possible until check in deadline. (NA sailors who have entered in time pay normal fee but still have to meet the check-in requirements). No telephone, fax, email or proxy check-in allowed. (except for *force majeure* as above).*

G. Nomination of Judges - *Every National Secretary may nominate 1 experienced judge when sending in entry application for WC/EC.*

H. Updating and publication of Constitution for IDNIYRA-Europe. -*This was fully discussed and agreed under Topic 13 and action was in hand to complete this year.*

I. At which position can a sailor tack after the start? -*It was agreed that this should be clarified in the Regatta Sailing Instructions.*

J. Change the finish line to a line between the lee mark and the centre of the start line. - *Moving the start line and the Race Committee further from the lee mark to increase length of finish line and room to manoeuvre round the lee mark would provide an adequate and safe alternative.*

K & L. Technical proposals from A. Bock and H. Stuertz. - *See Topic 23.*

M. Payment for Webmaster. - *See Financial Report and Budget for 2003/2004.*

**Topic 5** **Financial Report 2002/2003, and Budget 2003/2004**

The Treasurer provided statements covering the Financial Report for 2002/2003 and the Budget for 2003/2004. Copies are attached to these Minutes. The statements were "audited" by two National Secretaries before the meeting and found to be correct. The Treasurer undertook to provide more detailed supporting documents for the 2004 "audit".

It was pointed out that Receipts had been unusually high due to the WC/EC 2002 and the EC 2003 entry fees being received in the same year. This additional income had been offset by exceptional payments for:

a. the EC 2003 – due to costs of the move from Estonia to Sweden.

b. a computer Notebook for the Webmaster

The Treasurer was thanked for his clear statements. **ACTION: Treasurer**

**Topic 6** **EC 2003 Report**

The Estonian Secretary provided the Financial Report for EC2003 which is attached to these Minutes. Of par-

ticular note was a loss on the event of €1531. This was due to the additional costs incurred with the move to Sweden (e.g. ferries) and was, exceptionally, covered by an additional grant from IDNIYRA-Europe funds (shown as an expense in the attachment to Topic 5). The meeting agreed that in the circumstances this was a justified expense.

The Estonian Secretary reported on the difficulties caused by the short notice move from Estonia to Sweden, in particular the arrangements for measurement, for which careful preparations had been made, and special templates manufactured, and the shortage of organizing personnel after the move. He thanked Hans Adolfsson and Thomas Karlsson for all the help provided in Sweden.

The Commodore responded that the short notice move, due to the exceptional ice conditions, had caused many complications. The Estonian Race Committee had made excellent preparations for the event but much had to be left behind and the alternate host country had insufficient time to be so well prepared. He was particularly concerned at the staff shortage, absence of measurement and reduced safety measures.

Juri Saraskin provided a briefing and demonstration on the measuring templates made for the event. It was agreed that these were excellent templates which should be made available for future EC and WC (in Europe) and could be transferred at the appropriate time together with other Race Committee equipment to the WC/EC 2004 host nation (Hungary) and then to the 2005 host etc. The equipment would be the responsibility of the host nation holding it.

**ACTION: Estonia  
Hungary**

It was also agreed that the Invitation for WC 2004 should contain a list of current Trophy Holders and the Sailing Instructions should contain the following note: "The decision on 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 judgment should be based on the severity of the Racing Rule infringement".

**Topic 7    EC Ice Optimist and DN Junior Report**

The Swedish secretary provided a verbal report on the EC Ice Optimist and DN Junior training camp in Sweden 17-23 February 2003. This had attracted a large entry from 5 nations. Excellent and subsidized accommodation was provided in Vasteras which was the planned site for the event. However snow covered ice prevented sailing there. The best available ice was in Rattvik where Lake Siljan was covered in black ice. Regrettably there was no wind for 6 successive days and the Ice Optimist and DN Junior EC 2003 was postponed. The training camp provided instruction in starting procedure, race rules, course layout and racing etiquette. Most participants were accommodated in Vasteras and commuted daily by bus to Rattvik.

The Commodore provided a financial declaration attached to these Minutes. Generous sponsorship from the Swedish Sports Federation, Vasteras and Ludvika Communities and the Swedish Ice Sailing Junior Programme played a major role in making this event available to the participants at low cost. The Commodore emphasized that such sponsorship was unlikely to be repeated. Vivianne Karlsson was thanked for her very significant part in organizing the event in the face of many challenges.

**Topic 8    Junior Programme Report**

The Secretary reported on his discussions with the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA). They had now agreed to the use of the name "Ice Optimist" with the condition that the Ice Optimist sail must carry the Optimist logo together with the Optimist button/disc. Discs will be provided by IODA at cost price (One US Dollar) and the meeting agreed that an initial order for 200 should be placed. IODA have accepted that the Ice Optimist racing sail needs to be of heavier cloth than that in the Optimist specification. It was agreed that the rules for Optimist logo and disc would be decided at the next Junior/Ice Optimist meeting in Vilnius in August. This meeting will also rule on some Ice Optimist specifications e.g. chock size and flotation. Links to the IODA website were now in place. The Commodore informed about the special Junior Programme website [www.sisf.se/junior](http://www.sisf.se/junior) that has been developed to support information exchange between juniors taking part in the programme. The intention is to stimulate more countries to join the Junior Programme.

**ACTION:        Secretary  
                         Stan Macur**

**Topic 9    IDNIYRA-Europe Insurance Report**

The Commodore reported that although there were no major accidents in the past season it was known that claims from Denmark, Estonia and Russia were being made or processed. No results were yet known.

**Topic 10    IDNIYRA-Europe - NA Contacts Report**

The Commodore, Stan Macur and the Secretary reported participation in two meetings with the IDNIYRA-NA Board. An informal dinner meeting had led to good discussions on the Ice Optimist and the Winter Olympics with agreement reached on the way ahead on both issues. The Winter Olympics are addressed under Topic 21.

The Ice Optimist had attracted considerable NA interest and was a major item at the NA Annual Meeting. Several boats are being built and more planned for next season and an Ice Optimist programme, led by Mike O'Brien with Luke Buxton and Ken Smith in support, is getting started. It was clear from the Constitution discussion at the NA Annual Meeting that the latest draft is expected as a proposal for the 2004 class vote. Regular and constructive communication between the IDNIYRA-NA and European Boards continues to be satisfactory.

**Topic 11** **Year Book and Runner Tracks**

The meeting again expressed a strong preference for *Runner Tracks* to be put on the website. Arrangements are in place for all European Secretaries to receive a copy of the Year Book annually. It seemed that some Secretaries were not receiving their Year Book and the Secretary undertook to discuss this with the IDNIYRA-NA Secretary.

**ACTION:** Secretary

**Topic 12** **Internet Communication of IDNIYRA-Europe**

It was reported that links with the ISAF and IODA websites had been established. A link with the European Sailing Federation (EUROSAF) was being negotiated. The Webmaster provided an excellent and comprehensive brief on the capabilities and facilities of the website. He emphasized that the DN Forum was for the use of all DN sailors with a number of facilities e.g. classified advertisements and ice reports. It could be used for membership administration, personal data, national lists and National Secretaries Boards. Passwords would be needed for some access and members would be responsible for updating their own records.

**Topic 13** **IDNIYRA Constitution**

It was reported that the planned progress to vote had been delayed and that the existing draft which included all IDNIYRA-Europe requirements needed some further small changes. The Secretary undertook to complete these and forward the final draft to the Commodore. It would then be put forward for class ballot at the next opportunity. It was emphasized that the new draft did not change the meaning of any of the original Constitution but now included all European rules (where they differed from NA) and provided a tidier document. It also meant that the separate "Organisation of IDNIYRA-Europe" (pages 63-67) could be removed from the Year Book. It was intended to place this new draft on the IDNIYRA-Europe website.

**ACTION:** Commodore  
Secretary  
Webmaster

**Topic 14** **Racing Etiquette**

It was noted that DN sailors at all levels were continuing to run up and down wind in races. It was agreed that Race Committees should ensure that these breaches resulted in disqualification.

**ACTION:** Race Committees

**Topic 15** **WC/EC 2004 (Hungary)**

It was confirmed that the WC/EC 2004 would be held from 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January hosted by Hungary with assistance from Poland. The primary site is Lake Balaton and alternate sites Neusiedler See in Austria and Lake Lipno in the Czech Republic. Attila Pataki (Hungary) provided an excellent brief on the plans so far. The entry closing date for the WC/EC 2004 is to be 1<sup>st</sup> December 2003, the invitations being emailed on 1<sup>st</sup> November.

**ACTION:** Hungary

**Topic 16** **DN Junior and Ice Optimist training camp and WC 2004**

The next DN and Ice Optimist training camp would be held on Lake Balaton on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2004. This would be followed by the Junior and Ice Optimist WC from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> January 2004. It was agreed that funding for accommodation for one DN Junior and one Ice Optimist sailor from IDNIYRA-NA would be provided by IDNIYRA-Europe.

**ACTION:** Hungary  
Commodore  
Junior & Ice Optimist Organisation

**Topic 17** **NA 2004**

[To be notified]

**ACTION:** Secretary IDNIYRA-NA

**Topic 18** **Host Secretaries Meeting 2004**

The Netherlands confirmed their offer to host in the Amsterdam area 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2004. This was accepted

with pleasure.

**ACTION: Netherlands**

**Topic 19 EC 2005 (Netherlands)**

The Netherlands confirmed their commitment to the EC 2005 organisation. Subject to the date of the WC in NA the EC would take place in the first half of February 2005.

**ACTION: Netherlands**

**Topic 20 WEC/NA 2005**

Dates to be provided in 2004. Netherlands coordinating with EC 2005 date.

**ACTION: Netherlands**

**Topic 21 Winter Olympics Report**

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

In August 2002 the IOC selected a final four cities to bid to host the 2010 Winter Olympics. These were

Bern	(Switzerland)
Pyeongchang	(South Korea)
Salzburg	(Austria)
Vancouver	(Canada).

Since then Bern has withdrawn. The host city will be selected from the remaining 3 by the IOC in July 2003.

In October 2002 a Winter Olympic Games Strategy meeting was held in Warsaw with Tomasz Holc (ISAF Events Committee), Stan Macur (P-111) and the Secretary. The report of this covers most of the essential issues for Winter Olympic participation and will be used as guidance for the project. At this stage the two key conclusions are (1) we must address Ice Sailing as a discipline within the Sport of Sailing and not confine it to a particular ice yacht; and (2) the relationship with ISAF is fundamental to success in entry.

There have been several meetings with ISAF over the past year. All have been helpful and constructive and identified the tactics necessary for success. Via the IOC website [www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org) access was gained to the Reports by the Olympic Programme Commission which covered reasoned judgments on applications by 15 new sports/disciplines/events for Turin 2006 and Beijing 2008. 13 were rejected and 2 accepted conditionally. The reasons given provide a clear indication of what is needed to succeed. Ice Sailing in this context seems very well placed for success.

In February 2003 an informal meeting was held with the IDNIYRA-NA Board. IDNIYRA-Europe was represented by the Commodore, Stan Macur and the Secretary. A major topic was Ice Sailing in the Winter Olympics. We (the IDNIYRA-Europe Board) emphasized that the Winter Olympics campaign was based upon Ice Sailing and not a particular ice yacht or form of sailing on ice. Our new proposal that we should now start to draw up a very tight specification for a strict one-design ice yacht to be used as the Winter Olympic Ice Yacht was well received and agreed. In addition our suggestion that we (IDNIYRA) should task the Technical Committee, assisted by Top Sailors, to start work on this was also agreed. Subsequent informal discussions with a number of top sailors has shown support for this initiative which is seen as minimizing any negative impact on the DN Class.

A subsequent meeting in Stockholm in late February 2003 was held with Bjorn Unger (Chairman of ISAF Events Committee, and a key to our progress). Also present were the Commodore and the Secretary. At this very positive meeting Bjorn Unger showed considerable support for the Winter Olympics project and suggested we develop a document addressing "What Ice Sailing Can Do for the Winter Olympics". This was done (copy attached to these Minutes) and used to good effect at a recent meeting of the European Sailing Federation (EUROSAF) and will be an important supporting paper at a key meeting of the ISAF Events Committee in Oslo in May 2003 where Ice Sailing in the Winter Olympics and our status as a Discipline within the Sport of Sailing is an Agenda item. We seek endorsement for that status and subsequent endorsement by ISAF Executive in November 2003 which will clear the way for IOC endorsement. This we understand is an essential prelude to an approach to the successful bidding city for 2010.

The meeting agreed that the Secretary should continue with the Winter Olympics campaign.

**ACTION: Secretary**

**Topic 22 NIA – Question of European participation – Nomination of candidates**

The Commodore reported that he had nominated Christian Seegers as the Representative of IDNIYRA-Europe for the NIA Board. Jane Pegel had responded on behalf of the NIA Board, reporting that the Board had met in March 2003 to consider several matters which included:

- a. Increase the members of the NIA Board from 7 to 8
- b. Increase the IDNIYRA representation from 3 to 4
- c. Consider DN Europe separate from IDNIYRA
- d. Add Christian Seegers to the NIA Board as the fourth member from IDNIYRA

- e. Importance of maintaining stability of the NIA Rules.

The consensus from the NIA Board was that although Christian Seegers was a qualified candidate to serve on the Board of NIA it was felt that the IDNIYRA organization was adequately represented by 3 members:

Charles Boston, Paul Goodwin and Jane Pegel.

Following discussion by IDNIYRA-Europe National Secretaries it was unanimously agreed that with IDNIYRA registered membership now standing at 24% in North America and 76% in Europe, representation on the NIA Board of Directors by 3 from North America and none from Europe did not constitute a fair balance and consideration should be requested for a change. This would provide a European perspective on behalf of the majority of the IDNIYRA members. The Commodore undertook to write to Jane Pegel accordingly.

**ACTION: Commodore**

**Topic 23    Technical Committee Report**

It was regretted that no member of the Technical Committee was able to attend the meeting. Considerable concern was expressed at the lack of reaction to proposals and questions addressed to the committee over the past 2 years. A particular example was the Danish paper containing several questions which was sent to every member of the Technical Committee in 2001 and again in January 2003. The Danish Secretary expressed strong concern at this lack of response from the Technical Committee. The Commodore undertook to strongly encourage the Technical Committee to be more responsive.

The issue of Chairmanship of the Technical Committee was also raised. Art. XII in the Constitution requires the TC Chairman to be elected from its members every year to serve until 30<sup>th</sup> June the following year. It was acknowledged that election of the Chairman is the business of the TC; however, IDNIYRA-Europe would welcome a European Chairman from time to time.

Discussion on the Danish proposal that a member of the Technical Committee should have no commercial interest concluded that implementation of this would need a class vote (Constitution change); would considerably limit the scope of expertise available for membership; and should be left to the judgment of the IDNIYRA-NA Annual meeting and the IDNIYRA-Europe National Secretaries meeting at the time of election of new members.

A number of substantive Technical proposals had been received from  
Ken Smith (US-4137) and Peter Saraskin (C-11)  
Johan Tolsma (H-580)  
Harald Stuertz (G-201)  
Andreas Bock (G-624)

It was agreed that these should all be sent to all members of the Technical Committee for appropriate action.

**ACTION:            Commodore  
                                 Technical Committee  
                                 Secretary**

**Topic 24    Election of IDNIYRA-Europe Officers**

(a) It was reported that Anders Cederblad (S-611) had decided to step down from the Technical Committee. The Commodore had spoken with Dag Eriksson (S-74) who had agreed to stand as a replacement candidate. There being no other candidate, Dag Eriksson was unanimously elected to the Technical Committee for 2 years in order to complete the remaining term of Anders Cederblad's office.

(b) Hans Adolfsson (Commodore) and Chris Williams (Secretary) were elected by majority vote to remain in their respective offices for a further 2 years.

**Topic 25    Any Other Business**

The following items were discussed:

- (a) From the 2002 Secretaries meeting

(1) Hull colours – dayglo red and green on bow section for Port & Starboard.

It was agreed to leave this as optional.

(2) Tiller hazard – design for weak link in event of collision.

Secretary undertook to discuss with Jan Adsten.    **ACTION: Secretary**

(b) Netherlands questioned the costs of the Ice Optimist and were reassured that control of this aspect was an important principle in the plan design, and to date costs were reasonable.

The Commodore thanked Peter Saraskin for all the excellent arrangements made to ensure a successful meeting. The meeting closed at 1200 on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2003.