

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – Nov 7th, 2023

Present: Heiko, Bruce, John, Niko, Peter Russell (Fia Absent)

1. Officially approved Oct 3rd EC Minutes.
2. Discussed the new Open designed boat which Megan sailed and how it appeared in it's first regatta. Talked about NCAs driving Open and OD racing promotions including identification on the boats as Open or OD on the outside by a sticker or something else. Discussed trophies for each configuration and if we should consider making some available through the ICA. Shared our concerns over availability of measurers and the support of class needs around the world.
3. 2024 Kiel World Championships
 1. No problem leaving boats at the venue between Kieler Wolker and Worlds.
 2. Discussed costs and the fact that we do not have official word that the 2.4mR Para Worlds will take place during our 2.4mR Worlds.
 3. Trying to keep cost of the event low and discussed insurance amount and coverage source available to those attending. No solution available yet but being sought out for promoting Worlds and should be included in NOR.
 4. Covered the damage and carnage which occurred in Kiel Harbor and the fact that the floating docks we are going to be utilizing were for the most part untouched.
 5. Kiele Wolker will have the 2.4mR class in the second half of the regatta. Heiko will send out a letter to the NCAs regarding this.
4. Constitution
 1. Discussed various items, first being to have a director assigned to be focused on the financial aspects. Change the position of Treasurer to Financial Account Manager who performs the banking transactions with the overseeing and budgeting being shouldered by a director. This would allow the class to hire a firm while the planning is performed by a director and EC. This would help stabilize the banking. This would not add a director but be a responsibility of one of the directors. At their first meeting after AGM to determine which area of focus each director will have and able to be transferred as desired. Helps clarify important items for the directors to help class. Make the Financial Account Manager similar to the Webmaster, making it an assigned position which could go on for years.

2. Discussed Marketing and other areas of responsibility that a director should help focus on. A way to assign tasks so that there is better focus and management by EC.
 3. Discussed payment dates and settled on June 30th as the due date. Discussed the current penalty and agreed that the penalty is losing voting rights at AGM unless there are known extenuating circumstances which we actively being worked to resolution. This would make the current year's numbers the ones governing the votes at the AGM.
 4. Role of Class Chief Measurer does not exist and should be removed, and class constitution has no method by which one would be elected, also not a defined term by World Sailing and should be deleted.
 5. Officers, Committee, and other roles not well organized and need to be reorganized appropriately within the document. Peter Russell agreed to take the first cut on rearranging and structuring the document so things are under the proper headings and flow in a logical sense.
 6. The modified document will be managed between Bruce, Peter, and John to get it to a point it is ready for final review or further consideration. (Peter left the meeting)
5. Championships:
1. Discussed European and Continental Championships with agreement that continental championships are not held in years when there is a World Championship on that continent.
6. AGM:
1. Constitution needs finalized.
 2. Benefit of having NCA members being able to observe the AGM discussed.
 3. Getting all the documents together covering marketing budget, President's reports, Treasurers budget and report, TC's Report received with Proposals, and nominations have been received for all but the treasurers' position.
7. Bruce spoke about Brian Harding's production of a One-Design deck and hull which has been assembled and measured for 2.4mR Certification. The beam was too narrow for NOD and needs to be adjusted per Keith Gordon. Need to submit the layup sample for certification of the layup for strength and weight. He will be laying up 5 boats for further measurements and evaluation. Keith is providing tools for checking the hulls and will be checking their progress through the process as he lives close by.
8. Trophies:

1. The class Secretary summarized his attempts for locating and obtaining the Para World Championship Trophy back from John Ruf who to this point has ignored all contacts. The secretary and a number of folks in the USA tried to contact him to no avail. Once John understood the nature of the contact, he stopped responding to everyone. These individuals include Tony Pocklington, Tim Ripley, Matt Koblinser, and Betsy Allison are tried to reach out to him. The class secretary contacted John's secretary at the Lake Pawaukee Sanitary District leaving multiple messages and she forwarded emails to him on the issue and asking for him to contact me. Not calls or return emails were received to discuss the matter. The secretary spoke with the local police chief and was referred to the county sheriff with whom he left a message. An email was sent to the Pewaukee Yacht Club asking for a call from either the Commodore or Vice-Commodore to contact him. Within a few hours Dan Quiram, the Vice-Commodore, contacted him. The class secretary confirmed that John Ruf was in fact a current member of the yacht club and Dan agreed to investigate the matter and see if he could help us get our trophy back which 14 years of winners have not been able to physically be presented. He seemed to understand the magnitude of the situation as we do not want to get law enforcement involved unless we absolutely must. Dan is the current Race and Regatta chair and understands what a Perpetual Trophy is and the problems around them when not returned. The secretary spoke with the Waukesha County sheriff's department to understand what would be required for them to look into it if we got to that point. Shortly after the initial conversation the class secretary received a call from Deputy Brent Biedenbender stating he was at the house of John Ruf. He spoke with John and looked inside for the trophy and found nothing. During his visit and interviewing of John he was told that the trophy was given by John Ruf to Paul Tingley of Canada. Duty Biedenbender sent me the contact information of John Ruf, both cell and email address. I contacted Paul Tingley who stated that John had never turned over any trophy to him and could not believe the class would send police after a trophy. I tried to communicate that we hadn't determined to send the police and that they independently determined to visit him as well as explaining that this was the trophy that was paid for and donated by the Queen of Sweden. He seemed to sort of understand better. I will be sending him a picture of the trophy which Heiko has from around 2007 but is not clear. This is the end of our efforts to locate and acquire this trophy and recorded here for future reference and class knowledge. I will be sending a follow-up email back to the sheriff's department on my contact with Paul Tingley for their records.

Next Meeting: Nov 21th 2023