

**Minutes
Of the Annual General Meeting
Of the
International Six-Metre Association
held at the Royal Yacht Squadron, Cowes, Isle of Wight
on 19th July 2007.**

Present:

Tim Street, President
Henrik Andersin, Vice-President
Beat Furrer, Vice-President
Tim Russell, Hon. Treasurer
Hans J. Oen, Acting Secretary
Ian Howlett, Chairman, Technical Committee
Rees Martin, Secretary, Class Rules Committee
and
twenty Owners and Associates

1. Welcome

Class President Tim Street called the meeting to order at 1830 hours, welcomed everybody and outlined how The International Rating Classes Rules were formed 100 years ago. The first Six-Metre race in the Solent was held on 18th July 1907.

2. Remembrance

The Acting Secretary called for a minute of silence in remembrance of owners, crews and friends who had passed away during the past twelve months.

3. Apologies for Absence

The President stated that no apologies for absence had been received.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

As no comments had been received during the year, Acting Secretary, Hans Oen proposed the motion that the reading of the minutes from the 2006 meeting should be waived. The motion was carried nem con.

5. ISMA Membership/Voting Numbers

The Hon Treasurer Tim Russell announced that the total membership for 2006/7 now stands at 109. The national breakdown is to be found in the ISMA News 1/2007, page 23 with the Finance Paper.

6. Accounts/Annual ISMA Dues

Tim Russell explained the P & L statement in detail and emphasized the importance of creating more revenue sources for the Class. He presented his new Finance Paper in which an Associate Membership class was proposed and also that the future of the publication of ISMA News must be considered together with the associated costs. A discussion ensued with regard to sail stickers as many people had not noted the announcement in the ISMA Bulletin. It was agreed to continue with them.

7. President's Report

The President reported that a number of major administrative objectives had been achieved during the past year:-

ISAF Membership. With the formation of an Australian Fleet, ISMA now has a fleet of at least six boats on three continents and now qualify fully to be a bona fide paid up ISAF Keelboat Class.

The "Blue Book". Last autumn the first ever "Blue Book" containing the full list of registered Fleets, boats and members had been published. Some four hundred copies of this historic document had been printed and circulated by Beat Furrer and as many as three e-mails and at least one telephone call of approval had been received with only three corrections. He warned that this is a work in continuous progress and he invited comments and amendments, etc.

Updated Class Rules. A small Class Rules Committee had been formed with Rees Martin as Secretary. All additions agreed at the previous seven AGMs have been inserted including at Appendix A the Classic Rules. ISAF requirements have now been met. The Rules have been published on the ISMA website. Rees Martin was commended for his tireless work on getting the Rules through the ISAF committees. He described the difficulties the Class was faced with and reported that there were now only some minor points outstanding. There was some discussion raised from the floor on the necessity of being an ISAF member. It was generally accepted that it is a definite advantage for an International Class with regard to recognition and holding sanctioned Worlds and European Championships etc.

2008 European Championships at La Trinite. It was explained that Cannes had withdrawn their invitation for 2008 at short notice and that at a

previous vote (Sandhamn '05) it had been decided that the 2008 Europeans should be held in France and La Trinite had previously invited the Class three times. After investigating the possibility of moving the Championships to St. Tropez, an e-mail vote on this issue was taken. Fleets voted 70 votes for and 2 against the decision, with 32 abstaining. The Swedish fleet explained that it would clash with their main Mid-Summer Festival and that therefore no Swedish boats would attend.

ISMA Membership and Measurement Certificates. It was reported that all boats taking part in the Worlds had paid their ISMA dues and dues for their sail stickers and that all boats had up-to-date Measurement Certificates. The policing of sail certificates was discussed.

8. Elections:

The Secretary advised that two Committees were up for re-election this year and that the Nominating Committee had submitted the following recommendations:

Technical Committee

Ian Howlett, Chairman
Doug Peterson
Peter Norlin
Tapio Lehtenen
Scott Rohrer
David Pedrick
Nicolas Berthoud
Guy-Roland Perrin

Classic Committee

Henrik Andersin, Chairman
Doug Peterson
Basil Carmody
Kimo Mackey

A motion was proposed and seconded to elect the nominees. As there was no disagreement and all cast their votes in favor, the motion was carried.

Note: Also a Class Secretary was up for election. No candidate has been proposed or volunteered and the President and the Treasurer are at present carrying out the duties of this office.

9. Future Championships

2008 Europeans, La Trinite Stefan O'Reilly Hyland, President of the French Fleet, announced that the regatta would take place June 18th/24th and that the entry fee will be Euros 450. Discussion followed regarding the timing and the shortness of the regatta with only four days of racing. It was considered that the wording in the Deed of Gift should be adhered to more closely, but it was explained that as so many classes and regattas now existed, it was now very difficult to obtain the venues and dates wanted unless bids were made several years in advance. This is why

ISMA is now undertaking such long term planning. (The dates for the Worlds at Cowes had to be booked five years in advance).

2009 – Worlds – Newport R.I. Greg Stewart gave a detailed presentation and handed out a flyer (which also was included in the “Skipper’s race package”) The Newport ’09 Planning Committee is well under way and has invited the New York Yacht Club and International Yacht Restoration School to be an integral part of the activities. The Museum of Yachting will be the Organizing Authority and the venue will be based around the Fort Adams properties with the actual racing taking place at or close to the old 12mR Americas Cup area.

Ocean transportation is a major issue, and is constantly being worked on so that a reasonable arrangement can be offered in order to attract as many European boats as possible. Rees Martin to explore British possibilities.

2010 – Europeans – Switzerland. Beat Furrer gave a short description of the proposed event. Although the venue has not yet been finally decided, an attractive brochure proposing Brunnen at the knee of Lake Uri and in the Bay of Gersau, near Lucerne in July 2010 had been prepared by Mr. Furrer and was circulated.

2011 Worlds- Finland Henrik Andersin announced that this regatta will be held in conjunction with NJK’s 175th anniversary and that it is undecided whether racing will take place in Helsinki or at Hango.

2012 Europeans – Mediterranean It was agreed that the 2012 Europeans should be held in the Mediterranean and Stefan O’Reilly Hyland undertook to investigate St. Tropez, Nice and Marseilles and prepare a report with recommendations, including the best times of year for suitable weather.

2013 Worlds – Flensburg, Germany The Flensburg Yacht Club has extended an invitation and the possibility to be explored further. Comments and views to the Committee were invited and Dr. Bjorn Storsberg will report back..

2014 - Netherlands - Medemblik The new Netherlands Six-Metre Association had extended a provisional invitation and the possibility to be explored. Marc Heijke (President) and Ronald Brons (Secretary) to investigate and prepare proposals for the next ISMA AGM.

10. Updated Class Rules

Rees Martin reported that the updated Class Rules now were posted on and downloadable from the ISAF website and explained that a

tremendous amount of time over the past eighteen months has gone into this work. Rees Martin and Ian Howlett were warmly thanked for all their efforts and for their dedication to and interest in this extremely important issue.

11. Finance Paper.

Hon. Treasurer Tim Russell announced that the draft Finance Paper had been included in the last issue of ISMA where it is easily accessible and he therefore reverted to the important issue of increasing the revenue stream for the Class.

He submitted a motion that a new membership category of Associate Membership should be introduced, which would be open to any non-boat owners, crew-members and friends and supporters of the Class. At the same time he moved that the dues for the next year should continue to be Euros 80 for Full Membership and Euros 30 for Associate Membership.

This motion was seconded and with no further discussion carried unanimously, with all nations being in favor of the proposals.

The President requested that all Fleet Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries should now implement this action as soon as possible.

12. Replica Rule Amendment Paper

The President announced that he had received some 48 e-mails on the subject of widening the scope of Replicas to permit any number of replicas of any design, of which 10 had been in favour and 28 against, while with a further 10 e-mails he was unable to decide what the authors actually meant. He said that the best and most comprehensive arguments put forward were, in favour:- Toby Rodes of the New England and Against:- Doug Peterson's e-mail, both of which he had with him. However, the author of the Replica Rule Amendment Paper had informed the AGM in writing that he wished to withdraw the Paper from the agenda. A motion was therefore made that the paper should be withdrawn without further discussion. The motion was seconded and with all in favor the motion was carried.

13. The Jean-Pierre Odero Trophy

This year it was awarded to Ian Howlett for his many years of contribution to the Class. It was a very popular decision, which was warmly applauded by the audience. The Trophy was presented to him by the President at the prizegiving for the following Jubilee Regatta.

14. AOB.

Pekka Barck gave a detailed description of how the new 6mR Centennial book is taking form, exhibited some pages as examples and explained that it is now very close to going to print. The expected publishing date is in the middle of October 2007.

The book will be in English and have 270/300 pages with 200 photographs, with most countries national histories. Histories are awaited from the US, Germany and Sweden.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours.

Tim Street,

President

Hans J. Oen

Acting Secretary