

INTERNATIONAL 505 CLASS YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting

held at the Brighton & Seacliff Yacht Club,
Seacliff, South Australia
Wednesday, 31st January 2007.

President, Pip Pearson, declared the meeting open at 9.20am

Present:- President; Pip Pearson
Past President; Tom Bojland
IRC Chairman; Rob Napier
and 56 other members

Apologies:- Secretary: Peter Roos
Treasurer: Steve Burwood

1. Minutes:- The minutes of the 2006 AGM held at Hayling Island were circulated to National Associations and have been posted on the website since October 2006.
Moved by Aaron Ross, seconded by Mike Holt that the minutes be taken as read and approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Carried.

2. Presidents Report:

As Pip Pearson has only been in office since January 1st 2007 he had no report to present. Accordingly Tom Bojland presented a report for the period from August 2006 till this date.

This is a rather short report, based on the fact that its less than 7 months since last AGM, and not much has happened in the class since then.

We had a very good worlds in Hayling Island Sailing Club, good race management, magnificent club facilities and a pretty good turn-up with about 120 boats on the starting line.

After that the class held, among a lots of other regattas, its first Polish championships and its good to see the 505 activity spread to the east and south of Europe in countries like Italy and Croatia, but that can only be done because we have dedicated people in the class like Ratko, Marco and Piotr, guys that love the boat and love to tell others about it.

2/.

Today some international classes faces a decline in numbers of sailors, luckily the 505 class is not hit that hard by this, but I do believe that we should look into how we can prepare our class and our sport for the next 50 years.

I believe that we should look into how we can help our builders to build cheaper hulls, experts has told it can be done. I believe that we should look into a one-design carbon rig so the class will be up to date but we will avoid an arms race with the FD as an example not to follow. I believe that we should keep on banning gizmos on the boat that does not make the boat go faster, making the lifespan of the boat longer or making the racing funnier.

I don't think our boat should be strict one design – there are a lot of engineers in the class that simply love to think about where to place another cleat or string. That's a part of the fun.

I also believe that we should concentrate on big and good races and I'll encourage you all to tell your club mates at home to go to the big regattas, and help them if they are new to it. Do like the Brits and build trailers that can carry a lot of boats so you will be able to take those guys without the transport facilities to the regattas.

In Europe I'll urge all to support the EuroCup regattas and the Europeans, we have 2 new venues this year, in France we are going to San Rafael for the first time, and you all got the chance to race at the Europeans in Poland for the first time in your life I guess

This is my last performance as President but I hope to still serve the class for many years, because without people like all you present here and all them in our club at home, the class would have been gone many years ago.

I would like to thank the IEC and IRC, and especially Rob, Peter, Steve, Jean Baptiste and Pip for all the work they have done for the class and what they are going to do in the future.

I would also take the opportunity to thank the Brighton and Seacliff Yactclub for hosting this event, now that I don't have the chance at the presentation night. Its so good to be here and feel that the members of this club have put so much hard work in this so we can have a fantastic regatta.

Thank you very much

Tom Bojland

Moved by Martin Görge, seconded by Angela Stenger that the report be received. Carried.

3. Secretary's Report:

In the absence of the Secretary, the President. Pip Pearson read the Secretary's report as below:-

To the Executive Committee, Organising Members, Club Representatives and fellow sailors:

Sadly I am unable to join you all this year, but the nature of my work makes this the most inopportune time to travel. Having said that, I no doubt that in my absence you are probably having winds that would have even my big boned frame stretched to its limit on the wire. But such is life...

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued faith in me by allowing me to serve you for a further term. All I can say at this time, is that I am staying with the promise I made to the class in Germany that in the next three years I will do everything in my power for the class to grow, and become even more exciting to participate in. The first 12 months was invaluable in allowing me to find my feet, and now we can stride into the future with confidence.

The class numbers have been pretty static for 2006, with some fleets such as the UK growing, while others such as France and South Africa decreasing in numbers.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	
Australia	90	96	90	95	5.56%
Belgium	12	10	8	9	12.50%
Canada	41	48	26	39	50.00%
Denmark	31	26	27	30	11.11%
Finland	48	60	58	47	-18.97%
France	187	160	152	139	-8.55%
Germany	327	361	405	403	-0.49%
Hong Kong	12	5	5	5	0.00%
Ireland			5	5	0.00%
Italy	1	1	1	2	100.00%
Japan	12	5	5	5	0.00%
Kenya			0	0	
Poland			5	6	20.00%
South Africa	26	26	32	19	-40.63%
Sweden	40	30	30	30	0.00%
Switzerland	50	35	35	40	14.29%
United Kingdom	99	121	123	141	14.63%
USA	161	177	122	125	2.46%
Zimbabwe			2	1	-50.00%
	50	50	50	50	0.00%
	1187	1211	1181	1191	

This also allows me to discuss an issue that has raised concerns recently. There has been confusion around the reporting of memberships. I would like to remind you all, and particularly the various National fleet representatives, that membership is based on the number of individuals who participate in the class in your fleets, and not on the number of boats. It is because of this that many fleets differentiate between boat owning, and non- boat owning members. Please check with your individual fleets that your numbers are being reported correctly. This will allow us to update our records accordingly, and we may well find that the fleet numbers will grow. After all I am registering boats, but the numbers do not reflect this.

Talking about registrations, in 2006 I registered 34 new boats, mostly for Germany and the UK, with a few for Australia and Sweden. I have been told to expect quite a few more registrations in this year, and I await the applications.

With that, my report ends. I wish you all again a fantastic regatta, sunny skies, breezy airs and a daily dose of adrenaline. My thoughts are with you, and I look forward to when we will meet again in Palermo.

Peter Roos
Int. Sec. 505.

Moved by Olle Wenrup, seconded by Volker Gorge that the Secretary's report be received. Carried.

4. Treasurer's Report:-

In the absence of the Treasurer Rob Napier read the treasurer's report and explained the accounts.

Moved by Mike Holt, seconded by Jan Saugmann that the treasurer's report be received and the accounts be approved.

5. Appointment of Auditor:-

The current Auditor, Patrick McCosh indicated his willingness to continue in this position and was duly re-elected.

6. Report from International Rules Committee:-

Chairman, Rob Napier presented his report.

I wish to welcome Bill Summersides, Australia, to the committee, subject to confirmation at this meeting (see below). The other members of the committee are:

Philippe Gouboult, France

Wolfgang Stuekel, Germany

Mike Martin, USA

Don O'Donnell, UK, Chief International Measurer,
and myself.

Since the 2006 A.G.M. a rule change to permit loose-footed mainsails went to ballot, and was approved. The main new item for discussion has been the question

of inserts in the centerboard case. A rule change will be proposed by the I.R.C. under item 8.

7. Election of Officers:-

International Secretary: Peter Roos (RSA)
International Treasurer: Stephen Burwood (GBR)
International Rules Committee Chairman: Rob Napier (GBR)

After indicating their willingness to continue, in the absence of other nominations, in accordance with the constitution, the above members were re-elected.

Vacancy on I.R.C.

Due to the death of Geoff Holden (AUS) a vacancy has been created on the I.R.C.

Moved by Brett Van Munster, seconded by Rob Napier that Bill Summersides (AUS) be elected to the I.R.C. Carried.

8. Rule Changes:-

8.1 The proposals made by the Danish Association are detailed below as per the Agenda:-

Two proposed rule changes, with one alternate proposal made in accordance with Rule A.11, A.12 and A.13 and submitted by the Danish Association.

1.1. *Proposal to change rule 6.1 of the Championship rules*

1.2. *Alternate Proposal to change Rule 6.1 of the Championship rules.*

1.3. *Proposal to change Rule 9.1-Courses of the Championship Guidelines*

The above proposals, relating to alternative course configurations and to shorten the overall programme at a World Championship, were discussed and voted on individually. All three proposals were defeated; the result being that the "status quo" remains.

8.2 On behalf of the I.R.C. Rob Napier proposed a minor rule change in relation to centreboard inserts.

Add to Rule 5.6.1. "The insertion of a single insert of maximum dimensions 100mm x 80mm x 35mm wide, and wholly above the water line is permitted".

This topic gave rise to quite some discussion but was deemed to be of a minor nature only and was aimed to specifically overcome a problem with a few boats with strength problems in the centerboard case.

The proposal was defeated, but an alternative proposal, moved by Simon Lake, seconded by Rob Napier, that an insert as above should be permitted in existing boats, i.e. all boats up to and including 8925, was carried. This is accepted as being a rule interpretation, and is not required to go to ballot.

9. World Championships – Palermo, Sicily 2008

Marco Gambardella gave a “power point” presentation to the meeting for the Worlds 2008. This presentation detailed the facilities and amenities and some background history of the host club, “Club Canottieri Roggero di Lauria”

At this stage of planning no details relating to a Major Sponsor, Accommodation rates, or Container Rates or Ferry Rates, were available other to report that the Organising Committee and Marcio Giraldi in particular will be reporting as progress is made.

The Italian Website is now “up and running” at www.int505italia.org and also www.505worlds2008.com.

The dates of the 2008 Worlds were confirmed as October 4 - 17th 2008.

10. World Championships - San Francisco 2009

Doug Hagan confirmed that the 2009 Worlds would be conducted in San Francisco with St Francis being the host Club. The provisional dates are August 5th - 19th.

Doug detailed the delights of sailing in San Francisco and the attraction of San Francisco as a “tourist destination” city.

A major sponsor is currently being negotiated and more updates will be made in the future as arrangements are made.

11. World Championships 2010

Tom Bojland made a presentation to the meeting proposing Denmark and gave a “power point” presentation proposing the Danish 505 Association and the “Kalovig Badelaug” Yacht Club at the City of Aarhus as the hosts for 2010.

Bertrand Loyal made a presentation to the meeting proposing the French 505 Association and La Rochelle as the hosts for 2010. Bertrand explained that the French association was undergoing a bit of a “renaissance” and needed the momentum of a “Worlds” to help push things along.

There were speakers in favour of both venues and after due discussion it was put to a vote of the meeting. The voting was very close but it was decided by the meeting that Denmark would be the hosts on 2010.

12. General Business

12.1

Carter Jackson raised the issue and spoke in favour of the class adopting Carbon Booms and Carbon Spinnaker Poles.

After some discussion it was put to a vote and the meeting overwhelmingly voted in favour of this proposal.

As this matter requires a "Rule Change" which is deemed not be of a "minor nature" it requires the International Secretary conducting a "ballot" of all members.

This will be done in accordance with the requirements of our constitution.

12.2

Following the Treasurer's report some discussion and suggestions were made as to what would be a good use for the Association's accumulated funds. A couple of ideas were put forward but lacked the support of the meeting for further discussion.

Howard Hamlin proposed that the committee should consider the employment of a professional PR person or company to improve the awareness and the status of the class leading up to the Worlds Series each year. A P.R. person familiar with and in good contact with the various sailing web sites and media organisations has the capacity to dramatically raise the profile of the class in the world yachting scene.

This proposal met with majority approval and the Committee was endorsed to pursue the matter further.

13. Close of meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11:05 am.