

SCIRA
Board of Govenors Meeting
San Diego, California, USA
San Diego Yacht Club
September 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Commodore Pedro Garra at 9:05am on September 6, 2009. Those in attendance were: Commodore Pedro Garra, Rules Chairman Giorgio Brezich, Treasurer Renee Bartel, Secretary Jiro Yamamoto, Vice Commodore Luis Pessanha and Executive Director Jerelyn Biehl. Sherri Campbell of One Design Management was also in attendance for the first meeting.

A motion to invite the Past Commodores to attend was made by Renee Bartel and seconded by Giorgio Brezich. Motion passed and Terry Timm and Jerry Thompson were in attendance at various meetings.

A motion to ratify all past motions was made by Renee Bartell and seconded by Giorgio Brezich. Motion passed.

A motion to accept the minutes from the 2007 Board of Governors meeting was made and approved by the majority.

Summary of National Secretaries Meeting: Pedro Garra reported that the attendance was good and reports of membership were quite good despite the current world economy. Other information that effected SCIRA: Commodore Garra was surprised at the US report that 50% of its membership was of Masters age. Championship bids were requested and there was a consensus that joint events were much appreciated. A European ranking system is being look at by Stefano Longhi. Discussion was held to increase the entries for the European Junior Championship.

Officer Reports

Commodore: Pedro Garra thanked everyone for their hard work these past 2 years and it has been a pleasure to work together. Communication has been difficult with the US and he would like to work in a more productive way. SCIRA has been improving communications with our membership through the web page, Facebook, Virtual Paper for the Snipe Bulletin. The printed version of the Bulletin is still necessary and the Board is preparing for a generational change. He has been working with the Rules Committee on various issues: hull compliance and the ISAF template as well as unifying scoring with ISAF. The OnLine Database is working and was developed as a tool for real time membership and MDS check.

European General Secretary: see report in National Secretary minutes

Western Hemisphere & Orient General Secretary: no report

Committee Reports

Finance: Treasurer Renee Bartell

Renee reported the organization is in good financial standing as of 8/20/09. 2009 revenues and expenses are expected to break even for the year. SCIRA was the beneficiary of a bequest from the estate of Fred Schenck in the amount of \$7,752.00. In addition, a generous donation of \$10,000 was made by Jiro Yamamoto. No plans have been made at this time for the use of these funds. There is some concern about an outstanding amount due from non-payment of 2008 dues by the Russian Snipe Association. This may have to be written off at year end. 10 measurement jigs have been built and sold. 50% of the cost was offset by the purchase price to the national authorities and the remaining 50% of the cost has been assumed by SCIRA and will be written off over a period of years. The online database project is nearly complete with the cost for this to be written off over a period of years. Current cash balances provide adequate reserve for the operation of the organization. The overall financial condition supports the current level of organization operations. Any new initiatives should be carefully evaluated before approval.

The Board then officially thanked Jiro Yamamoto for his generous donation. He responded that this was his appreciation to SCIRA for his 20 years of his involvement.

Nominating Committee: The Commodore appointed Henrique Motta, Terry Timm and Stefano Longhi to the 2009 Nominating Committee. The call for nominations will be sent to the NS and Board members after the Worlds.

Motion to adjourn the meeting until Monday at 8:00am

Meeting reconvened at 8:00am Monday, September 7.

Executive Director: Jerelyn Biehl reported the SCIRA office is working well and quarterly reports keep the Board up to date on developments and status of projects. In the past few years the main projects have been the new website; adding the Virtual Paper option to Snipe Bulletin and the Rulebook; OnLine Database project; Regatta Organization Packet update; Measurer's Handbook. The distribution of the new measurement jigs on the major continents and countries as well as with the major builders is complete. The Rulebook has been posted on the website, but not printed due to ISAF's last minute request to convert the Class rules to their template. All the MDS' that are on file in the SCIRA office have been recorded in the database. Countries & builders are doing a better job of submitting MDS' once measured. The request by 2 countries of adding an upload feature to the Online Database was discussed. The quote for this add-on feature is \$4,185. Discussion was held and the Board approved to move forward.

Technical Committee: Giorgio Brezich reported that the Technical Committee completed much work to clarify the measurement system and especially the rudders. A tolerance measurement was missing from the last 2 Rulebooks – which was added back. A group of sailors and measurers from the US argued with the Technical Committee this past 2 years which created additional and sometimes unnecessary work. It was a difficult time, but the situation is now ok. These sailors attended the measurement clinic held at these Worlds this past week. One question raised was to circulate measurement information after an event to all measurers to keep them informed. The measurement clinic, which began 12 years ago is now very important to standardize our measurement and use of tools. Giorgio also discussed the simplification of rules to make them clear and simple to avoid any misunderstanding. Giorgio and Antonio Bari have looked at the

ISAF template and have divided the template into 3 parts. Giovanni Galeotti, Antonio and Giorgio will begin work on the conversion after the Worlds. Discussion was held on contacting ISAF on the expected timetable and approval.

Rulebook: a discussion was held on the various options of getting the Rulebook to the members. A motion was made to print the Rulebook now as is and once the class rules in the ISAF template have been approved by ISAF, a reprint of just that section will be done. The Rulebooks will be mailed directly to the National Secretaries in bulk and they will then distribute to their members. Each country will be charged for the mailing.

Motion passed.

Meeting was then adjourned until Wednesday at 8:00am

Meeting was reconvened Wednesday, September 9 at 8:00am

Technical Committee – continuation:

Future of the Class: Giorgio Brezich discussed the thickness of the hull and deck. Currently the dimensions are 3mm outside skin and core and 1.5mm inside. This is hard to determine without core samples. With modern construction methods, the minimum weight and MOI should verify a boat and we should abandon the thickness issue. The Technical Committee will give guidance to builders. Discussion was held to have up to 15kg of lead – giving a lighter boat with 15 kg of lead. The TC may propose to have a policy to reduce weight 172.8 kg to 1-2 kg per year over several years. This won't reduce the strength of the boat. The Finn Class has gone through this with success. Commodore Garra asked Giorgio to prepare a proposal of the above and Giorgio suggested a builder's guide. *Subsequently, a sailor's forum was held and the majority in attendance did not support lowering the weight of the Snipe.*

Advertising Policy: A discussion was held on changing a championship name to reflect a sponsor. An e-mail discussion will be held following the Worlds with clarification from the Class in a written policy.

Prize Money: A motion was made by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Luis Pessanha to add the following word so the Advertising Policy: "monetary prizes are strongly discouraged. Awarding of equipment of similar value or of benefit to all competitors would be encouraged." Motion passed.

Championships Bids

WH&O 2010: Buffalo Canoe Club, Canada. Bid was accepted. An emphasis on a good supply of charter boats is key.

Europeans 2010: Vestfjordens, Norway. Bid provisionally accepted when all items are complete.

Women's Worlds 2010: Mission Bay, California, USA. The Board will ask the US to reconsider the bid to be sailed in the ocean to meet the standard courses.

Worlds 2011: Rungsted, Denmark. Denmark will be asked to submit a bid by the end of September with a vote by the end of October.

Japan will look into hosting a major championship in the near future.

Open Forum: it was suggested to schedule an Open Forum for all sailors Thursday after sailing at the Worlds. Topics will be: Rule 42, hull weight reduction, rule changes.

Junior European Deed of Gift: Change the age to conform to SCIRA junior age limit. Remove bullet 5 to have an open Championship. Add: “Must have 3 countries to conduct a Championship. Motion by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Pedro Garra. Motion passed unanimously.

European Championship: Motion by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Pedro Garra to adopt the same wording as the Worlds regarding crew citizenship. Motion passed unanimously.

Decal: Motion by Pedro Garra, seconded by Luis Pessanha to increase the yearly decal fee from \$5 to \$10 beginning January 2010. Motion passed: 1 against, 4 in favor.

Verification of Membership: Motion by Pedro Garra, seconded by Giorgio Brezich to amend the wording in the Rules of Conduct and Notice of Race template: “Rules of Conduct: Entry, Eligibility and Measurement Restrictions. 3.No skipper or crew shall be eligible to enter any Class championship race unless they possess and present a current class membership card or its SCIRA-based equivalent or shows as current member in the SCIRA Official Online Database...” Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 47: Motion by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Pedro Garra to: “delete the position requirements concerning the grommet of the Cunningham on the mainsail.” Motion passed unanimously.

Page 49: Motion by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Pedro Garra to: change the system of tacking the measurements of sails from the center of the grommets **to the corners of the sails** as happens in all classes. The existing dimensions will be modified accordingly. In case of adoption of new method of measurement all actual legal sails will remain legal. Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 18: Motion by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Pedro Garra to add the following sentences: “to use any kind of retaining system, the centerboard safety line length shall be long enough to permit, when completely tight, to raise the board up to 50 mm over the upper part of the board band to deck. Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 51.2: Motion proposed by Giorgio Brezich, seconded Luis Pessanha to modify as: “The roach on the leech and foot shall form a uniform curve from grommet to grommet without any voids scallop or hollows in the uniform radius. The mid girth measured across the sail shall be 1035 mm maximum.” Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 31.5: Motion by Giorgio Brezich seconded by Renee Bartel: Boom Gooseneck: The gooseneck shall measure from the aft side of the mast to the connection with the boom, 42mm maximum. The gooseneck at the boom connection may be round or square but shall have a diameter of 13mm if round or 13x13mm if square. The boom shall have the hole of 13x13mm. Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 20: Motion by Giorgio Brezich seconded by Pedro Garra: Rudder Head: The rudder thickness above and below the water line, **excluding the tiller attachment area**, shall be 19mm minimum and 38 mm maximum. Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 51: Motion to change the rule by Giorgio Brezich, seconded by Pedro Garra: “The jib must have a wire or a **fiber line** (excluding PBO and Carbon) attached to the luff while racing.” Motion passed unanimously.

Rule 31.3: Motion by Giorgio Brezich seconded by Renee Bartel as follows: “The use of light elastic line (shock cord) **not adjustable while racing** to remove slack in the jib stay and between the shrouds and the mast is permitted.” Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was then adjourned until Thursday at 5:30am

Meeting was reconvened Thursday, September 10 at 5:30pm

Motion to change the **Rules of Conduct** to adopt the **Black flag** rule 30.3, or consider a boat OCS when identified started prematurely two consecutive times, under Z flag. Motion tabled.

Motion to change the Rules of Conduct to allow the course shortened **after at least 2 windward legs are completed**. Motion by Giorgio Brezich, amended & seconded by Pedro Garra. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to change the **Id Crook Memorial Trophy** Deed of Gift to allow the Championship to sail 3 races per day in case the program is running behind schedule. Motion by Giorgio Brezich seconded by Luis Pessanha. Motion passed unanimously pending approval from SCIRA Canada.

New Business:

Worlds PRO Trophy: a proposal by Past Commodore Terry Timm was made to present a trophy to recognize the PRO of the World Championship. After much discussion, the Board agreed to keep this as a gift and not create a trophy.

2008 World Masters Cancellation: the cancellation of this event was revisited and the Board reiterated the ownership of any championship by the host country’s SCIRA association as well as communication with SCIRA.

Motion to adjourn at 6:45pm