

**2010 European
National Secretaries Meeting
Oslo, Norway
Sunday, August 8, 2010**

Stefano Longhi opened the meeting at 10:10am and welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained a quorum was reached with 8 countries represented.

The meeting was attended by: European GS Stefano Longhi, Fernando Tajuelo Vice European GS (ESP), Commodore Luis Pessanha (POL), Christian Andersen (DEN); Jan Peeters (BEL), Tobias Chroner (SWE), Marco Prospero (ITA); Martin Bermudez de la Puente (ESP), Rafal Zaurzewski (POL) and Jerelyn Biehl.

Minutes: In 2008 the event went well and discussed the minutes from 2008 as distributed. A motion was made from Fernando Tajuelo to accept the minutes as distributed. Motion seconded by Luis Pessanha. Motion carried:

Country reports:

Spain: Martin Bermudez, Vice National Secretary reported for Spain: Junior and female fleets are growing. The Open Nationals were officially held this year with open housing, dinner, prizegiving, daily picnics with 77 boats. The idea was to have an open circuit of Spain, Portugal and other countries. They hope to incorporate a ranking series of the 2-3 regattas with the winner receiving a new boat. Spain has been working at the base of sailing to introduce younger sailors to the Snipe. There are many people interested in sponsoring and Spain is trying to keep the costs low for the sailors. Many people are collaborating with us despite no support from regional federations. Many clubs have too many classes for youth sailors and we have been successful to introduce them all to the Snipe and now we have 9 junior teams at one club. The Spanish membership numbers are very strong. Commodore Pessanha asked how SCIRA could assist; Martin responded that the results are from the hard work of the clubs and they need to make an effort to organize international events, The structure works: fleet captain, clubs, regional governors, etc. Cesar Travado suggested that the Class rules be looked at, not changing the philosophy of the class but modernizing to modern rules. Suggestion, Rule 42 to change only for the juniors. Cesar suggests to invite the top Cadet sailor to the Junior worlds or Europeans. Or invite the top youth sailors to the Snipe Junior nationals.

Norway: There are over 60 boats in the fleet hosting this Championship. Our membership is stable; 48 boats at the Nationals with 5 boats to the Master Worlds and will hold the women's nationals in 2011. A new fleet in Oslo fjord will begin. We don't have many juniors. Laser, Europe dinghy are what the juniors are sailing in Norway. Women's teams are strong.

Poland: the first junior nationals will be held in Poland this August.

Sweden: Approximately 50 registered boats and 80 members – we are stable in figures. Not many junior crews but a senior/junior division and women's teams. The Swedish championship will be held at the end of August. The 2011 Nationals will be held near Denmark just before the Worlds and we hope to have many teams participate. Our aim is

to show the other classes the Snipe is easy to sail. During 2010 we had Snipe activities in Vastervik, Gothenburg, Stockholm and Motala. Early this spring,

Belgium: Jan Peeters commented that a national regatta is held in one boat for all national champions of all classes. Belgium will attempt to use the Snipe (typically it is in the Laser). Belgium needs second hand boats for chartering to host major events. Belgium is in good shape. Last year we had 6 new members, which is a nice increase for our small country. We travel a lot as before and meet other Snipe sailors in Europe. Our Antwerp Snipe Cup was again a great success together with our Championship, which unfortunately clashes with other championships. Our class is except for the Optimist class, the strongest now in our country. Together with the help and support of clubs and Snipe sailors, we manage to have fun and nice races. Most our events are held in Holland. Sailing on the North Sea is very expensive and needs a lot of support and a multi-class event. The Belgian Federation wants us to host our Nationals on the sea with other classes, but we would have to share a race course. Belgium also holds winter clinics to help new comers to the fleet as well as a social aspect.

Denmark: Christian Andersen explained that we had 10 boats at the Danish Championship but the largest fleet is 5 boats. The 2011 Jr & Sr Worlds will be held in Rungsted with a professional organization out of the Danish Federation. The Espergaerde fleet is assisting in the organization. www.snipeworlds.kdy.dk is the official website. A flyer will be mailed in the fall. Charters will be available and we hope the Norwegian and Swedish classes will help.

Italy: Class is stable with 160 boats and 320 paid members. Juniors are strong with 3-4 years of a strong championship. Masters are also strong with 31 boats last week. The Piada trophy is strong with 50 boats from many countries. 4 national regattas are held throughout the year. Our nationals are the week after the Europeans with approximately 50-60 boats expected.

Croatia: Our class has started to rebuild five years ago with the first Snipe brought to our country after almost 30 years. Shortly afterwards two more boats followed all gathered into fleet 880 "Kvarner." We started with regattas in YC Galeb in 2006 & 2007 and followed with regattas in YC Pesja Omisalj in 2008 & 2009. This year the S. European Championship was organized by YC Pesja-Omisalj. 29 boats from 6 countries participated. The regatta was well covered by the media and the interest for the class improved significantly. The S. European Summer Circuit included the Croatian Nationals, last held in 1979. The idea of the Summer Circuit was good, well planned and organized and we hope to stay involved in the coming years. This year the class expanded to Pula where the regatta was organized by YC Uljanik. 11 boats is a good start and we expect to have a good and stable fleet in this region. Presently we have 4 registered boats but interest in the Snipe after this year's events has increased significantly so a realistic prediction is to finish this year with at least 78 boats and one more fleet. Probably the number of regattas will also be increased from 1 to 3. After having 3 registered boats in 2009 I'm very satisfied with these results and I find them good grounds for further growth of the fleet in Croatia. I must mention that we are very grateful to SCIRA Italy for their support we received for the past years as surely the growth of the class without it would not be possible. I want to also thank the other sailors who by participating at our regattas contributed to the growth of what once was a very big and successful Croatian Class.

Germany: SCIRA Germany is registering a constant number of boats and members each year. This year we organized together with the Trento Sailing Association the 9th German Open on Lake Caldonazzo. The German Open is one of the more well known Snipe regattas in Europe, with a high number of participants. Luckily we have had the participation of Bibi Juetz nearly each year! Since two years, the Snipe Class is also represented in one regatta in Germany, held on Lake Ammersee near Munich in September. From the AVT we got an elder Snipe as a gift and we hope there will be some more interest in sailing it by some of the participants of our sailing school in Ingolstadt.

Poland: The activity of the Class is good with the number of boats & members increasing. Currently we have 23 boats and every year we conduct a series of races at several areas in Poland. There is also a tradition of the Polish Open Championship sponsored by Primavera brand which is the main Cup. In addition, in 2009 we organized S. Pellegrino European Cup which was sponsored by Nestle. In the current year as a representative SCIRA Eastern Europe have organized the S. Pellegrino Eastern European Cup. 18 boats participated in the regatta. The crew of Piotr Manczak and Tomek Waszak was the winner, second place took David Marczak, and Karol Pedzinskigo, Tomek Slodecki and Zbigniew Rakocy too 3rd place. The prizes were very high respectively for 1st place 600 euros, 300 euro for 2nd and 100 euro for third. In addition, each participation received a commemorative t-shirt and a prize. I'm hoping that the race will be similar in subsequent years. Beyond regatta in Poland many of our crew participates in numerous international regattas. Int his year the Polish Open and Primavera Polish Cup 2010 are going to take place on August 27-29 in Poznan, followed by our first Junior Nationals. We believe SCIRA may be able to help us by contacting the Polish Federation regarding high participation fees.

Discussion of women sailors: Belgium: 40% sailors are women but are all crews. Italy has a change of women sailors from youth to mothers.

European Deed of Gift modification:

- 1) The number of boats allowed to sail in the Championship: 4 boats + 1 per 25 for a maximum of 12 boats. A question of the host country may have 3 more for 15 total. If a country wins other championships, they are applied separately.
 - 2) Adopt same citizenship & resident as Worlds to Europeans
- Stefano Longhi proposed, seconded by Luis, Motion passed unanimously.

Summer Circuit Proposal: motion passed by Board of Governors earlier this year.

European Calendar: all NS should send their calendar by the end of October to the General Secretary.

Bids:

There are many countries that are not participating or communicating. Stefano suggests combining some events either together or back-to-back, especially move that a junior and senior championship should be organized together or back to back.

Proposal to encourage junior participation by encouraging a country: a country MUST send at least 1 junior team to a junior event to participate in the Europeans or Worlds. Discussion that if the top 2 junior teams not already qualified for next championship can qualify for Europeans. Or if there is a junior team registered, 1 extra team Sr. team can come.

2011:

Ladies European and European Masters: Spain and Italy interested. Bids must be submitted by October 1

European Cup: Poland will host and combine with East European Championship.

South European: possibility of combining with Spanish Open Nationals or Croatia.

Nordics: to be held in Motala, beg. July

2012:

Europeans: Italy has submitted a bid for Cervia, dates can be the first 2 weeks of July and could combine with Jr Europeans.

Jr Europeans: to be organized back-to-back with Europeans

South Europeans:

Women's Worlds: if N Europe cannot organize, Malaga will host (change from 2016)

Long Range

2014: Europeans – Poland interested

2015: Worlds & Jr Worlds

2016 Womens' Worlds: Spain

2016: World Masters: Norway interested

Elections:

Thanks for Stefano and Fernando for serving for these past years.

Suggested candidates and then to vote by email after conferring with candidates. Please forward names to Stefano by September 15.

General Secretary: Jan Peeters, BEL

Vice Secretary: Zbigniew Rakocy, POL

South: Damir Vranic, CRO

North:

East:

West:

Proposal from Spain:

Will consult with ISAF and the Rules Committee to adopt the proper wording and also to possibly increase the diameter to 8mm. The general consensus is to adopt but not make permanent on bow (like 420).

Discussion on junior participation:

- 1) Cesar Travado suggested the SCIRA Class contact the Cadet Class to invite top sailors to nationals or junior worlds.
- 2) Discussion to increase European Sr. entries by adding junior entries

Women's participation:

- 1) Discussion to modify Junior Worlds to include 1 junior women's team in addition to 2 junior teams per country or that of the 2 junior teams, 1 must be a female crew. Discussion was the difficulty of providing enough charter boats.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40